



TERM 4 2020, TOLCARNE NEWSLETTER

TOLCARNE TRUMPET

Director of Boarding Report

2020 has become the year we never expected. It has challenged us and provided us with opportunities to learn and grow in ways we perhaps didn't think were possible.

Everyone at Tolcarne should be proud of how they have navigated 2020 and we can all move into 2021 taking with us our learnings from this year.

My biggest learning from 2020 has been the power of kindness, especially unexpected kindness. It is the most powerful, least costly, and most underrated agent of human change (Bob Kerrey).

From a full heart I wish you all a safe and happy Christmas holiday with your loved ones. Enjoy the summer break and find the time to do kind things for one another, not because of who they are or what they do in return but because of who you are.

Meri Kirihimete

Head Boarders Chat

Wowee girls, what a year it has been! It has certainly flown by in the blink of an eye, especially this term with the seniors only having 4 weeks then going on study leave. This is sadly our last blurb for the Tolcarne Trumpet. Dotti and I have enjoyed writing termly reports to tell you what has been going on and what there is to be looking forward too.

Starting off this term, we were finally able to hand out the Tolcarne Merch, after lots of thought and consideration that went into the design and making of the T-shirts. The girls loved them and we are so proud we were able to design these for the girls.

Dotti and I gave the Year 12's who were interested in being Head Boarder for 2021 a chat about what the role is like and some of the things you do whilst in the position. There was a great turn out and Dotti and I are confident that whoever gets the job next year will do a fabulous job.

A big event on the calendar this year was the annual Tolcarne Social. This year the theme was Hawaiian. There was a wonderful turn out from the respective boys' hostels, John McGlashan and Otago Boys'. A huge thank you to Isla, Bex and the rest of the Tolcarne Council for putting a lot of work and effort into the ideas, decorations and helping set up the event.

Last but not least was the Christmas Dinner held here at Tolcarne. The dinner was on a beautiful warm evening, which was awesome as we could do our year group secret santa out on the grass. We were lucky enough to hear Anna Englebrecht sing with Natalie on the guitar to 'Butterfly Fly Away'. The food was outstanding, so a big thanks to Jodie, Ross and the rest of the kitchen staff for all of their hard work that night. A few tears were shed by the Year 13's (all happy ones of course), as we reflected on our time here at Tolcarne and the connections and bonds we have made with each other over the past 5 years. Now it is time for each and everyone of us to start a new chapter, whether it is going to university or working. We wish all of the Year 13's success in whatever they do!

The juniors have enjoyed the Christmas Carol service which was held in the chapel on Sunday the 22nd of November. It helps the girls into the Christmas spirit! The holiday break is coming up too so we hope everyone has a nice and relaxing holiday before 2021 commences!

Beth & Dotti xx



Senior Dean Message

The final term to a very unusual year... We had a great turn out for our Tribe Games, including the sun which always helps the day run smoothly. The Tribe competition was pretty tight in the end, and the newly introduced Tribe Value Cards made a big difference.

The hostel seemed very empty without so many of our senior students as they came and went on their study leave - many of them making the decision that it was easier to study at the hostel!

It is always such an exciting time of year as the next stage plans become clear for the Year 13's and their summer plans are formed.

Wishing all of our families a very happy Christmas and New Year, shared with family and friends and filled with love and laughter.

Looking forward to catching up with all your shenanigans and adventures at the end of January - Ziggy

Tribe Games



Weekend Activities Recap

Term 4 is always a good term for our activities, as the girls get to head outside more due to the warmer weather.

Activities offered this term were:

Paddle Boarding, Year 9 Waihola Camp, Surfing, the Racing Car simulator, Year 10 bus trip to the beach/Rob Roy and our beach day.

The highlight was the Year 9 Waihola Camp. It is action packed and not to mention in a lovely part of the country, where the girls are able to relax and enjoy themselves. It is always so nice to see everyone trying out activities with enthusiasm, and for some it is their first time. It is a great way to bond with their year level in a different environment - Bex

Junior Dean Message

Again it has been a busy term for the junior girls. Finally we got to enjoy dressing up and dancing the night away at the junior Hawaiian theme dance. The Tolcarne Council did an amazing job with the decorations, along with the help of Bex and Isla. The Christmas dinner and farewell to the Year 13's was very special and I was pleased with the help given to the smooth running of the event by the junior cohort.

Many girls have been super busy with a whole range of sports and other creative activities. I've been amazed at the commitment shown by the girls, many working so hard to balance school work, life at Tolcarne and practices. Well done!!

Year 10 girls enjoyed 5 days away on camp, which provided us the opportunity to host the 2021 Year 9 girls. This was a great chance for them to experience time at Tolcarne in preparation for next year. The current Year 9's did a great job at welcoming them and showing them the ropes. Once again we had our overnight camp at Waihola. Ange, Isla and myself joined with the girls and had a great time with the wonderful experiences the camp has to offer, the flying fox, confidence course, mini games, water slide and my favourite - Paintball.

Lastly to my gorgeous Year 10's. What a fantastic bunch of girls you are. I have really enjoyed working alongside all of you and I know you will make fantastic seniors!!

To all of our families, have a wonderful break and enjoy your time together. Merry Christmas - Robyn

Tribe Points Update



A Message from Dr Townsley

What a crazy year we have had in 2020! With new cases of Covid 19 recently popping up in Auckland, we might be wondering if our Christmas and summer plans might have to change yet again! Nevertheless, I will still send the Year 13's their wee Night Prayers booklets in a Christmas card as my final farewell to them, including the traditional Christmas greeting of wishing them the peace, hope, love and joy that this season brings.



No matter what is going on in the world and in our lives, this is the message of Christmas in many ways – that God can come quietly and yet powerfully into any situation, bringing joy and hope, and giving us the promise of peace and love.

These four words – joy, hope, peace, and love – are at the heart of the Christmas story, and are words that we can hold onto in these uncertain times. None of these are cancelled or postponed because of Covid 19!

Check out what is happening weekly on our Facebook and instagram pages!



tolcarne_sthildas

/St Hilda's Tolcarne
Boarding
Residence

Notices

- Tolcarne policies and procedures can be accessed by our Tolcarne families via the following link.

<http://tiny.cc/info-tolcarne>

- All electrical appliances owned by the students must be electrical tagged before they return to the hostel on January the 31st 2021. Overseas plug adaptors are not be permitted (these often arrive with overseas electrical purchases). If found in the hostel they will be disposed of immediately. These are extremely unsafe because they do not have any shock protection on the pins. Thank you for your understanding!



Tolcarne's Courage Culture

Over the past 2-3 years Tolcarne staff have embraced the opportunity to develop and work towards growing a COURAGE CULTURE amongst our team. Having a courageous staff culture means that as a team we work towards modeling brave attributes, behaviours and skills for students.

What does a COURAGE CULTURE look like?	
Courage Culture Looks Like:	Courage Culture doesn't look like:
Behaving as a learner who works towards getting it right.	Behaving as a knower and being right.
Leaning into vulnerability and skilling up for hard conversations.	Tapping out of having a hard conversation.
Owning failures, setbacks and disappointments through open discussions, learning from them, and embedding the learning in our work and teams.	Getting stuck in and becoming owned by failures, setbacks and disappointments.
Serving others.	Being served by others.
Being proactive and strategic.	Being reactive.
Accepting and embracing change.	Resisting change.
Cultivating a belonging culture.	Cultivating a 'fitting in' culture.
Being Committed and sharing a purpose.	Compliance and control.
Fostering a culture of abundance "you are enough".	Fostering a culture of scarcity "You are never enough".
Practicing values.	Professing values.
Comes from a place of empathy, accountability and learning	Comes from a place of shame and blame.

An organisations culture will stem from its leadership. The leadership team at Tolcarne is leaning into our own VULNERABILITY, because it is so important to us that as an organisation we work towards embedding a COURAGE CULTURE. We are committed to having a hostel that is BRAVE and leads with grounded confidence and doesn't lead for self-protection.

Recently in December, we surveyed our Tolcarne staff to ask them to describe how they feel about the way in which Tolcarne is being lead and the culture we have. The responses will help us understand where on the continuum our staff think we are: Is Tolcarne being lead with grounded confidence or from a place of self-protection? Does Tolcarne have a courage based culture or a fear based culture? The results of this survey will help us understand what our staff think we are doing well and what areas we can work on.

We look forward to sharing with you our next steps here at Tolcarne as we further embed our Courage Culture. ©

Year 9 Waihola Camp - by Laura Hunter and Grace White



On the way to Waihola people had music jamming all the way on the bus. Once we got to the camp everyone was very excited. We went into our bunk rooms and explored the camp a bit more. After choosing our bunks we got settled in.

First of all we were off to the zipline. It was a bit of a hike up to the top but it was definitely worth it. One by one we went off, with Isla at the bottom making sure we didn't fly into the bank. We were all quite nervous while getting harnessed up, but it was so much fun, except the walk back up to the top afterwards....

After our ziplining we made our way back to camp and began practicing our bunkroom performances. We were very serious about this, it was a go big or go home moment. There was tough competition and everyone had an amazing performance. Even Robyn, Ange, Isla and Dotti had something up their sleeve. It was very entertaining and ended up with everyone singing and dancing as a big group.

After the matrons cooked up a storm, we had a failed attempt at cooking marshmallows and ended our night with the final Koru session. We each thanked someone with a kind message and a chocolate bar. Then it was time for "bed".

Bed was not exactly what we did. A large group of us decided that running around on the grass looking at the stars was a better option than sleeping. Until Robyn came out at midnight and we all scrambled as fast as we could back into our bunks!!

The sun came up and it was onto the confidence course and games - teamwork was key. After the games we were off to paintball. Many rounds and bruises later we had a winner and it was time for the waterslide. Ange got the hose going and we were off. One by one we went, getting covered in grass and mud.

After a clean-up it was time to head back to Tolcarne after a great weekend in Waihola!

OUR HOT tips for new girls

By Perri Hore and Annika Simpson

- Keep your books in your locker at school.
- Name your chargers.
- Don't spend all your money at the canteen.
- Scuffs are a MUST at the hostel!!!!
- Keep your room clean if you want to keep your phone.
- Invest in a portable charger.
- Be really nice to the kitchen staff.
- Book your vans first thing on Sunday night.
- Have a go at everything and get out there.
- Get a taxi card - it's life saving.
- Make sure to get your leave in quickly.
- If you are ever homesick at night go and see the matron for a hot chocolate or milo.
- Talk to the matrons, especially in the weekend - they are super nice about asking for rides in the van and other things.
- Always text or ring if you are going to be late, you don't want strikes!

- Bring lots of containers and for lunches.
- Bring a washing basket.
- WONDER SOAP is the BEST!!!!
- The fire alarms are sensitive, watch how much deodorant you spray!
- Make sure you have a little bit of cash/gold coins for mufti days.
- When the older girls have clothing sales, have a look because there are lots of cool pieces!
- Be supportive and get behind the others girls, especially when they are homesick.
- Get to know all of the girls, even the shy ones because they don't stay shy for long!
- Open your windows in the morning (especially in the summer) and heaters on in the winter. It gets hot in the summer time.
- Have a chat with the older girls and get to know them.
- Don't be scared of your Year 13 buddy.
- Learn how to tie your tie.
- Bring a shower basket.
- Bring lots of photos and pins.
- Decorate your pinboard.
- If you are hungry go and talk to the kitchen staff, they are soooo nice
- Maccas runs are the best you should definitely go on them.
- Make sure everything is named!!! Like EVERYTHING!!!!

Kitchen Talk

Well it sure has been one very weird year with a lot of new experiences for both the girls and the kitchen team. We have enjoyed catering for all of the various events either here at Tolcarne, or down at St Hilda's.

We thank all of the girls and parents for being so amazing through the rough spots when Tolcarne's catering was not running how it usually does and with all the unfamiliarity's.

The Kitchen Team would like to say "Thank You" for another fabulous Christmas Dinner with you all. It has been an amazing Term 4.

To all of the Year 13's, we wish you the best for your future and hope that you will pop in to say hello some time. We also say goodbye to two of our kitchen members; Aurora Hill and Jessica Williamson. We wish them both well for their next adventures. We look forward to seeing you all next year.

Many Thanks, The Kitchen Team XXX





Christmas and Leavers' Dinner

