



Principal's Message



Talofa lava. This week we welcomed our 7 new Heads of Faculty to the college. An induction programme has been taking place which included a commissioning ritual during the daily Mass at St Patrick's Parish. The Heads of faculty were anointed by Father Robert Steele and Blessed by members of the Parish community in attendance and members of the college's Establishment Board. We are truly Blessed to have attracted such a high caliber group of leaders to the college and we have no doubts that with the team on board a high quality Ignatian education will be developed and formed over the coming months. In the next

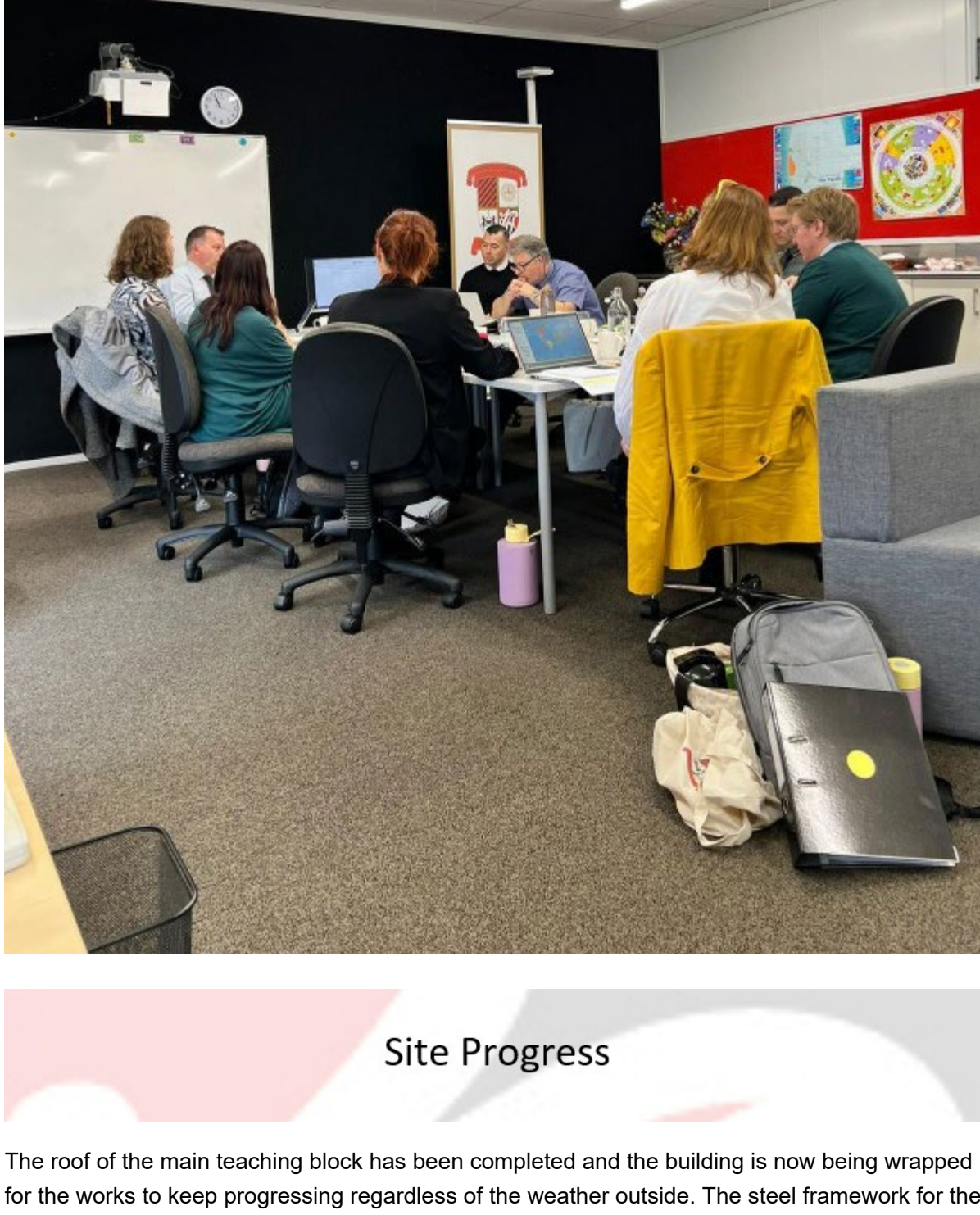
Newsletter, we will introduce some of our wonderful new school leaders to you.

Look out for the next edition of New Zealand Catholic, published next week. It will contain an account of Deputy Principal Catherine Bamber-O'Malley's meeting with the Jesuit Superior General, Father Arturo Sosa, in Rome who warmly welcomed Catherine and spoke of his enthusiasm for the new college. It is truly humbling for our school to receive such wholehearted support from the Society of Jesus, from the Superior General and the Order through the support we receive from the Province. As part of this support, we will be welcoming two Jesuit Priests the week after next to support us in our orientation and growing Ignatian knowledge and spirituality.

With staff on board, the building making great progress and plans in place, this time leading up to the opening of the school feels like the beginnings of the denouement of great story, beginning back in 1997 when the Steering Group met at St Joseph's Primary Pukekohe for the first time to discuss the possibility of a Catholic College in the area. How Blessed we are for those faith-filled people who met all those years ago and strived for decades to work for the vision, not knowing whether the dream of a Catholic secondary education would ever come to fruition. Their story is a true example of fortitude and a great story of faith; because owing to their vision, will, fortitude and faith, St Ignatius of Loyola Catholic College will be open in 2024.

In veniens Deum in omnibus.

Dean Wearmouth



Site Progress

The roof of the main teaching block has been completed and the building is now being wrapped for the works to keep progressing regardless of the weather outside. The steel framework for the school hall has been erected; phase one of the campus is beginning to take its final shape.



Teaching and Learning

What does 'Personal Excellence' mean to us here at Saint Ignatius?

'Personal Excellence' at St Ignatius refers to the holistic development of every ākonga and encompasses intellectual, moral, spiritual, and personal growth. Personal excellence emphasises the pursuit of one's full potential into who they are created by God to be.

At St Ignatius, a committed pursuit of personal excellence is an expectation of every ākonga. Saint Ignatius of Loyola in his writings calls us to strive for the 'Magis' – 'the more'. The more is a key to making the right choices. The entire life of Saint Ignatius of Loyola was a search for the Magis – that is, the more universal good, the more effective means, the more generous service of others, and the ever-greater glory of God. Magis energises us for action.

Each ākonga striving for their personal best in all their endeavors shows a commitment to God, a recognition of His presence and a thankfulness for the wonderful gifts present in each of us. Ignatian education is truly present when our ākonga are led to action, when they seek the 'Magis' the better their service to God and to their brothers and sisters. It encourages individuals to constantly seek growth, deepen their understanding, and make a positive impact on the world.

The concept of personal best is integral to personal excellence. It emphasises the idea that individuals should strive to give their utmost effort in all areas of their lives, utilising their talents and abilities to the best of their capacity. It encourages a mindset of continuous improvement and self-reflection, always seeking to surpass previous achievements and reach new levels of personal growth.

At St Ignatius, every ākonga is encouraged to seek Magis; to make the best decisions for themselves and those around them, to constantly seek growth, and to contribute to the betterment of our world.

Cura Personalis

Which House will you belong to?

Barbier House



Euphrasie Barbier was born on 4 January, 1829, in Caen, France. She is the founder of The Congregation of Our Lady of the Missions. She established this order in 1861 in Lyon, France. Known as the "little mother", she cared for all with the affection and tenderness of a mother. From a young age she dreamed of becoming a missionary and spreading the Good News across the world.

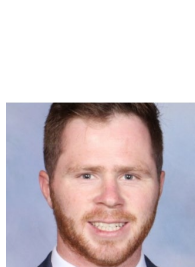
She had great willpower, energy and enthusiasm for life. Through her strong will and determination the congregation made a significant contribution to education in New Zealand from 1864. Pukekohe received their first Sisters in 1885 when St Mary's School was opened. She came and visited the first community and planted an oak tree on this land which can be seen today. The Oak tree has become a symbol of strength and hope for the future of this mission even today. Saint Joseph's school, Pukekohe was then founded in 1923. Euphrasie's passion for mission lives on today through the Sisters who have embraced her legacy of spreading the compassionate love of God to all peoples especially the most disadvantaged and marginalized in our society.

She said 'let us serve God with faith, love and fidelity'.

Watch the video below to find out a bit more about Euphrasie Barbier and the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions.

[Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions: Treasuring Our Past, Shaping Our Future](#)

Special Character



We are delighted to be able to introduce our Director of Religious Studies to you. We warmly welcome Matthew Grevatt to our Team.

Kia ora koutou. It is with a sense of excitement that I have taken up the role as the Director of Religious Studies at St Ignatius. Raised on a farm in Hawkes Bay, it took me sometime before I became a teacher spending time as a Marist Seminarian and Dairy Farmer before retraining as a Religious Education teacher. I am currently living in Hamilton with my wife Laura and one year old son Noah, but will move to Pukekohe at the end of this month. We look forward to becoming part of the community and parish. In my time I have taught in boys college's as the Assistant Director of Special Character at Sacred Heart College in Auckland and Assistant Head of the Religious Education Faculty at St John's College Hamilton. Faith is the foundation of who I am and it is with this attitude that I begin my time at St Ignatius, striving to give all of our students opportunities to find God in all things.

On Sunday we celebrated the feast of Pentecost. It was then that the Holy Spirit gave Peter and the Apostles the courage to preach the message of Jesus sparking the first conversions. It should remind us to ask the Holy Spirit for courage in everyday life to live a good Christian life. There is a simple traditional prayer for this purpose and this week we encourage you to pray it when you need a bit of help:

Haere mai e te Wairua Tapu – Come Holy Spirit

Haere mai e te Wairua Tapu (Come Holy Spirit)

whakakiaia ngā ngākau o āu tāngata whakapono (Fill the hearts of your faithful)

Whakauria ki roto i a rātou te kāpura o tōu aroha (And kindle in them the fire of your love)

Tonoa mai tōu Wairua, ā, ka whakahoungia ō mātou ngākau (Send forth your spirit and they shall be created)

ā, ka whakahoungia anō hoki te mata o te whenua. (And you will renew the face of the earth.)