



From our Principal, John Maguire



Tēnā koutou katoa ngā whānau,

Like all schools throughout Aotearoa, we have again taken the leap into the world of online distance learning. I am so grateful for the outstanding commitment, collaboration and energy we have evidenced from students, whānau, and staff to ensure student learning and engagement continues throughout this challenging time. The openness to all doing our best within our own circumstance is so apparent in all my communications within our community. We have learned from our first experience and am grateful for the willingness of our students and staff to commit and continue effective teaching and learning online. Thank you for your perseverance and patience.

It is with the deepest sadness, I share with our community that Garin graduate student Theodore Edwards passed away suddenly this week in Christchurch from meningitis. Theodore was the most dearly loved eldest son of Juleen Saxton and Gareth Edwards and a treasured and loved brother of Sebastian and Annalise. He is deeply mourned by his extended whānau, many graduate pupils and close friends, and the friends of Sebastian and Annalise. The prayers and thoughts of our whole school community are with Theo's family through this most challenging time. In reflecting on Theo, I know and have heard many recollections from staff of his respectful hardworking and considerate nature. He possessed a strong sense of community and had a very good humoured nature. Theo was in Garin's First XI football team, was captain of our Adventure Racing team and member for 5 years. Theo's friendly and easy going nature, provided determination, care and enthusiasm to motivate and energise those around him. He earned the respect of fellow students and all our staff. He lived his faith and family values at Garin and continued to do so throughout his years beyond college showing the same integrity, dependability and diligence we always associated with Theo in his years at Garin. Our heartfelt love, support and sympathies are extended to all his family and friends.



***Kia hora te marino,
Kia whakapapa pounamu to moana,
Kia tere te Kārohirohi i mua i tōu huarahi.***

May the calm be widespread,
May the ocean glisten as greenstone,
May the shimmer of light ever dance across your pathway

May Eternal Rest be with Theo and perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

This week our leader's video message to learners encourages them to maintain balance in their learning and wellbeing, enjoy time with their family while keeping in contact with friends. My gratitude this week is to be a very proud Principal of Garin College, of the collective response of all staff, students and whānau to online learning - we remain connected.

Please take a moment to reflect on the words of Pope Francis as he contemplates living for others in challenging times;

"Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is ... Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you."

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if, as a school we can support you in any way, an email to me or any of the teachers in the school will be responded to as quickly as possible.

I wish you a peaceful weekend,

Mā te Atua koe e tiaki,
Ngā mihi manaakitanga

John Maguire
Principal

SCHOOL CALENDAR:

PLEASE NOTE SOME NEW DATES:

Date TBC	Garin College Ball
Friday 27 August, TODAY	Subject Selection - closes 5pm
Tuesday 28 September	Club Garin Photos
Thursday 2 September	No TOD, learning at current Alert Lvl
Friday 3 September	Enrolments close
Friday 3 September	Scholarships close
Fri 3 September	Mid term break—school closed

Thought for the Week...

"Take a moment "Go into the world today and Love the people you meet. Let your presence light new light in the hearts of people." *Saint Mother Teresa*



Teaching & Learning @ Garin College

Since going into lockdown last week, Garin College staff have been working very hard to set up home learning for all of our learners.

Online learning began for all learners on Monday and we are very pleased with the level of engagement so far. Parents and Whānau can help learners by providing a quiet space for learning, reminding their child to check their emails regularly (at least once a day) and making sure that online classes are attended. Garin's online platform is Google. All classes will use Google Meets/ Zoom and Google Classroom to support learning. Parents and Whānau are encouraged to ask their child about their learning and to become familiar with these platforms - all learners work is posted into each subject classroom page so viewing these pages would be a good place for parents and Whānau to start.

For Year 9 & 10 learners they have their Google Meet and learning activities shared on their Year Level Google Classroom for ease of learning.

We are very aware that this may be a particularly stressful time for our senior learners, especially as this is the term when all internal assessment is completed and there is an increasing focus on external examinations. To ease some of this anxiety, NZQA has announced that external examinations will now begin two weeks later. They will now be held from **Monday 22 November** through to **Tuesday 14 December**. The Level 1 Mathematics Common Assessment task (MCAT) examination has also been changed from **Tuesday 14 September** to **Tuesday 28 September**. Please be assured that NZQA is very aware of the current situation and is ready to implement further changes if necessary. As a result of these announcements, Garin may also make changes to some dates previously published. Further updates will be provided as necessary.

Lockdown and online learning can be difficult for some learners to navigate. If you have any concerns or would like to discuss home learning for your child, please email your child's Dean or subject teacher directly.

Enrolment & Scholarship Information



Scholarship Applications

Important Enrolment Dates to Remember

Enrolments close 3 September 2021

Orientation Day 12 November 2021



Following the wonderfully generous donation to Garin College from Nancy May Black (known as Twinkle to most) the College is privileged to announce the availability of a number of scholarships for the 2022 academic year.

Applications are encouraged from those students who are able to demonstrate outstanding potential in academic, sporting, cultural, leadership and faith-based activities and also those in need of financial support to attend the College.

Scholarships available include:

- Catholic Character
- Academic
- Sporting
- Arts and Performing Arts
- Financial

Although Garin College new enrolments and Scholarships close on 3 September; due to Alert levels 3 or 4, Garin College will still accept late enrolments and Scholarships applications up to 7 September 2021. Non preference enrolment ballot date remains 8 September 2021. Enrolment applications may be completed online on our Website and Scholarship applications and Enrolments may be emailed to andreacolley@cloud.garincollege.ac.nz.

IMPORTANT NOTICE -
PARENTS OF YEAR 10 STUDENTS or
NEWLY ENROLLED SENIOR STUDENTS

Special Assessment Conditions

Special Assessment Conditions (**SAC**) provide extra help for approved students when they are being assessed for their NCEA so that barriers to achievement can be removed and they then have a fair opportunity to achieve credits. The support is used for internal standards and external (exams) standards.

Examples of SAC are use of a writer or computer, rest breaks, Braille or enlarged papers, or reader, extra time, rest breaks.

If your child has sensory, physical, medical and/or learning difficulties/disabilities eg dyslexia, dyspraxia, dyscalculia that might be able to be supported or reduced considerably with appropriate assistance, they may be eligible for SAC assessment. For a student to be eligible for SAC they must be working at expected levels - the use of SAC is to remove their barriers to learning. If you would like to **nominate** your child and you have not already discussed this **please email** our Student Services Co-ordinator (SENCO) Lou Maguire, before **28/8/2021** loumaguire@cloud.garincollege.ac.nz

A student with possible need, will be tested and the various types of assistance can be trialled in Term 4, 2021 in preparation for Level 1 in 2022. Contact may be made with you if more information was required about your child's individual needs, and we will trial various supports that may help your child's achievement. This helps to determine if an application can be made to NZQA for assessments, and for which SACs. If you have any cognitive assessments or medical letters of diagnosis, these could be forwarded to the email above in support of your child's application. If your child is a diabetic and will need rest breaks for testing or eating during an exam SAC application is required or any other medical condition that required treatment/management within a three hour examination.

If you have already submitted cognitive assessments to Lou, your student will be on the register for SAC application. If unsure whether you have submitted any cognitive assessments please email Lou Maguire. (email see above)

Whilst Garin College does the application, all decisions for Special Assessment Conditions are at the discretion of Educational Psychologists at NZQA.

WELLBEING CORNER

Here we are again, doing lockdown number two.

This can be a very anxiety provoking, lonely time for some. Please remember to check in on your loved ones, but also do regular self check-ins.

Take time to check out how your body is feeling. You can do this through a [body scan](#). Next ask yourself, what's on your mind? What have you been thinking about? Lastly think about how you're feeling. Naming emotions may seem small but can actually make a huge difference to our mental health.

Remember, everyone feels differently about this, and that is okay. Any emotions are completely understandable and valid, take time to remind yourself of this.

Self care and self compassion are just as important as compassion for others at this time.

Also please remember that the Garin Counselling Team are here to help. You can email [Kate](#) directly or fill out our online referral form [here](#) if you need anything at all.

Here are some great [wellbeing resources](#) from the Ministry of Health and as shared in the past an official NZ Health system [resource site](#) with some cool apps, and [here](#) is a booklet with some great apps.

Take care and please sing out if you need anything at all.

Thanks, Kate the Counsellor, and the Counselling Team

A graphic with a white background and yellow geometric shapes. The text 'Unite against COVID-19' is centered, with 'Unite' and 'against' in black and 'COVID-19' in white on a yellow rectangular background.

Unite
against
COVID-19

COVID-19 basics While New Zealand continues to remain under Alert Level 4, it has been great seeing everyone being compliant with the Alert Level rules. The Ministry of Health continues to remind everyone to please remain vigilant and stick to the basics:

- If you're sick, stay home. Do not go to work or school. Do not socialise.
- If you have cold, flu or COVID-19 symptoms, call your doctor or Healthline on 0800 358 5453 and get advice about getting tested.
- If you have been told to self-isolate, you legally must do so immediately.

The community is again relying on virtual connections to stay safe. We know that mostly people will be having a positive time on the internet, however our experience from last year's lockdown shows that we will likely see an uptake in demand for all of Netsafe services as people settle into their routines.

Netsafe's Online Safety Parent Toolkit

Netsafe's Staying Safe Online Guide is a handy lockdown resource as we all rely on the internet a little more. The internet offers many benefits, but it also comes with nuisances and risks, from spam to the theft of personal information. This guide helps protect people of all ages. It's available in different languages and contains top tips from some of the world's biggest online platforms from Facebook to Google, Netflix to TradeMe. Read it [here](#).

Staying Safe Online

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

