

# NCG Prep Newsletter



NELSON COLLEGE  
FOR GIRLS

Te Kura Tamawāhine o Whakatū  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL



TERM ONE  
WEEK ONE

## Kia ora tatou katoa

A very warm welcome to all our Prep families for 2024. It was so lovely to see all our students at school yesterday. We know the start of a new year can cause a little trepidation, but there was much excitement, lots of chatter and plenty of big smiles.

It is also a great pleasure to be able to introduce our new Tumuaki | Principal. Claire O'Fee. Claire has been very busy during the first weeks of 2024, moving house, getting her bearings in Nelson City and at Nelson College for Girls. As a staff, we are all very excited to have Claire at the helm and extend her our support as she navigates her way through getting to know all the staff, students and whānau.

Claire will be attending our whānau information evening next Wednesday to introduce herself to our Prep community.

The start of a new school year is busy and, at times, a little overwhelming for all students. It is so important that we emphasise to you all that there is no expectation for students to 'know

everything' straightaway. We fully understand that information will be lost or forgotten, PE kit may be left at home, worries will be abound as to which bus to catch. Please be assured that we will nurture the girls through these first weeks. They will be given many reminders regarding expectations and deadlines. Our focus for all students will be to support them in 'managing self'. We tell the girls- 'be kind to yourself...you won't know everything, and it won't all happen at once...but it will happen.'

All the Prep staff are looking forward to a adventure-filled and happy 2024 and we warmly welcome all our whānau and families to our school.

Warm regards  
Lucy Feltham  
Head Teacher



## IMPORTANT

### Anna Parkinson 8PN Kaiarahi

It is with sadness that we inform our Prep Whanau that yesterday Anna's mother was suddenly taken very ill and was taken to hospital and placed ICU. As I am sure you will all understand this was both a shock and very upsetting for Anna who of course is now with her family awaiting updates.

Please can you all note that any correspondence for Anna needs to be sent to Gwen in the Prep Office [prep@ncg.school.nz](mailto:prep@ncg.school.nz)

Please do not contact Anna directly at this time and we will update you all again next week.

## Cell phone policy

As you will all no doubt have read, there is a new policy from the government which we are currently working through as a kura and will send to you once confirmed, however a reminder our current procedure for cell phone use is;

- If a student brings a phone to school, they must keep it in their bag on silent or in a designated place as directed by their teacher for the duration of the classroom day. Mobile phones are not considered as a BYOD (bring your own device).
- Students may only access their phone when directed to do so by their teacher and it is only to be used for teaching and learning purposes.
- If a parent/caregiver needs to contact their child URGENTLY during the day, they should call the Prep Office before 1pm and then after 1pm the NCG Student Office on 03 548 3104 ext 5. Please state if it is urgent and we will make sure the student returns your call from a school phone as soon as possible. Please do not text or ring your child during the class day.

## Other Government Policy

You may also have read about the new policy from Government regarding teaching one hour a day of Reading, Writing and Maths Whilst we will and are always reviewing our curriculum to be meet student needs, we already timetable this within our 10-day timetable.

## Communication

We are sending home a copy of the contact details that you have provided and are presently in our school system. This is on a green sheet. Please can we ask that you check carefully that all details are correct and if not, please amend. Please can everyone return their sheet signed, even if the details are perfect!

We are also sending home a 'learning sheet' so you can share with your kaiarahi (teacher) the areas you see as your daughter's learning needs (this will also be available as an online form). An opportunity to tell us as we won't meet you face to face until Learning Conferences later this term. In the meantime, the easiest way to contact us about your daughter's learning is via email.

7TP - [tania.parekura@ncg.school.nz](mailto:tania.parekura@ncg.school.nz)

7FT - [lucy.feltham@ncg.school.nz](mailto:lucy.feltham@ncg.school.nz)

8PN - [anna.parkinson@ncg.school.nz](mailto:anna.parkinson@ncg.school.nz)

8AG - [rebecca.armstrong@ncg.school.nz](mailto:rebecca.armstrong@ncg.school.nz)

We are looking forward to getting to know your daughter and to sharing experiences and learning in the year ahead. Please do contact us at any stage if you have any questions.

## Reminder Re Absences

Please remember that the ONLY person you let know regarding ANY absences is Gwen at the Prep Office. She will pass on any information to Kaiarahi as necessary It is essential that you inform her of any illness, appointments, lateness, holidays etc, as she maintains all Min. of Ed. attendance systems. Please do not send messages via friends, siblings, or by leaving a message at the Main College.

Phone: 03 548 2194

Email: [gwen.redshaw@ncg.school.nz](mailto:gwen.redshaw@ncg.school.nz) or [prep@ncg.school.nz](mailto:prep@ncg.school.nz)

## Sport

All information will be shared with students on Monday 5th February when they will be given our Sports Booklet to bring home. This includes Code of Conduct for both students and parents to sign and return to their Arahi teacher. We welcome any parents/whānau who are interested in coaching any of our teams and ask you to complete and return the coaching form that is also in the booklet.

## Term One Rippa

Rippa trials will take place next week and a sign up sheet will be in the Prep Office from Monday 5 February and sign ups must be made by Wednesday 7 February due to tight entry timelines. Below is general information regarding the season – permission slips will be sent out later.

### TAHUNA SCHEDULE:

Unfortunately, due to the placement of Weet-Bix Try and Easter weekends, Rippa will have to start in February and have a couple of weeks off in late March.

- 23 February
- 1 March
- 8 March
- 15 March
- NO RIPPA 22 March – Weet-Bix Try
- NO RIPPA 29 March – Easter
- 5 April

### TIMES:

4pm, 4:30pm, 5pm, 5:30pm

\*Game times are dependent on team entries and are TBC.

### COST:

The entry fee Approx \$15.

Game time is 25 minutes with no half-time and is played in school PE uniform and bare feet.

## Term One Spikers Volleyball

Volleyball trials are being held next week and a sign up sheet will be in the Prep Office from Monday 5 February and sign ups must be made by Wednesday 7 February due to tight entry timelines. Below is general information regarding the season – permission slips will be sent out later.

Saxton Stadium - Term 1 2024 – Wednesdays between 5.30pm and 8.30pm..

### SEASON:

Wednesday 21st February – 10th April 2024

### GRADE:

6 a-side competition for Year 7 and Year 8

School PE uniform is worn.

Matches will be 3 full sets to 25pts (2pt adv.)  
45min match time.

ENTRY FEE: Approx \$55.



DATE	EVENT	AGENDA
Friday 2 February 5–6 pm in the NCG Hall	Music Enrolment.	Information has been emailed to all whanau from music department. Go along to speak to itinerant teachers, otherwise please enrol online by Monday 5 February.
Tuesday 6 February		Waitangi Day Holiday.
Wednesday 7 February 5:30–6:15 pm	Whanau Information Meeting.	This event is an important overview of essential information and programmes, including digital platforms. Please email Gwen at the Prep Office to let us know if you will be attending to give us an idea of the numbers to allow for.
Thursday 8 February	Rippa Trials at lunchtime.	Bottom field – bring PE kit.
Monday 12/Tuesday 13 February	Volleyball Trials	In New Gym – bring PE kit..
Wednesday 14 February	Whanau Learning Programme Workshop at Prep 2–3 pm.	Whanau information Learning Programme focus. You daughter can attend with you; Yr 8's will be together and Yr 7's together. Staff will explain online learning programmes.
Tuesday 20 February	School photos.	Full school uniform.
Monday 26 February	House Swimming Sports. Competitive Swimming	1– 3 pm in school pool. Parents cannot attend this event due to lack of space. 3.30 pm onwards. Parents may attend this if they wish.
Thursday 29 February	Y7 and Y8 Immunisations.	Further information and permission forms will be sent in advance
Monday 4 March	Y8 Science Trip TBC	Field Trip to Maitai River - further info to come.
Tuesday 5 March	Competitive Athletics Day at Saxton Oval	Bus provided for the students who wish to attend this event. Permission slips will be sent home prior.
Thursday 7 March	Y7 Science Trip TBC	Field Trip to Maitai River - further info to come.

Please remember that general information is available in the Prep Handbook that can be found under the 'Information' tab on the Preparatory School webpage – [www.ncg.school.nz](http://www.ncg.school.nz)