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Ipsa Duce

Term 3, 2021

A termly publication from Kavanagh College

Message from the Principal

Tēnā koutou ngā Whānau whānui o te Kāreti o Kawana

Welcome, once again, to our 'highlights package' of Term Three at Kavanagh College. I have been overwhelmed with the feedback and the number of Ipsa Duce publications that have been taken home from parishes and schools, and it reminds me of how wide and loyal our Kavanagh College community base is.

Since our last termly publication, we have held our annual Open Day. It was with great delight that some of our staff were greeted by ex-students now enrolling their own children. For a relative newcomer such as myself, it feels almost as if Kavanagh has come of age. We are no longer a 'new school' – even though the history of the college is older than most – but instead we stand on the hill as a very important and valued part of the Dunedin educational landscape.

It is certainly a privilege to continue educating the next generation of families who have contributed significantly to the rich life of Kavanagh College. We have been thrilled with the number of enrolments so far for 2022 and we look forward to a strong finish to this year and a strong start to next.



The hiatus imposed this term due to Covid has been difficult. Three weeks out of the middle of a school term can destroy momentum, as would be the situation for any business. However, I am very proud of the way our staff and students managed this period of learning and the loss of other opportunities – no winter tournament week, the sudden end of winter sports activities,

various extra-curricular opportunities and field trips cancelled, but everyone just got on with it. Of course, we are grateful to be out of Level 3 and 4. We certainly sympathise with those students around the world who have been learning online for many months, while at the same time missing out on the social development with peers that comes from important face to face interactions.

Please enjoy this edition of Ipsa Duce and thank you to all of you who continue to pray for and support the great reputation of Kavanagh College.

*Ngā mihi nui
Mrs Kate Nicholson
Principal*



Deputy Head Girl Annabelle Ring, Deputy Head Boy Tobias Devereux and Head Boy Enrique Garcia-Martin greet people as they arrive at the Kavanagh College Open Day.

Shave For A Cure

Kavanagh College's "Shave For A Cure 2021" - what an event!

At the end of last term, Kavanagh took part in supporting Shave For A Cure, a charity designed to support families and people living with blood cancer. The day started off with a bang with all the students flocking to school with their craziest hairstyles ever. There was everything from dyed hair to bird nests, wigs, flowers, afros, ribbons and everything in between.

Some of Kavanagh's finest Year 13 boys - Mickle Jose, Jimmy Gallagher, Ewen Clarke-Wallace, Will Marsh, Oli King, Enrique Garcia-Martin and Jack Harris - then stepped up to get their hair shaved off, together with the great Mr Shaun Haig, while the amazing Father



Deputy Head Girl Annabelle Ring shaves Mr Haig's hair.



All Blacks Finlay Christie and Brodie Retallick give Jack Harris a hair cut.

Hook led the school in some songs. To top it all off, a couple of All Blacks were on hand to help cut the hair as they were here farewelling our very own olympian, Erika Fairweather.

Thank you to all the wonderful people who supported this cause and made donations. We ended up raising a whopping total of \$7,648 for people with blood cancer, something that as a community we can all be extremely proud of.

Enrique Garcia-Martin

Board Update

The Board of Kavanagh College expresses our sincere appreciation and gratitude for all the work the staff of the school did to support and teach students during the recent Covid-19 lockdown. The virtual assemblies that were put together each week were a great way to engage with students and we would like to thank the prefects for their work and commitment in creating these assemblies.

The Kavanagh College Open Day at the beginning of August was very well attended with standing room only in the auditorium for the welcome. The feedback from those I spoke to during the Open Day was very positive and many students were eager to get their enrolments in for 2022.

Elections for the Board Student Representative are now underway having been extended due to lockdown. The student representative role provides not only a student voice on how the College is governed, but also provides valuable learning and experience for the student carrying out this role.

The next Board Meeting is on 3 November at 6pm. We welcome attendance at meetings and feedback from the Kavanagh College community at any time.

Barb Long, Board Chair

Kavanagh College's Head Girl, Erika Fairweather, travelled to Japan in July to compete at the Olympic Games as a member of the NZ Swimming Team. She had an amazingly successful first Olympics, including making it to the final of the 400m freestyle and setting a NZ record along the way. The whole school came together in the gym to watch her swim in the final and everyone is incredibly proud of her remarkable performances.

Here's a glimpse of the Olympic experience from Erika's perspective:

"The Olympic Games experience was by far the craziest thing I've ever done. The enormity of the event, facilities and village itself was something I wasn't prepared for. Living, eating and chatting with some of the world's most elite athletes was so eye-opening as you were surrounded by a group of people with similar goals and aspirations as yourself. Competing at the games was a massive learning moment. Through observing I was able to see and understand how much competing at the Olympics really means to people and how easily it can change your life. Being able to wear the fern and do it justice has been a dream of mine since I was a young kid, so making that final was such a special moment for me as I am now one step closer to that dream. I would love to say I played it cool when I realised I had made an Olympic final, but that was the exact opposite of what happened! I could barely speak and getting to sleep that night was even harder. Despite the Covid restrictions and rules we had to follow, we made it happen. The Covid Olympic Games didn't let me down - instead, they opened more doors for my future in swimming." (Erika Fairweather)



Under The Door Enterprises



Throughout the year the Agribusiness class has worked hard to develop and run their own company, Under The Door Enterprises, as part of the Young Enterprise Scheme.

The team has created innovative and sustainable products made using 100% New Zealand wool to not only solve solutions to issues such as keeping doors open, jamming fingers in doors and preventing draughts from entering the room, but also to try to support the struggling New Zealand wool industry which is facing challenging times with plastic taking over and wool prices dropping.

Under The Door Enterprises has developed a product range that includes The Woolly Wedge (a one stop door stop), The Woolly Mask (an adjustable barrier between door and frame to prevent finger and hand injuries) and The Woolly Wind Stopper (a sturdy and warm draught stopper). The local social enterprise Cargill Enterprises produces The Woolly Wedge and our team has also been working with Farmstrong to financially support the mental health of farmers as we recognise that this is an excellent cause.

If you would like to know more about the team's efforts, please search "The Woolly Wedge" online and products can be ordered from the Under The Door Enterprises website at: <https://under-the-door-enterprises.mystorbie.com/>

Mitchell Stewart



The Under The Door Enterprises team - (from left) Emmeline Taimalie, Josh Forrester, Lachie MacArthur, Te Kahui Mariu-Boreham ("Woolly"), Lewis Chinula, Mitchell Stewart, Hayley Anderson, Kahlia Pulham (Absent: Amy Hook)

Sporting Highlights

Kavanagh students have continued to be involved in a wide range of sports this term, even though some competitions came to an abrupt end with the move up alert levels and sadly the Winter Tournament Week was cancelled for the second year in a row.

Table Tennis

In July Liam Davis (Year 7) gained 2nd place in the Under 13 boys singles plate event at the 2021 Otago Open Table Tennis championships.

Weightlifting

Taylor Hamilton (Year 13) is now the South Island Junior Weightlifting Champion for the under 64kg weight class after her performance at the championships in Nelson in July.

Swimming

Meg Christophers (Year 13) put in a very credible performance at the NZ Secondary Schools Swimming Championships in Auckland in July coming 5th in 200m butterfly, 6th in 100m butterfly, 8th in 100m individual medley, 8th in 50m butterfly and 8th in 200m individual medley.

Basketball

Earlier this term Annabelle Ring (Year 13) was selected for the Otago Women's Gold Rush Basketball team. Unfortunately the competition was interrupted by the move to Alert Level 4.

Also, a number of Kavanagh students have been selected for the Under 13 Basketball Otago teams - EJ Damason, Jackson Hamilton, Luke Tili, Levi Simpson, Isabella McEntrye, Charli Innes, Filipe Vaka'uta.

Get 2 Go Challenge

Eight Year 10 Kavanagh students took part in the Get 2 Go Challenge in mid-September competing in kayaking, mountain biking and orienteering at different venues around Dunedin. Our team performed incredibly well and finished the day in 3rd place.

Hockey

Recently several Kavanagh students have been selected for rep hockey teams - Jeremy Meikle for the Under 15 team and Harry Lodge, Matthew Connolly, Eden Webb, Silas Webb, Matai Young, Leah Olsen and Rishi Shantapriyan all for the Under 13 team.



Get 2 Go Challenge

Term Three has been busy in the Music Department with a couple of notable successes for some of our students. Oliver Lodge won the national Caritas songwriting competition SINGout4JUSTICE at the end of July. Mr Grant gives the Year 10 music class some great strategies and tools for writing and recording songs and Oliver really ran with these and came up with a brilliant song with vocals recorded by Anamika Jones.

Close on the heels of this success, Kavanagh's Jazz Band and Small Combo had another great year at the Dunedin Youth Jazz Festival, taking second place in the small combo section and third in the big band section. There were some incredible solos and we stood out again thanks to some wonderful musicians, some of whom were only in their first year of learning their instrument! We walked away with a raft of individual awards including Best Clarinetist (Oscar Robertson), Best Guitarist (Jacob Green-Brough), Best Violinist (Sean Small) and Best Trumpeter (Tobias Devereux), as well as Most Promising Bassist (Jakira Brophy) and Most Promising Pianist (Oscar Robertson).

In addition to these wonderful successes, our senior songwriting students were lucky enough to attend a workshop at the University of Otago School of Performing Arts in their new studio complex.

Students were practising hard right up until the Level 4 lockdown was announced in preparation for Kavanagh's Got Talent that was to happen in Week 10 but has now been postponed until Term 4 - so keep your ears open for more fantastic music then!

Georgie Watts



Kavanagh's Jazz Band all ready for an early morning practice.

Kavanagh Day

Kavanagh Day 2021 started with students gathering in their houses to have one final practice for the afternoon's lip sync competition and then it was down to the gym where we celebrated the Feast of the Assumption with a full school mass led by Fr Hook.

After a quick interval we got straight into our activities. Lots of fun was had at chalk art, novelties, tug of war and the quiz. Everywhere you went there was a flood of house colours and fierce interhouse competition.

After lunch the school gathered together again in the gym to cheer, chant and lipsync for their houses - and the competition was close! Before the winner was announced the whole college sang their hearts out to the "Red Nose Song" remembering Br Henry Shepherd who started this tradition in the early nineties. The singing, dancing and fantastic school spirit were all truly wonderful and it's on days like this that it's easy to see what a tight community we all belong to here at Kavanagh.

Opps... just about forgot... Ambrose took the 2021 Kavanagh Day title!

Amelia Bresanello



Geography is a field of science devoted to the study of the lands, features, inhabitants and phenomena of the Earth and planets. At Kavanagh College we undertake some adventurous and practical fieldwork to support our learning in this subject area.

Year 13 Geography

In Level 3 Geography we take an annual trip to Queenstown to study the spatial and temporal impacts of tourism in the Lakes District. This year we enjoyed presentations from the District Council, the Queenstown Airport Corporation, the Arrowtown Museum and Destination Queenstown, all of whom were able to give us information on the environmental, economic, social and cultural impacts of both over-tourism and Covid-19. To supplement our learning we also managed to squeeze in some bungy and zipline rides, eat some Fergburger, explore the Gibbston Trail and scare ourselves at Fear Factory. We even managed a 1/2 hour trip to Kmart. The evenings were taken up with some very intense table tennis competitions, amazing Masterchef meals and general hilarity.

Year 12 Geography

Our Year 12 geographers head to the snow covered mountains of the South Island high country to go on an annual mission to view glaciers and to collect data for a Level 2 internal assessment on climate, vegetation, soil and relief. This year, once at Aoraki Mt Cook, we walked the Hooker Valley track and learnt about the history of the area, before heading to our Glentanner camp for dinner. We viewed a movie showing the Māori legends of the area at the Hermitage, then hiked up to Tasman Glacier lookout, before heading to the Red Tarns walk - an elevation of 300 metres. We collected the data we needed at four different sites, made snowpeople and engaged in some very strategic snowball throwing. We were also very lucky to take advantage of a Covid deal and experience a fixed-wing flight up to land on the Tasman Glacier. Magic!



The Year 12 geographers take a break at the Tasman Glacier, Aoraki Mt Cook National Park.

Year 11 Geography

Year 11 geography students are tasked with the mission to find the ultimate site in Dunedin city to build a 5-star hotel. This year they went on a trip to three different car parks and assessed the rock type, the aspect, the view and the accessibility. They then mapped their findings using ARC GIS, showing the advantages and disadvantages of all sites. The future of Dunedin planning is in good hands!

Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Gold Award

I started the Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award programme at the end of 2018 and I was able to work on the Silver Award as part of my Year 11 course at school. This award consists of four different tasks: physical recreation, skills, volunteering and adventurous journeys. Two of the tasks are undertaken for 26 hours and one of them requires 52 hours. For physical activity I chose karate, my volunteering was teaching junior members in karate and I continued to learn to drum for my skill. In New Zealand, it is common for the adventurous journey to involve tramping, so for my silver training tramp I went to the Oteake Conservation Park in Omarama and the Silver Peaks, while my qualifying tramp was a 3-day tramp on the Rakiura Track in Stewart Island.

I then moved on to the Gold Award at the end of 2019 and each of the tasks for this requires 52 hours of logged activity. I carried on with the same tasks, but this time my qualifying tramp needed to be 4 days and I also had to complete a residential project. This is a 5-day adventure away from home with people you've never met before and it must have a purpose. My residential project took place pre-COVID during my time in the Air Training Corps and was an event known as Exercise Cadet 2020. This was an exercise involving units of Cadet Forces nationwide and took place at the Waiouru Military Camp where cadets engaged in exercises such as first aid, sailing, orienteering and shooting the MARS-L, the primary infantry weapon of the New Zealand Defence Force. My Gold Award training tramp was in the Hakatere Ranges through the Peel Forest Outdoor Education Centre and my qualifying tramp was the Kepler with me acting as a helper for the 2020 Kavanagh Year 10 tramping camp.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Gold Award is an internationally recognised award that acknowledges the confidence, endurance and character of the participants. I would personally recommend this award for those seeking to challenge themselves and to strengthen their character.

Riley Mortimer



Congratulations to Year 13 student Riley Mortimer (pictured here with his parents and the Governor-General Dame Patsy Reddy) who recently received the Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Gold Award at a ceremony attended by the Mayor of Dunedin and the Governor-General. This award requires a significant amount of time, commitment and perseverance, but offers the opportunity to build confidence and resilience, give back to the community and learn valuable life skills.

Student Council

The Student Council is a group of passionate Kavanagh College students, across a range of different year levels, who want to make a difference in the school. Led by the two Deputy Head Students and the Board Student Representative, and with help from Mrs Mortimer, we have regular meetings to discuss ongoing issues we notice or are raised with us from the student body and come up with ways we think the school experience could be improved for the students.

Already this year we have run an educational campaign about the dangers of vaping and gained funding to purchase a set of 15 sports balls for the junior school. We also have many other projects on the go, including potential changes to the canteen, uniform and sport/recreational areas in the school.

The members of the 2021 Student Council are: Annabelle Ring, Tobias Devereux, Mickle Jose, Cody Shaw, Jessica Tupai, Brent Manangan, Ruby de Graaf, Isaac Tili, Heath Middleton, Ella Reilly, Pippa Sherriff and Mariya Jose.

Tobias Devereux

Bishop's Shield Competition

There was plenty of rivalry and camaraderie at the annual Bishop's Shield competition held recently.

In mid-August, twenty Kavanagh students spent the weekend in Oamaru at the annual Bishop's Shield public speaking competition competing against students from Verdon College, St Peter's College and St Kevin's College in prepared speech, impromptu speech, junior and senior debating, junior and senior drama and junior and senior scripture. Congratulations to Sarah Al-Balushi, Manaia Barns and the Junior Drama Team (Isaac Tili, Jeremy Meikle, Phoebe Harris, Meadow Stewart and Ruby de Graaf) who placed 1st or 2nd in their sections.

The students all really enjoyed the experience and appreciated that the event was able to go ahead this year after falling victim to Covid-19 in 2020.

"The Bishop's Shield was a great experience and, as a first-time attendee, it was wonderful to meet lots of new people and see the performances from all the other schools. It was an honour to represent Kavanagh in the scripture section and was great fun." (Manaia Barns)

"The Bishop's Shield was an enjoyable experience that was particularly special this year after the event was not able to go ahead last year. The Kavanagh spirit was strong as everyone cheered on their peers in all the events." (Kate Kelly)

"I had a great time at the Bishop's Shield. Meeting lots of new people who were all so friendly was one of my highlights and watching all of the amazing drama and speeches was also wonderful. Of course, taking part in the intense impromptu speech competition was a fantastic experience - even if it did not go my way. This was certainly a weekend very well spent." (Enrique Garcia-Martin)

"Being able to attend the Bishop's Shield has been one of the highlights of my year so far, especially as it wasn't able to run last year. I participated in the first event, the prepared speech, which made for a nervous drive to Oamaru, but after it was over I was able to relax and support the rest of the Kavanagh competitors. The atmosphere there was fantastic and it was so much fun to hang out with students across multiple year levels, as well as reconnect with those from the other colleges we have met at previous Bishop's Shield competitions." (Sarah Al-Balushi)



The Kavanagh team at the end of the Bishop's Shield competition in Oamaru.



Kavanagh's junior drama team at the Bishop's Shield competition.



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