



## From the Principal

Next week, we will mark the end of the school year with our final Junior School Assembly and our Prizegiving. It has been a truly wonderful year filled with countless highlights, including our school production, Polyfest, the Family Festival, summer and winter sports, multiple music events, and our school movie – to name just a few. These moments not only showcase the incredible talents and dedication of our students but also reflect the vibrant spirit of our school community.

Every year, our young women continue to exceed expectations in all they undertake. Watching them grow, learn, and lead with confidence is a privilege and a testament to the values we uphold. We are proud to play a part in their journey toward becoming the future leaders of society.

The YouTube Premiere of *Chasing Stars* the school film will be tonight, Friday 6th at 7:30pm. <https://youtu.be/NIHsl94zYXI> Everyone is welcome to join. Please save and share the link. It will remain active after the Premiere too. *Chasing Stars* has been an outstanding success, gaining international recognition at many film festivals, including:

- Best debut feature film in the Tamizhagam International Film Festival
- Best original story in the Beyond Border International Film Festival
- Winner of Best Song for October in the Gothamite Monthly Film Awards in New York
- Nomination for best first-time filmmaker: Montreal Independent Film Festival
- Honourable mention in the Athens International Monthly Art Film Festival
- Official selection for the live screening event at the Levadia International Film Festival (L.I.F.F.) in Greece.

A heartfelt thank you to all our families for your unwavering support and the invaluable contributions you make to the school. Together, we create a community where every student can thrive and achieve.

As we close out the year, we wish you all a restful and joyous holiday season. We look forward to welcoming you back in the new year for another exciting chapter.

Finally, a huge thank you to the entire Marist community for your condolences and support as we mourned the passing of our colleague Mr Mike Hookey. He will be truly missed.

Te Aroha o Te Atua

*Raechelle Tauku*, Principal/Tumuaki



## KEY DATES

### Term 4 2024

#### Week (9B)

Dec 9 Mo **Advent Liturgy / Final day for students 12pm finish Prizegiving, Town Hall, 6:30pm, all students**

#### Dec - Jan School Holidays

Jan 20 Mo School Office reopens

21 - 22 Second Hand Uniform Shop Open 9am - 12pm

23 Th Second Hand Uniform Shop Open 12pm - 3:30pm

24 Fr Senior Course Confirmations

### Term 1 2025

#### Week (1A)

27 Mo **Auckland Anniversary Day**

29 We International Student Orientation day

30 Th Y13 Retreat  
Y13 Tech Setup

Jan 31 Fr **New students & Y13 start**

#### Week 2B)

Feb 3 Mo **All students start Term 1 2025**

Assembly 8:30am

3 - 4 Y7 Homeroom days

6 Th **Waitangi Day**  
Sister Act auditions 9am - 5pm, 220

7 Fr Sister Act auditions 4:30pm - 7pm, 220  
*Rotation 1 - 5*

8 Sa Sister Act auditions 9am - 7pm, 220

### Upcoming Events:

Feb 11 Tu Diocesan Dedication Mass 7pm, Bishop Steve

13 Th PTFA New Parent Mixer pm

16 Su Sister Act Rehearsal 11am - 5pm, 220

17 Mo PTFA Meeting 7pm

18 Tu Swimming Sports (competitors only)

21 Fr Inaugural Mass, St Patricks Cathedral

For a full school calendar go to <https://www.maristcollege.school.nz/calendar>

**2024 Prizegiving Ceremony**  
**Monday 9th December, 6:30pm**  
**Auckland Town Hall**



# Christmas is 'God with us', the Emmanuel

Every year, Christians prepare themselves during the Advent Season to celebrate the mystery of God made human in Jesus, on Christmas day.

The Catholic Church calls this most joyous event the Incarnation of God. For us ordinary Christians, we are reminded every year at Christmas that God has loved us so much that he decided to accompany us throughout history. It is for this very reason that we rejoice and celebrate Christmas because God is eternally present in our lives to give us hope in this world. Pope Francis' first encyclical in his papacy, "*The Joy of the Gospel*", reminds us that our Christian response to God's immense love to us should be Rejoice!

As we continue to journey with Jesus in the next few weeks of Advent, we pray that we may truly experience God's tender love, compassion and joy. "*May Mary Most Holy, who bore her Son Jesus in the flesh and joined herself to His sacrifice, help us to always bear witness to our faith in our real lives.*" (Pope Francis)

Ad Jesum per Mariam

*Sr Seini Fatai sm,*

Director of Religious Education



## Awa Run 2024

The Marist College Awa Run team flew down to Whanganui last Tuesday to participate in this year's Awa Run. The team included Year 10 students Daisy Dautermann, Rosy Smith, Ella Bayly, Emily Trask and Isabel O'Brien, and Year 12 Harper Lawson. Accompanying teachers were Ms Kirkland and Miss Grindrod. All students ran 50 kilometres over three days along the winding Whanganui River Road that has stunning scenery of the river and its surroundings.

The organisers, The Young Marists, made us feel very welcome and we appreciated their manaakitanga. This year's kaupapa raised over \$30,000 for the charity "Next Door". Thank you to everyone who generously donated to this great cause.

*Ms Rachel Kirkland*

The 2024 Awa Run was such a special experience to be a part of. Despite the intense heat, long hours of running and early starts, many memories were made that are now shared with Marist students from all around New Zealand. Knowing that we were running for charity and students less fortunate made me further appreciate my education and the thousands of opportunities I have. I will forever be grateful for the experience as it allowed me to challenge myself and to step out of my comfort zone!

*Harper*

It was such an incredible experience and I made so many friends. I'm so thankful I got to go. *Daisy*

I had such an enjoyable and exciting experience that I will remember forever. I made so many amazing memories and new friends. *Rosy*

The Awa Run was one of the best experiences I've ever had! We made heaps of new friends that I hope will last forever. If I could, I would go back 100 times. *Emily*

Participating in the Awa run was an empowering experience, as it allowed me to contribute to a meaningful cause while challenging myself physically. It was inspiring to see the Year 10 students come together, proving that our collective efforts can make a real difference in our community. *Isabel*

## Mural update!

Some Year 10 Art students have been adding some finishing touches to the school mural. They've learned about stencilling, collaboration and scaling text and images, as well as some very practical skills like using drop sheets and opening tins of paint!

We can't wait to see their finished work!

*Ms Sophia Schön*





# Dessert Competition Results

And the winners for the Year 10(82C) dessert competition are:

- **Most Innovative:** Joanna Ellimoottil & Madi Taai (Peanut butter cupcake)



- **Best Flavour:** Grace Lemana & Agnes Lijeesh (Caramel chocolate slice)



- **Best Presentation:** Yzabella Ong & Angelina Wulf (Strawberry cream cake)



- **Most Creative:** Annika Cameron & Avie Smyth (Panna cotta with berry coulis)



# Year 8T Bento Boxes

This was the best practical to wrap up our Food Technology rotation. We loved planning and creating our bento boxes, but the best part was eating the delicious food. Food Technology has taught us a lot of skills such as planning, organisation, teamwork, communication, and time management.

*Year 8T*



# Year 7 Birkenhead Trip

On the 29th of November, Year 7s went to Birkenhead Pool and Leisure Centre. We took part in some fun teamwork games, chariot making and racing, and rock climbing. After a hot day in the sun, we got to cool off in the pool. This was my personal favourite. On our way to and from Birkenhead we sang Christmas carols on the bus. *Bennita Baptista*

Birkenhead was so much fun, and we got to learn so many cool things. Our teachers, parents and instructors were really helpful and were filled with a positive attitude and a touch of humour. My favourite part of Birkenhead was swimming in the cool, refreshing water especially after a hot day of physical activities. Rock climbing was another fun activity that we took part in. We all had an amazing time! *Alvita Suarez*

Birkenhead was an amazing experience. It was a great day out to spend time with all the Year 7s and take part in activities together. Birkenhead taught us team building skills and how we can support each other. It was a wonderful trip, and I hope we get to return some day. *Simona Fernandes*



# Sports Update Interzone Athletics

Isabella Snedden competed in the AAIMS Interzone Athletics Championships on Thursday 28th November and placed second in both Year 7 Girls 1500m and 800m. An awesome result and a great year for Isabella with her sporting achievements.



# BIG Thank You

Marist Sport would like to thank all of our amazing Coaches, Managers and supporters who have helped our student athletes play the sports that they love and enjoy. We encourage all students to get involved in sport. It's a fun way to learn new skills, keep fit and healthy and make new friends. We look forward to a great year of sport in 2025!

*Marist College Sports Department*





# Chasing Stars YouTube Premiere

Tonight (Friday 6th December),  
the school film *Chasing Stars* will  
premiere on YouTube at 7:30pm.

Everyone is welcome to join.

<https://youtu.be/NIHsI94zYXI>



The YouTube Premiere is a chance to watch the film together as a community, even if you've already seen it in the cinema. For those who haven't participated in a YouTube Premiere before, it's a shared viewing experience with a live chat running alongside the film.

The link to the film will also remain active after the premiere, so you can revisit it whenever you like. Particularly for those with family or friends overseas who couldn't attend the cinema screenings—they'll finally have the chance to watch *Chasing Stars*. So please feel free to share or post this link at any time.

YouTube Link (still works after Premiere): <https://youtu.be/NIHsI94zYXI>

Film soundtrack: <https://tinyurl.com/StarsSoundtrack>

*Thanks for continuing to support our young performing artists in this project. See you online!*

## Year 10 Junior Arts Day

Last Friday all of Year 10 experienced a programme provided by University of Auckland staff and students showcasing some of the topics that can be studied under the Faculty of Arts. Four workshops were provided with the students rotating through all of them in their core classes. This year's topics were Egyptology, Criminology, Art History, and Anthropology. Each workshop included an explanation of the field, ways in which the knowledge and skills can be applied in different careers and industries, and a fun activity.  
*Jenni Catley*, Careers Advisor.

I enjoyed the differences between all the courses. They were all so different, but they kept me interested and intrigued. I didn't know art went further than just painting on a canvas.  
*Erin McMahon*

I liked how each session had a unique way of letting us learn about the major.  
*Grace Mary Bayouk*

I enjoyed learning lots of new things from the university students and seeing what kind of options there are to study at university/ career options.  
*Sophia Henry*

I really enjoyed the board game. I would play it in my own time.  
*Chaska Guffens*

I have learned about some subjects that I've never known that had existed before.  
*Olivia Saji*

I enjoyed playing the Wah game, and having background music for the criminology workshop.  
*Paula Veukiso*

I really enjoyed learning about the ancient Egyptian gods and goddesses, it was super cool.  
*Sophie Slinn*

They had activities that involved us as students to participate in a way that interested us and gave us amusement while being able to teach us small tidbits of information about the workshop subject.

*Kristina Han*

The Criminology workshop was fun and interesting.  
*Lily MacCauley*







## Dancing in Samoa for the King

In late October, my sister Teugata and I had the extraordinary honour of performing with our dance group, Le Taupou Manaia (LTM), at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) Official Welcome and State Banquet in Samoa.

LTM, founded in American Samoa and celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, is dedicated to preserving Samoan tradition and the art of Siva Samoa. The group, comprising branches from New Zealand, Samoa, and American Samoa, was invited by the Samoan Government as the main entertainment for the event, which honoured His Majesty King Charles III and Commonwealth leaders.

Although His Majesty retired early due to illness, we had the privilege of meeting leaders, including New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon and dignitaries from the UK, Fiji, Tonga, Brunei and many more. Their genuine interest in Samoan culture reaffirmed the power of cultural diplomacy in fostering global connections.

Performing with over 60 tama'ita'i Samoa (young Samoan women), aged 3 to 21, was heartwarming. Being able to foster a sisterhood within LTM and the ability to collaborate with our very own New Zealand choreographer made the experience unforgettable. A highlight was visiting the Samoa Victim Support Group, where we performed and brought donations, creating moments of joy for the children. It was especially special having the opportunity to bring our international student at Marist, Melody Le, and show her around the beautiful Islands of Samoa.

Performing on this international stage was not only a personal milestone but also a celebration of the vibrant traditions that define us as a people.

We are humbled and grateful to have carried a piece of Samoa to the world stage and hope to inspire others to embrace and celebrate their cultural heritage.

Fa'afetai Tele Lava, *Eseta Rasmussen*

## International Student Update

Melody Le from Vietnam is a Marist College International student, in homestay with the Rasmussen family. Recently they took her to Samoa with them for a family trip as Eseta (Year 12) and Teugata (Year 9) were part of a dance group performing at CHOGM. Melody has provided this snapshot below of her experience in Samoa.



## Exchange Programme in Spain

An amazing opportunity to visit Spain in September 2025 is being offered to Marist College students. The visit will include attending school and visiting some points of interest in and around Madrid and will include service also. The timing will be in the term break between Term 3 and 4. It is likely that we will be joined by 1-2 other Catholic schools who will also be taking part in the same programme.

In addition to this, are you interested in offering homestay to a student from Spain?

The trip will be self-funded and will need to be paid well in advance of departure. If this sounds like something you're interested in and want to know more, please email [international@maristcollege.school.nz](mailto:international@maristcollege.school.nz) and I'll send an information pack to you.

There will be a series of online information sessions which you're welcome to join. The first will be on Wednesday 11 December. Please join the session here <https://meet.google.com/ziw-yxos-eyq> at 6pm-6.30pm



# Auckland Central Catholic Kāhui Ako Matters (ACCKA)

*'Waiho i te toipoto, kaula i te toirua' 'Let us keep close together, not far apart'*

2024 has been quite an action-packed year with student activities and competitions – on and off the field, staff Professional Learning Development, a Kāhui Ako conference, Miha Māori and Pasifika Mass and the preparation of another service trip to Samoa in 2025 to name just a few.

We welcome a new kura to our kāhui ako, Marcellin College, which will make us a team of 16 schools. 'As sixteen Catholic schools, eleven primary and four secondary schools, we believe that it is through Christ, that we can grow and enrich the whole person while they journey with us in our schools'. Here are a couple of things that took place this term:

## Language Weeks

We acknowledge the language week celebration that took place this term – Niue, Tokelau, Papua New Guinea and the newly added one, the Solomon Islands.

## Niue Language Speech competition:

Judged by - Mrs Anthe-Florence Hiligutu (Teacher)

- **Winner of Years 1 & 2 Niuean Speech Competition:**  
Jaelin Richard Hipa Tautasi
- **Winners of Years 3 & 4 Niuean Speech Competition:** Alycia Paealiki & Blake Taifinofu
- **Winner of Years 5 & 6 Niuean Speech Competition:**  
Emmeline Fasi

## Samoa Service Trip Abroad 2025

Next year 26 members of the Kāhui Ako and Marist College students will be travelling to Samoa, 28th June – 7th July to serve at Samoa Victim Support Group (Campus of Hope) <https://svsg.org.ws>.

This will be Marist College's 10th Anniversary and the Kāhui Ako's second year of serving this organisation. Each malaga (trip) we take over specific supplies of resources. Next year, the focus is on collecting stationery equipment for children and hygiene packs for young girls and women both on campus and in different villages. We would love your support with this.

## Thank you, thank you, thank you

Thank you to all those who participated in any of our Kāhui Ako initiatives this year. We appreciate the collaborations, connections and celebrations. We look forward to your continuous fellowship and participation in the new year.

Meri Kirihemete & Ngā mihi o te tau hou!

*Makerita Tagomoa-Papali'i*

Across School Leader

<https://www.acckahuiako.ac.nz/>

## Transition Talks

Thank you to all our students who were great ambassadors of our college and took part in sharing with mainly their former primary schools about what their first year at college has been like. Many former staff and students were excited to see how 'grown up' and 'mature' the students were, especially their confidence and knowledge of their current college. They did our college and the Kāhui Ako proud!

## Marist College Transition Ambassadors

### Christ the King

Elise Hearsey  
Shanya Jayamaha  
St Paul's students



### St Francis

Farrah Schaumkell  
Madison Siitia  
Isabella Snedden  
St Mary's students



### St Dominic's Primary

Ella Birkbeck  
Johanna Joby  
Cleo Sealey



### Good Shepherd School

Elizabeth Datson  
Mary Lijo  
Esha Nidhin



### St Joseph's (Grey Lynn)

Ayla Gregory  
Kalo Sundin  
Juanita Thomas



### Marist (Mt Albert)

Imogen Baudinet  
Chloe Cheng  
Kate Kelly



### Monte Cecilia

Kara Elliott  
Charlotte Houliston  
Alvita Soares  
St Paul's College



### Marist (Herne Bay)

Imogen Baudinet  
Chloe Cheng  
Honey Zhu  
St Paul's College



### St Therese School

Ayla Gregory  
Kate Kelly  
Kalo Sundin





# Samoa Service Trip Abroad 2025

## Donations wanted: Stationery and Hygiene packs.

### PACK A PENCIL CASE:

Donate a pencil case of stationery equipment for a learner ready to learn.

### YOUNG WOMEN SANITARY ITEMS:

Donate a pack of sanitary items for a resident at the SVSG Campus of Hope.



Items will be taken to Samoa Victim Support Group and specific village schools as part of the Auckland Central Catholic Schools Kāhui Ako and Marist College trip in July 2025.

Drop off donations to a trip participant or at the Marist College front office during term time. (Before end of Term 1, 2025)

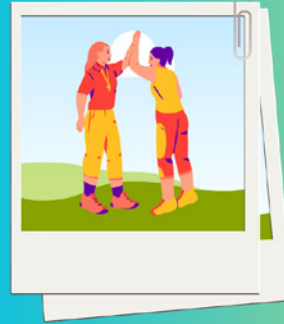
Samoa Victim Support Group provides residential care for abused women and children in Samoa. Learn more at: <https://svsg.org.ws/>



For more info please contact Makerita at [m.tagomoa@gmail.com](mailto:m.tagomoa@gmail.com), or 0212314367  
Auckland Central Catholic Kāhui Ako

## Would you like to be a Marist College Coach in 2025?

We are looking for passionate Coaches and Managers to lead and inspire our sports teams



Coaches & Managers are needed for these sports in 2025:

- Badminton - Senior
- Basketball - Senior
- Futsal - All year levels
- Hockey - Senior & Junior
- Netball - All year levels
- Touch - Intermediate & Junior
- Volleyball - Senior & Junior

We would love for you to share your expertise with us!

If this is you, please send your expression of interest by clicking on the link

Senior Student coaches welcome!

Contact the sports dept via [sports@maristcollege.school.nz](mailto:sports@maristcollege.school.nz)

Marist College and St Peter's College proudly present

# SISTER ACT

Music by  
ALAN MENKEN

Lyrics by  
GLENN SLATER

Book by  
CHERI STEINKELLNER  
& BILL STEINKELLNER

Additional Book Material  
DOUGLAS CARTER BEANE

Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia)

May 2025

Auditions February 2025  
Sign up now for an audition pack

<https://forms.office.com/r/pynAEshSUB>



## MARIST COLLEGE SPORT 2025

Registrations for Sport 2025 are now open on our sports website. Register today at <https://www.sporty.co.nz/maristcol/>

## Marist College Open Days

Tours available at 9am on 6 & 7th March 2025



# Marist School & Marist College GOLF Day

Maungakiekie Golf Club

Friday 7th March 2025

12pm for a 12:30pm Shotgun Start

Format: 4-Person Ambrose

Tickets are available online at <http://tinyurl.com/2025GolfDay>

**Price:**

Individual Player: \$130

Team of Four: \$480

Team of Four & Hole Sponsorship: \$580

Price includes course fees, on-course sausage sizzle and snacks, beer and non-alcoholic drinks, and dinner afterwards.

Raffles and auctions in the clubhouse from 5pm, with cash bar.

Golf carts \$75 each - limited numbers so first in, first served.



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**Lisa Courtney** 027 242 8888  
**Karen Gianotti** 021 137 4152

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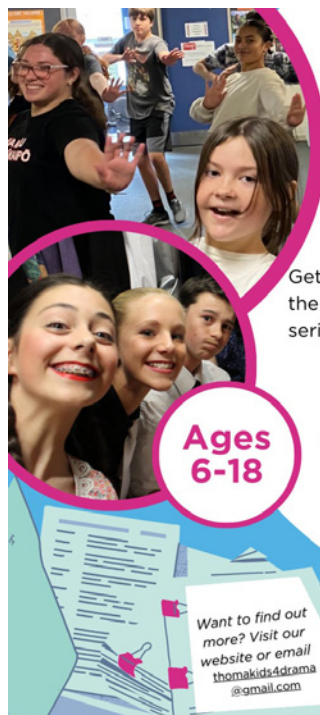
## Ex-Students Association Christmas Morning Tea

Sunday 8 December, from 11am

(after Mass at St Mary's Church) Marist Sisters Convent, Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert

Tickets \$5 each, please bring a plate to share for morning tea

<https://events.humanitix.com/christmas-morning-te>



**KIDS 4 DRAMA**  
SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS  
EST. 1991

## SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAM

20th-24th January 2025

Get some more theatre in your life over the summer holiday break! Join us for a series of drama based activities leading to a fun performance!

**This Program Includes**

- End of Week Short Performance ✓
- Stage Combat (Junior/Senior) ✓
- Special Guest Tutors ✓
- Singing & Dancing ✓

**Ages 6-18**

Want to find out more? Visit our website or email [thomaskids4drama@gmail.com](mailto:thomaskids4drama@gmail.com)

**REGISTER NOW**

[linktr.ee/kids4drama](http://linktr.ee/kids4drama)

## PRESTIDGES SCHOOLWEAR

FORMERLY ELIZABETH MICHAEL UNIFORMS

Elizabeth Michael Uniforms has just changed its name to Prestidges Schoolwear.

All of the great people, quality, service and style that you know and love about Elizabeth Michael will stay the same now that we are Prestidges Schoolwear and our shop will still be at 65 New North Road, Eden Terrace, Auckland.

So this name change will not effect you as a customer.

If you have already registered as an Elizabeth Michael customer on-line this registration will still be valid on the Prestidges on-line store. If you have not registered to purchase uniform on-line just go to [prestidges.co.nz](http://prestidges.co.nz) and click Register then follow the simple instructions.

Please call 09 358 1680 or email us at [uniforms@prestidges.co.nz](mailto:uniforms@prestidges.co.nz) if you have any questions.

## BACK TO SCHOOL - EXTENDED SHOP HOURS

We close for Christmas at 12.00pm, Friday 20 December 2024  
We re-open in the New Year on Monday 6 January 2025 at 9am

Monday - Wednesday	9am - 5pm
Thursday	9am - 7pm
<i>extended hrs - from now until 20 Feb 2025</i>	
Friday	9am - 4pm
Saturday	9am - 3pm
<i>extended hrs - from 11 Jan until 22 Feb 2025</i>	

PARKING - at the front of the building & also at the rear of the building - just off Exmouth St

65 New North Rd, Eden Terrace, Auckland 1021  
P: 09 358 1680 • [uniforms@prestidges.co.nz](mailto:uniforms@prestidges.co.nz) • [www.prestidges.co.nz](http://www.prestidges.co.nz)

# MARIST COLLEGE Family Festival 2025

## Save the date

### Thursday 20 March 4 - 7:30pm

Pop the date in your diary now - a highlight of our school calendar.

Join us to celebrate the start of the new year and all the cultures of Marist College. Share in food, cultural performances and experience the unique Marist spirit. Keep an eye out for info on how to volunteer or contribute in early 2025.

**OfficeMax MySCHOOL**

## Order their Back to School stationery now and beat the rush!

Class lists are ready to view at [myschool.co.nz](http://myschool.co.nz)