



JHC

JAMES HARGEST COLLEGE KEEP FAITH

5 December 2024



**Room 4
Taking Care
of Business**

Principal's Comment



Mike Newell
Principal

Kia ora e te whānau,

As we come to the end of the academic year, it's a good opportunity to reflect on all of the positive attributes of JHC and also the ways in which we seek to continuously improve.

NCEA exams have concluded and students and staff alike look forward

to the results in mid-January. The last of the Year 9 Camps and the Year 10 Activity Days have recently finished. With the vast array of options available, the value of EOTC has again been reinforced. It was also great to see our Year 7 and 8 students enjoying themselves during the recent picnic days.

This last week is one of celebration as we host our Year 7 and 8 Sports Awards, Merit Assemblies and Excellence Prize Giving, as well as our Year 9 and 10 Prize Giving. It is always a highlight to share in the achievements of our ākonga with friends and whānau.

I would like to take a moment to thank our dedicated staff. At James Hargest College we are fortunate to have a hard working, professional team who work together to give the students the very best opportunities for success. They go above and beyond inside and outside the classroom and our ākonga benefit from their guidance, selflessness and drive. To our staff that are leaving, I wish you all the best and thank you for your contributions to JHC.

Having flicked through the 2024 Junior Campus Magazine and the Senior Campus Kōrero, I encourage everyone to take some time to look at these wonderful publications. These publications capture the moments of this year, and over time, each edition contributes to a powerful record of school history.

There is further comment in this edition about the building construction about to start. We are excited to be able to finally confirm with absolute certainty that it is going ahead.

To our community, thank you for the support of our kura this year. We take the education of your children seriously and constantly seek to ensure we are serving our community in the best way we can. I wish everyone a safe and happy festive season.

Ngā mihi nui o te Kirihihi me te tau hou.

Nga mihi
Mike Newell
Principal

From the Boardroom



Toni Green
BOT Presiding Member

Kia ora koutou,

The Board met for the final time for 2024 towards the end of November. At our meeting we discussed the wonderful range of activities on offer for Year 10 activity days and we were informed of the early planning around a JHC Rugby trip for 2026. Right until the very end of the school year, and indeed beyond, there are school trips and activities

taking place. Our sincere thanks to the teachers who go above and beyond to make students' time at James Hargest memorable. Special thanks to both Donna Cowie and Megan Smith who are away next week with athletics and Duke of Edinburgh respectively.

I would like to thank my fellow Board members for their time and effort during the year. Our Board is made up of parent representatives Nic Raines, Mary Foley, Richard Aitken, Michelle Greenwood, Jeremy Rees, Staff Representative Lara Buchanan, outgoing Student Representative Ishaan Boon, incoming Student Representative Ben Hargest and Principal Mike Newell. Every person on our Board works hard to support the Mission and Vision and wants to ensure we are governing a school where we "equip all our students to create the best possible future for themselves and their world." I think we achieve that.

We are also excited to share the latest update on our new building. The contractors who have been awarded the build are Hawkins Limited. Their recent educational projects include Wakatipu

High School, Ashburton College and Intermediate. They will be starting on site on the 11th December. The first stage of the new build involves shifting three prefabs to their new site. Following this, work on the new build will begin in the new year and is expected to be complete in April 2026. New Build One will house a 14 classroom specialist science teaching space and our student support centre. It replaces the current B block which at some stage in the future will be demolished. Very exciting and a testament to the ongoing hard work of Al Pannett. We thank him for all his work with this project and can't wait to see it take shape over the next twelve months.

From the JHC Board of Trustees, we wish all whānau a Meri Kirihimete me te Hape Nū la - a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Ngā mihi nui,
Toni Green
BOT Presiding Member

PTA Report



Jo Wilson
PTA Chairperson

Kia ora from the PTA

Here we are, the end of 2024!! It has been another amazing year.

Even though the year is coming to a close, it is so nice to see so many of our students still out there representing the school in a wide range of activities. A huge congratulations to all students who have participated this year in such a wide range of activities.

Mahia te mahi, whiwhi te whiwhinga *Do the work, get the treats*

Remember to mark on your calendar Tuesday 10 December 2024 and Thursday 23 January 2025 for the PTA Uniform Buy in and Uniform Sale. Please make sure any uniform coming in has been washed, has no holes, rips/tears, or stains. Blazers and kilts need to be dry cleaned with the tag still attached.

A special thank you to Sarah Warren and Kirstin Steven Sargeant who leave the PTA this year. You have not only given so much of your time but have made the transition of the new members so seamless and provided your incredible knowledge. For this we are forever grateful.

I would also like to personally thank all the members on the PTA for all their hard work and dedication this year. This is also warmly extended to all the staff who take the time out of their very busy schedule to come along and help us out, providing such valuable knowledge to our team. The work we do benefits all the children at James Hargest, not just today but future generations.

Mā mua ka kite a muri, mā muri ka ora a mua.

"Those who lead give sight to those who follow, those who follow give life to those who lead".

From my family to yours, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe, relaxing, and Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you all in 2025.

Ngā mihi
Jo Wilson and the PTA Team

PTA Buy Back and Uniform Sales

Tuesday 10th December 2024
Buy Back 4:00pm - 5:00pm
Uniform Sale 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Thursday 23rd January 2025
Buy Back 4:00pm - 5:00pm
Uniform Sale 6:00pm - 7:00pm

New Build One - work beginning this month!



Staff Farewell

Senior Campus

Emma Jarman

Farewell to the Musical Maestro! Our 'pocket rocket' Emma Jarman is leaving Invercargill for the big city lights in Christchurch. Emma joined JHC five years ago - coming back to the school she had attended as a student. Rangatahi have been so lucky to be inspired, challenged, mentored and grown by the amazing Mrs Jarman. She has tutored rock bands, orchestra, chamber music, choir, jazz bands and every genre in between. Emma has taken students away to competitions and festivals all over the country and we know they have been so well supported. Emma has been the Musical Director of our Major Production and her philosophy around the arts has always been inclusive and encouraging. Thank you for all you have done and given to Hēmi Hakena Emma. Ko te puoro te kai o te wairua; music is the food of the soul.



Patrina Dondaldson

We bid farewell to Patrina, who is embarking on a new teaching adventure in Hong Kong. We express our sincere gratitude for her invaluable contributions to James Hargest College. Her unwavering commitment to our school community and her dedication to providing exceptional education have been instrumental in shaping our department during a time of significant change. Patrina has not only demonstrated exceptional skills and experience in the classroom but has also been a pillar of support for our students and colleagues. Her tireless efforts and positive influence have left a lasting impact on our school. We wish her all the best in her new role in Hong Kong and thank her once again for her dedication to JHC.

Surette du Plessis

As your teaching journey with us comes to an end, we want to express our sincere gratitude for your contributions and resilience. Despite facing health challenges, you persevered with unwavering determination and a positive spirit. Your dedication to your students and colleagues has been inspiring. As you embark on this new chapter in Australia, we wish you all the best. May your time with family be filled with joy and happiness. We'll miss your presence and the valuable insights you brought to our community. Safe travels and best wishes for a bright future!



Course Consultation

Students in Years 12 and 13 will receive an email on January 23rd letting them know the subjects they are in. The email may ask them to come into school to attend Course Consultation on January 27th in the hall - 10.45-12pm for Year 13's 12.45-2pm for the Year 12's. You may have been asked to come in because you have a clash or because you may not have met course requirements. If Year 12 and 13 students are wanting to change courses this is also the time to come in and meet with the Heads of Department.

Please make every effort to ensure you are available for this day.



Right: Digital Technologies students made magnets and decorations.

Staff Farewell

Junior Campus

Lyn Cunningham

Lyn joined our team in October 2021, as a Year 8 Homeroom Teacher. We have appreciated her nurturing teaching style and willingness to muck in and lend a helping hand wherever it is needed. Lyn generously gave up her time to support our speech finalists, was front of house for productions, coached many sports teams and was even a strong supporter of our uniform sales evenings, just to name a few of the many ways she helped out at the Junior Campus. But Lyn's lasting legacy will definitely be her passion for netball! All winter, you'll find Lyn by the netball court coaching or just supporting our students! He aroha whakatō, he aroha ka puta mai - if kindness is sown, then kindness is what you shall receive! Thank you Lyn for all the kindness you have shown our students and staff and we wish you all the very best for your new position teaching Year 3/4s in 2025.

Vicki Davis

Vicki began teaching at the Junior Campus as a 0.2 specialist Science teacher in January 2020, which quickly grew to 0.5 by 2021. We have appreciated Vicki's calm, explicit teaching style and her passion for ensuring our students gain a solid foundation in Science. Her love for the environment saw her lead our Environmental Group in 2023 and build a strong relationship with Environment Southland, which has continued to provide all students with the opportunity to give back to our community through riparian planting along the Waihōpai river. Vicki is a real team player, who quietly works behind the scenes to enable the success of many learning experiences of our students. She has been a master moko stamper for Polyfest, makeup artist and costume coordinator for productions, sporting supporter and is known for being a legendary "Camp Mum" for Deep Cove Camps. Waiho i te toipoto, kaua i te toiroa - let us keep close together, not far apart. We feel incredibly fortunate that Vicki is remaining with us as a reliever from 2025.

Bronwyn Graham

Bronwyn has been a valued part time member of our team for the duration of Term 4 this year. We have appreciated her willingness to take on the teaching of Science from Wednesday to Fridays while also completing her study. Bronwyn will be most remembered for her kind, caring nature and passion for Science. Pai ake te iti i te kore rawātu - little is better than nothing at all! We are fortunate to have had Bronwyn as part of our team and wish her all the best for her future teaching career.

Natalie McNamara

Natalie has been one of our fabulous Year 8 Homeroom teachers since June 2021 and is leaving us to head over to Brisbane next year. Natalie has a passion for Mātaranga Māori and developed a strong sense of whanaungatanga in her homeroom. She has been a valued member of our team and will be remembered for sharing her great ideas and enjoying robust conversations in meetings. Natalie always enjoyed extra curricular activities, in particular Deep Cove camps, and was keen to put her hand up for the annual ski trip. Ko te pae tawhiti, whāia kia tata; ko te pae tata, whakamaua kia tīna - seek out distant horizons and cherish those you attain. Best wishes Natalie for your adventures abroad.



Above: Year 10 Activity Day Vinyl Printing

Whānau Report

Kua ea, me whakatā ka tika
Now fulfilled, it is good to rest.

Tū te mauri o runga, o raro, o waho, o roto.
Tēnā tātou.

This is a wonderful time to acknowledge the good will, perseverance and care that our school community has shared. Ka manaakitia tetahi ki tetahi - We respect each other. Students of te reo Māori in year 10 have been finishing the year with project work of their own design. The projects have included making hangi, fry bread and chocolate cake. They have also included making porotiti (traditional Māori musical instruments), harakeke (flax) weaving, te mahi a Rongo (gardening in front of the whānau room), a wonderful project called 'memory lane' and creating art.

Photo, right: Paige McKenzie and Lucas Keating working hard on their art work "Kahu" during their last lessons this year.

Upcoming: Te Matatini (Kapa Haka World Championship) at Pukekura Park in Ngā Motu/New Plymouth, from the 26th of February to the 2nd of March 2025.

Hei kona mai.
Matua Neitana



Matua Neitana Tane



Little LEO has hatched! - LEO Club

THE JHC LEO Club has sponsored a kiwi chick through the National Kiwi Hatchery Aotearoa. Our donation of \$2787 covers all the costs for our kiwi chick for up to 3 months of incubation, food for up to 5 months to get to 'stoat proof' weight, brooder box, outdoor pen, veterinary checks, medication and staff care. Thank you so much to everyone who supported fundraising efforts from our LEO Club this year.





International Students

We had a lovely end of year get together for our homestay whānau at Superbowl recently. It was a chance to meet new families and spend a fun evening with some friendly competition. As we head into the Christmas season, we want to wholeheartedly thank our wonderful homestay families for all that they have done with and for our students. For anyone who is considering hosting, please make contact with Kylie Hodson: khodson@jameshargest.school.nz for an information pack.





Junior Campus Book Day

Book Day 2024 on the Junior Campus was a huge success! Some great costumes were on display and there were plenty of fun literary activities completed in classrooms. The library became a crime scene with the missing macaw proving to be a challenge to solve.





STANZA National Video Competition

Year 10 Spanish students participated in the STANZA National Video Competition for Junior Learners of Spanish in NZ and achieved first equal in New Zealand! Congratulations to Enzo Cruz, Alex Samson, Elsie Turrell and Zachariah Gillies. The students created a two-minute video where they shared their thoughts on "Lo que me gusta" (What I like). Notably, Enzo Cruz contributed to the project from New York, where he was at the time. Their joint effort highlighted their enthusiasm for the Spanish language and culture, and their success is proof of their creativity and teamwork. Their peers will be very happy about the \$100 they have earned their class to celebrate with food before the end of the year.

SIT- Professional Engineering Day Out

More than 70 of Southland's brightest young minds gathered at SIT for the Professional Engineering Day Out. We were thrilled to have some of the region's leading engineering-focused employers on board to inspire and connect with future talent!

Feedback showed that the day was incredibly valuable for students, giving them insights and inspiration to explore engineering pathways.

After attending the event:

- 65% of students felt more confident about the pathways into engineering, with another 35% somewhat more confident.
- 32% of attendees could see barriers to pursuing a career in engineering. The main barriers were financial cost (41% of attendees), limited work experience and internships available (27%) and a need for extra support in key subject areas (26%).



- 55% of attendees indicated that hands-on work experience or internships would help overcome their barriers, with 45% indicating access




End of year reports


Year 7 - Year 10 reports will be emailed this week. Please inform the office if you have had a change of email address to ensure you receive your child's report.

Stationery lists for 2025

Stationery lists will be available on the James Hargest website www.jameshargest.school.nz next week, (under ENROLMENT); order on-line from the OfficeMax website www.myschool.co.nz or from any other retailer. All stationery is required for the first day of school in 2025.



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



Class lists are ready to view at myschool.co.nz



A special message from the 2024 Head Students

Head Girl, Keita Ruwhiu

Saying goodbye to James Hargest has come around so quickly, and I would like to reflect on the past 7 years attending this school. Throughout my time here, I have been on school trips to USA, Deep Cove, Queenstown and more. The opportunities here are endless, and are something I have never taken for granted. I have been involved in many groups and teams, but my most significant has been Te Kapa Tuakana o Hēmi Hākena.

Being selected as Head Girl for 2024 has been a major privilege, and a huge honour. It has been a great learning experience for me, teaching me leadership skills, communication skills and many other attributes that will help me in the future. I would lastly like to say a big thank you to everyone who

has helped me along my journey here at Hēmi Hākena. I would not be where I am today without my teachers who have given me endless support and feedback. To my teachers and peers, you have all helped me grow as a person and as a student. Thank you all.

Head Boy, Devon Pirini

As 2024 comes to a close, I would like to look back on my time at James Hargest College. As eager as I am to move into this next chapter of my life, these past 7 years will forever be held tightly to my chest. The countless leadership, sporting, academic, and cultural opportunities offered here at James Hargest has definitely helped shape me into the person I am today. I

encourage all younger students to take advantage of these opportunities offered, you never know what skills you could pick up or people you can run into whilst giving something a go.

The people I have met and the memories I have with them have highlighted some of the best times I have had throughout high school. Whether it was playing video games for hours straight whilst pretending to be on a zoom call during lockdown, or the evenings out at the beach once we got our licences. I didn't realise it but the small moments with the people I surrounded myself with were some of the best things that could have happened to me.

Head Girl: Keita Ruhwiu (l-r 4th)
Head Boy: Devon Pirini (l-r 2nd)
Deputy Head Girl: Jess Ballantyne (l-r 3rd)
Deputy Head Boy: Ryan McAllister(l-r 1st)

He aha te mea nui o te ao? He tangata, he tangata he tangata.

What is the most important thing? It is people, it is people it is people.

I have had the absolute privilege of being Head Boy at James Hargest over 2024. This role has improved my leadership skills, my patience and taught me about respect. Through these new attributes I finally managed to lead the James Hargest 1st V to win the Southland Secondary School basketball competition which was one of my highlights this year. Finally getting my hands on that trophy that I had been desperately craving over the past 3 years filled me with satisfaction.

To my peers, thank you for allowing me to represent you this year. As you embark on new adventures through your lives please set yourself high aspirations, hold yourself to a high standard, and shoot for the moon for if you miss you will land among stars. Work hard for yourself, push yourself and if you fall short of your goals just know that you will be a new and improved self ready to take on the world.

Whaia e koe ki te iti kahurangi; ki te tuohu koe, me maunga teitei

Seek the treasure you value most dearly; if you bow your head, let it be to a lofty mountain.

Deputy Head Girl, Jess Ballantyne

As 2024 comes to a close, it's bittersweet to think back on all the memories I have made at James Hargest. While everyone has been warning me that my journey is nearly over, I was always convinced that the 7 years I would spend here would last forever. Looking back, each year has brought its own lessons and friendships that I'll carry with me long after I leave. I remember the excitement of Year 9, stepping into the big campus for the first time, the Outdoor Recreation class I took in

Year 12 and the ball this year. The many opportunities that I have been presented with have enriched my experience at Hargest.

Each 'last' that I have experienced makes the fact that I'm leaving more real. From assemblies to the last minute internal cramming, every moment feels more meaningful. The ordinary parts of my life will now be cherished as memories of a time and place that shaped who I am. My advice for the following year groups is to find your own rhythm and what works best for you as soon as you can when it comes to studying. Believe in yourself and don't be scared to prioritise yourself and your needs as that is what truly matters.

It has been an honour to take on the role of Deputy Head Girl. I have been able to learn new skills like resilience and how important time management is. None of this would have been possible without the support of my many teachers, the senior leadership team and the other Head Students. I am truly grateful for the school community which has guided me for many years and cannot wait to see where it takes me.

Deputy Head Boy, Ryan McAllister

2024 has been an unforgettable final year at James Hargest College. Looking back over my seven years here, I've faced challenges and had incredible opportunities that I wouldn't trade for anything. Time has flown by.

Hargest has given me countless memories, from the ball and house days, school haka competitions, camps, Kapa Haka, and sports. I'm especially grateful for the teachers, coaches, and staff who encouraged us to seize every

opportunity. They put in extra time and patience to share their knowledge with us, even outside of class, helping us grow in more ways than one. So thank you, your hard work and dedication do not go unnoticed. This year, I was honoured to be chosen as Deputy Head Boy, which has taught me so much about leadership and public speaking. Through this role, I've become closer with staff and met so many more students—relationships and skills I know will serve me well in the future.

"The many opportunities that I have been presented with have enriched my experience at Hargest." Jess Ballantyne - Deputy Head Girl

One of the biggest highlights of my time at Hargest has been being part of the Hēmi Hākena Kapa Haka roopu and having the privilege to lead as Kaitātaki Tāne in my final two years. This role has been transformative, building my confidence and shaping the person I am today.

If I could give one piece of advice to other students, it would be this: put yourself out there. The years go by so quickly, and it's easy to look back and wish you'd done more. Sign up, get involved, and remember—you can never be a part of too much.

Whāia te mātauranga hei oranga mō koutou.

Seek knowledge for your wellbeing.



Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award



Congratulations to Mercedes Checketts on being awarded a Silver Certificate.

Year 11 Drama

For their end-of-year assessment, the Year 11 Drama class staged *10 Ways to Survive the Zombie Apocalypse*, a hilarious comedy by Don Zolidis. The performance was full of energy and laughter, led by Jessica Pollard and Jack Jia as the narrators, who guided the audience through quirky survival tips and absurd scenarios. The rest of the cast created a dynamic ensemble, seamlessly shifting between roles as frantic survivors and zombies, adding to the chaotic fun. The students transformed the AV Room into an immersive post-apocalyptic setting, complete with hand-painted signs and improvised shelters that brought the end-of-the-world atmosphere to life. The class's creativity and enthusiasm made for an unforgettable, lighthearted take on the zombie genre.



AFS Global STEM Changemakers Scholarship

Janet Wei was selected to be part of the first Australia/New Zealand cohort of the AFS Global STEM Changemakers scholarship programme earlier this year. This award-winning online programme is aimed at developing innovation and entrepreneurial skills in young people in order to support them to make change in their communities. Over the course of 12 weeks, Janet completed learning modules, met in smaller groups on Zoom each week, conducted interviews, developed her understanding of global challenges like the climate emergency, and capped it all off by creating a prototype of a solution for a problem she had identified in her community. These problems included:

- food waste and lack of access to affordable food,
- lack of climate and natural disaster education and empowerment and
- lack of career planning and financial support for young people wanting to go into jobs that make a difference.

Janet earned the Advanced Certificate on Global Competence for Social Impact, from AFS and the University of Pennsylvania Center for Social Impact Strategy. Well done Janet!



Term Dates for 2024

Term 4: Friday 6 December: last day of classes

Term Dates for 2025

Term 1:

Thursday 23rd January 2025: PTA Uniform Sale

Buy Back 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Uniform Sale 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Monday 27 January: Course Consultation

Thursday 30 January: Meet the Teacher, Junior Campus 2:30pm

Friday 31 January: Ka Hikitia - Year 9's start

Monday 3 February: Year 7, 8, 9, 12 and 13 in attendance

Tuesday 4 February: Whole school in attendance

Thursday 6 February: Waitangi Day observed

Friday 11 April: Term 1 ends

Reading for pleasure during the holidays is important!

Children and teens who don't read much over the long summer holidays can lose gains they've made in their reading levels and fluency over the year. This is true for all children, but especially for children who are already struggling readers. Children who keep reading over the summer holidays can avoid the 'summer slide' and may even make reading gains for the start of the next school year.

[Research on the summer slide and summer reading.](#)

Help your child or teen read over summer

Summer reading is all about reading for pleasure. Even 10 minutes a day reading can make a big difference!

[Reading at home](#) — find out how you can motivate and support your child to read. Let children and teens choose their reading and keep it fun.

Summer reading is about reading for pleasure. It's important your child gets to choose what they read with the focus on relaxation and enjoyment.

- Easy reading is OK — getting into the reading habit, enjoying what they're reading, and finishing more books is more important than difficulty level.
- Help children choose 'just right' books. Browse and look for interesting topics together.

[Helping students choose books to read for pleasure](#)

[Engaging teens with reading](#)

Avoid requirements for 'work' or 'study', such as writing book reviews. Instead, children and teens could keep a record of their reading through sites such as Goodreads, or taking note of the author/title/star rating.

[Use our summer reading log](#)

Provide plenty of reading material

Try a variety of formats and genres such as books, ebooks, comics, magazines and audio books.

Build your own summer library of borrowed, second-hand or new material.

[My home library](#) — tips on developing your home library by author Anne Fine.

Visit the public library with children and ask library staff for advice about books to read. Allow your children to choose plenty of books. Most public libraries make their eBooks and eAudiobooks free to library members through apps such as Borrowbox or Libby.

Make time for reading each day

Children and teens need to read every day to maintain skills. As well as reading, it's great to just share books,

look at the pictures and talk about what children or teens are reading.

- This might be a quiet time for children to read alone — it could be for 15 minutes, or just 3 bite-size sessions of 5 minutes a day.
- Read at bedtime.
- Look at reading 'on the go' with eBooks.
- Set aside some time to chat about books and reading — share things such as favourite moments, an event or character that really stood out

Kids who read - succeed!

From the National Library



HOST FAMILIES WANTED



JAMES HARGEST COLLEGE ARE LOOKING FOR KIND, CARING AND SUPPORTIVE HOST FAMILIES FOR LONG AND SHORT TERM STUDENTS FOR 2025.

- LEARN ABOUT NEW CULTURES
- MAKE LIFE LONG CONNECTIONS
- \$600 FORTNIGHTLY PAYMENT
- 24/7 SUPPORT

FOR MORE INFORMATION SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW AND CONTACT KYLIE

KHODSON@JAMESHARGEST.SCHOOL.NZ



Year 13 Orientation Monday 3 February 2025

All Year 13 students will take part in an Orientation afternoon at the Ascot Park Hotel on Racecourse Road. Students will be released after period 3 at 12.30pm to make their own way to the Ascot. It takes about 15 minutes to walk. The programme will include important information about the unique opportunities to provide leadership and service in Year 13 and advice on managing their last year at school and the subsequent transition to further study or full time employment. There will be a charge of \$16 for a catered lunch. Further notice will be provided at the beginning of 2025.

Any enquiries can be directed to: Mrs Morrison dmorrison@jameshargest.school.nz

Room 4 - Taking Care of Business



Room 4 students have spent weeks working together to create and run small businesses. As a class, they developed seven different businesses, learning essential skills such as budgeting, product creation, and marketing along the way. The students produced a variety of goods, including Christmas Gnomes, Beeswax Wraps, Lip Scrubs, Stress Balls, Hot Chocolate Bombs, Spiders, Bracelets, and Bookmarks.

They invited their whānau and four other classes to visit and purchase their products. Through their hard work and creativity, they raised a total of \$505. They will be splitting the amount and donating to two local charities (Women's Refuge and The Salvation Army), making a positive impact on their community.

Mrs Valoa-Jack and Mrs Ford are proud of each and every student. On Tuesday, December 3rd, representatives from Women's Refuge and The Salvation Army collected all the gifts purchased with the money raised.



Year 10 French

The Year 10 French class put their French directions to the test at the end of Week 6 during a trip into the city centre to see the South Sea Spray graffiti art.

Students paired up to write directions to 5 different art

displays around town which they then gave to another pair in French to follow. While out and about, the students discovered various different pieces of art and took photos of the places they saw.

This was a fun and engaging way to use French in a real life situation - vive le français!



Year 12 vs 13 League

Congratulations to the Year 13s who claimed the victory. It was an entertaining game played in great spirits.



Art

Junior Campus

Year 7's have been busy covering their pre-loved wooden desks with papier mache, in preparation for their painted designs, as part of the end-of-the-year spec choice programme.



Navigating digital challenges

As we come to the end of our first year of “Phone Free JHC”, it is timely to reflect on how it went for students and staff this year. Here are the numbers of students who had their phone confiscated at least once:

Year	# of Students	Total # of Infringements
9	78	123
10	96	165
11	100	181
12	90	162
13	58	90
Total	422	721

This was a big shift for many students and we are very proud of the way they learned the new way of being and hopefully managed to reduce some of their screen time on social media. We certainly saw a reduction of anti social behaviours online that impacted learning and needed to be addressed.

As we look to the upcoming holidays, we ask our community to reflect on the impact social media can have on young people. The term ‘social media’ conjures up polarising views. On one hand, students are incredibly fortunate to live in an age where a wealth of information is at their fingertips. On the other hand, the sheer volume of information they are confronted with is staggering and hard to comprehend. Our students are bombarded with so much ‘stuff’ that trying to make sense of it all can be overwhelming. Different trends, fashions, news, gimmicks, crises, pandemics, celebrity gossip, and conspiracy theories are thrown at them at a million miles an hour. Adding to this, there is significant evidence highlighting the negative impact that too much screen time can have on sleep, sustained concentration and self-esteem.

There is merit in social media. It’s a great way to stay in touch with people, communicate snippets of information, and voice opinions and ideas on an easily accessible platform. On any given Facebook page, however, you only see what is shared through a positive lens. No one posts about their terrible day. Social media is not reality. Teenagers can struggle to understand this and can feel inadequate. It is not real and we need to keep helping young people understand this distinction.

One of the biggest issues we all face with social media is the meteoric rise of algorithms. When students hear about someone or something new and look it up, they can be exposed to ideas and theories that are false and highly damaging. Some “trending” personalities gain traction with ideas which are horrific and can be racist, homophobic or misogynistic. After clicking on a couple of these types of videos, the recommended section will become flooded with videos and content from people of the same ilk. These algorithms exploit our teenagers, who are naturally curious. Unfortunately, this can lead to people accepting only information – whether true or not – that fits their opinions, instead of basing their opinions on evidence. Another facet of social media is the fact that many of our young people live their lives online. Everything they do, eat, or experience is posted online. Unfortunately, what they often fail to realise is that every time they post a picture or status, they are leaving a historical record. Our students need to understand that whatever they post online is there to stay and can resurface when they least expect it.



OPEN HOURS | Term 1, 2025

6 Jan - 25 Apr

Monday - Friday

9.00am - 5.00pm

Saturday (except 19 Apr*)

9.00am - 4.00pm

Thursday 6 February - Waitangi Day - CLOSED

Friday 18 April - Good Friday - CLOSED

Saturday 19 April - CLOSED

Monday 21 April - Easter Monday - CLOSED

Tuesday 22 April - Southland Anniversary - CLOSED

Friday 25 April - Anzac Day - CLOSED

Open Hours may be subject to change.

Closed on Public Holidays.

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THE U SHOP operated by UNIFORM GROUP

Over the holidays we encourage whānau to keep an eye on screen time and social media use. The average 15 year old in New Zealand spends more than 3 hours a day using screens. Almost one-quarter spend over 6 hours a day on the internet outside of school. Checking the screen time and what apps have been used most frequently is a simple step we encourage all caregivers to take regularly. This opens the dialogue and helps students navigate these difficult territories.

What JHC can and does do:

- Teach cyber-safety skills that highlight the challenges of social media
- Teach our students the importance of critical thinking, including understanding the origin of sources, bias, and how to critically assess the limitations of evidence
- Incorporate social media units into our programmes
- Ban the use of mobile phones throughout College, and confiscate immediately when the rules are broken.
- Deal firmly and effectively with any online bullying.

What parents can do:

- Educate themselves about the impact of social media
- Discuss their child’s social media use
- Regulate the use of mobile phones and social media at home.

What our students can do:

- Regulate their own social media use
- Delete, rather than share, harmful content via social media
- Not be passive when they see others using social media inappropriately.

Helpful links:

<https://netsafe.org.nz/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

<https://www.dia.govt.nz/Social-media-platforms>

Year 9 Camps at Borland Lodge

Year 9 Form Classes have all experienced the wonder of Borland Lodge. Thank you to all parents and teachers who have made these awesome experiences possible.





Manaakitanga lunch provided by Food and Nutrition students to celebrate staff.

Changes to the Portal and App

The web address for our Student Management System portal has changed to

<https://jameshargest.school.kiwi/>

The username and passwords remain the same - remember that the parents/caregivers at each residence have the same password. The Kamar app becomes redundant later this month. This web address is able to be made into an app and added to your home screen.

Once you are logged in:

On an Android device click on the three bars in the top right

and choose "Add to Home Screen"



On a Apple device, click on



WHĀNAU KŌRERO

Confidence and Motivation

Building confidence and motivation in young people is essential for their overall wellbeing and is a key aspect of their development. These qualities can have a lasting impact on their success and happiness. Confidence helps children believe in their abilities and face challenges with a positive attitude, while motivation drives their desire to learn, explore, and achieve their goals.

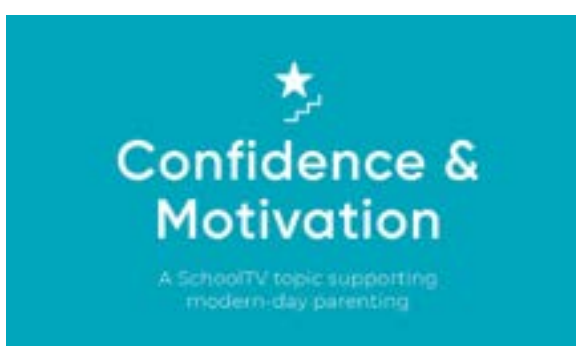
Fostering these traits involves creating an environment that encourages children to take risks, learn from their mistakes, and celebrate their achievements. Confidence is built when children feel capable and valued, while motivation is fuelled by the belief

that their efforts will lead to growth and success. By actively supporting both, we can help young people thrive in the academic, social, and personal areas of their life.

By offering positive reinforcement, setting realistic expectations, and celebrating their efforts, we can model a positive mindset that can go a long way in helping young people develop both confidence and motivation. Nurturing these qualities, will help them grow into self-assured individuals who believe in their ability to succeed, setting the foundation for a fulfilling future.

Here is the link to your Special Report

<https://jameshargest.nz.schooltv.me/newsletter/confidence-motivation-nz>



Brigadier James Hargest, we remember him

Brigadier James Hargest 1891 - 1944, CBE, DSO & TWO BARS, MC, VD, MP was a statesman, a farmer and a decorated war hero. Our school is proud to bear his name. His life story has inspired generations of our students, past and present, and will continue to do so long in the future. His achievements and characteristics are celebrated in our school values, our school crest and in our school's motto, Keep Faith. These Pou, carved by sculptor John Wishart, have been created in consultation with Waihōpai Rūnaka and are an ancestral acknowledgement of our place, our whenua and our whakapapa. They honour the spirit of Brigadier James Hargest and his enduring importance to our kura. The first Pou appropriately started life as a tōtara farm strainer post. Strainer posts are considered the most important posts in the fence line. They carry the strain of the fence and support the gates. The

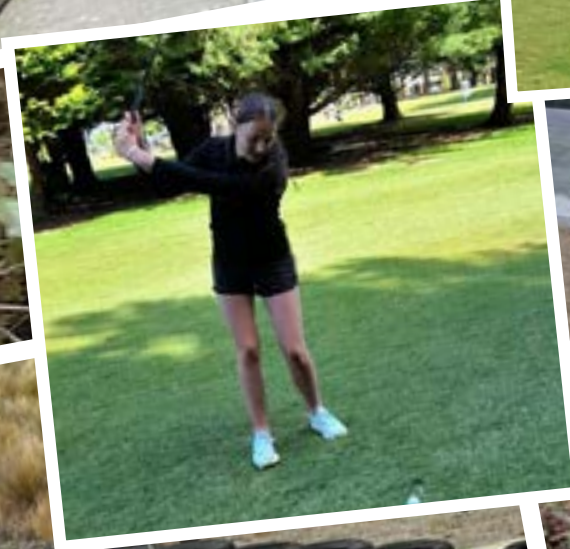
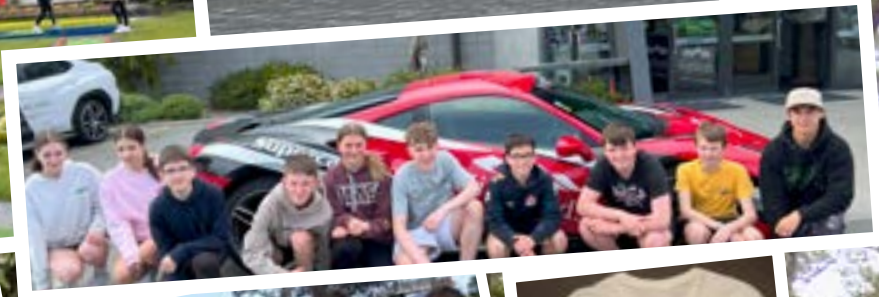


tōtara strainer posts from which the Pou began represent the strength of character and unwavering cornerstone of support that the Brigadier was to the men who served under him in WW2. The "pintle" or gate hinge is both a literal nod to the Rakauhauka farming background of the Brigadier, and also a metaphorical symbol of the opportunity within all of our rangatahi to determine their own path. A pintle hinge has all the benefits of a higher safety profile, demonstrating the secure base of manaakitanga and whanaungatanga we provide for all ākongas as well as the greater range of movement which represents the multitude of opportunities within and beyond our school gates. The rifle embedded in the sculpture is an Enfield 303, standard issue to troops under his command. It references his military contribution in both World Wars and the leadership, mana and tenacity he demonstrated in every circumstance. The second Pou was carved from one piece of 100 year old wood. It stands as a metaphorical nod to the Brigadier as a warrior with the Tewhatewha standing proudly. The Tewhatewha is carved with representations of a hammerhead shark. In te ao Māori, the hammerhead shark is one of the main kaitiaki or guardians in the ocean. The innate characteristics represented by the hammerhead of strength, determination, strong will and fighting spirit are all epitomised by Brigadier James Hargest and are attributes we want to encourage in our students. The Pou is also carved with whātero (a poking out of the tongue). The whātero is a symbol of fearlessness and strength that's become an iconic part of New Zealand's heritage. It is used as an act of defiance and a warning to enemies. The Pou symbolises the importance of recognising our role of guardianship for our rangatahi, both as protectors and as caretakers. In 1958 James Hargest Memorial High School was opened as a living tribute to the exceptional Southlander Brigadier James Hargest. These Pou will guide our kura as we seek everyday to fulfil our Mission "to equip all our students to create the best possible future for themselves and their world." We are grateful for the lessons and the guiding force our namesake has gifted us. His name, tenacious resilience and responsibility are a taonga we value highly.



Year 13 Graduation Dinner

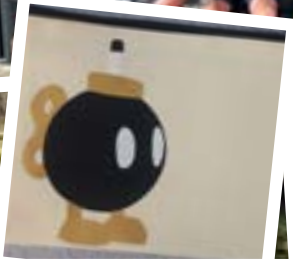




Year 10 Activity Days

Our Year 10 students have been out exploring. Year 10 Activity Days offer a huge range of options for students to follow a passion or try something new.





10km Success!

Congratulations to Lewis Blay who raced the Queenstown Marathon in the 10km event. He won the U20 category and made the top 10 out of 2500 people who raced in the 10km event. Pretty impressive achievement for someone who is still 15 years old!



Golf

Junior Campus

Congratulations to the two James Hargest teams that were placed first and second at the Town Zone Golf tournament. These two teams went on to compete at the Southland Primary Schools tournament. Huge congratulations to Corbin James, Austin Moynihan, Fletcher Petterson and Lila Anderson who placed third overall in the Year 7 & 8 section.

Water Polo

JHC had two teams at the South Island Yr 9 and 10 Water Polo Champs in Christchurch. The players all worked very hard. Our boys finished 8th in the tournament, and the girls won a bronze medal against St Margaret's with a score of 10-6! To top off the success, Maia Devery was named in the tournament team! Congrats Maia!

All of the players improved so much over the week and should be incredibly proud of what they have achieved.



Southland Squash Awards

Congratulations to the following students who achieved some amazing awards at the Southland Squash Awards.

Braedyn Dykes

Southland U17 Junior Champ
Southland Mens C Grade Individual Champ
Southland Mens C Grade Teams champ
4th placed at the National C Grade Individual Champs.



Ethan Giles

Overall Southland's most wins in a season
Overall Southland's most competitive player with the most competitive matches played in a season.
Southland's most improved Junior boy increased his grade by 190%.

Keira Giles

Southland Girls U17 junior age group champion
Southland Womens Division 2 teams Interclub champ
National D Grade Super Champs competitor.



Volleyball

The VNZ South Island Junior Volleyball Championships were held in Christchurch from 19-21 November. The Year 9/10 tournament saw 93 teams (girls – 53 teams across 4 divisions; boys – 40 teams across 3 divisions) complete to be the 2024 champions.

After a successful local campaign which saw James Hargest College place 2nd in the local high school competition and 3rd at the Southland Regional Championships, the team were keen to test their skills against the rest of the South Island.

A successful first day saw JHC top their pool with wins over Riccarton High School Yr 9 A, Rolleston College A, and Rangiora High School. The team set themselves a high bar with contributions from everyone towards their consistent serving, amazing passing, and scambly defence.

The second day started off much the same with a victory over local competitors, Central Southland College B, setting up a top-of-the-table clash with St Margaret's College B. Unfortunately, the team struggled with consistency in the match, eventually falling 2 sets to 1.

Finishing second in their pool meant a match-up with Division 3 tournament favourite, Hillview Christian School, in the semi-finals. The girls knew it was going to be a tough match as Hillview were undefeated thus far and hadn't even dropped one set. Playing some of their best volleyball of the season, the team went toe-to-toe with the eventual Division 3 champions, losing 2

sets to 1. While it was disappointing not to make the gold medal match, the team took solace in knowing they were the only team that took a set off the champions the entire tournament.

In the bronze medal match, JHC faced off with another familiar foe, Wakatipu High School B. The match was a back-and-forth affair with each team struggling to get the upper hand. In the end, Wakatipu pipped JHC in the final set and came away with a 2 sets to 1 win. As a coach, it was exciting to see the whole team support one another throughout the match and come together to celebrate our 4th place finish.

For a team comprised of many athletes playing competitive volleyball for the first time, the results the team achieved on and off the court were fantastic. Opposition coaches and athletes raved throughout the tournament about the tenacity, skills, and maturity of the JHC athletes, as well as the sportsmanship displayed. It was easy to see why so many other teams and coaches were rooting for JHC during their playoff matches.

While it was disappointing not to finish off the long season with a win, the athletes had done the region and their school proud with their skill development, dedication and sportsmanship they displayed throughout. It was amazing to see how much each player developed and progressed throughout the season and tournament. Hopefully we'll see our players all again next year!

Warren Smith, Coach

JHC Sport has a new Facebook page

Please like and follow:

James Hargest College Sports on Facebook as this will be our go to for sports information from 2025.

There will be results, information about trials and upcoming opportunities, weather postponements, acknowledgements etc - basically everything to do with Sport at either Campus.

If students would like to have something added to the page, or if they have a query, they should see Mrs Smith or Mr Brodie on the Junior Campus, or Mrs Cowie or Elliot on the Senior Campus.

Parents and community members can also send in information for the page, or let us know something that we can follow up on. Please send sports content to:

sportfb@jameshargest.school.nz

Jonty Carran Memorial Rugby 10's

Jonty Carran Memorial Rugby 10's was held on Friday, 22 November. This is a fantastic tournament where Year 7 and 8 students from all schools remember a young boy who loved his sports and tragically passed

away too young. Special thank you to the Carran family and Rugby Southland for making this happen. The James Hargest Boys and Girls teams were both placed 3rd overall in their grades. To the James Hargest

community, thank you for your support. To the coaches you have done an amazing job training our students. Finally, thank you to Otautau School and Otautau Rugby for supplying the venue.



JAMES HARGEST
COLLEGE

JHC PTA

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- 1 OPEN DAY PER YEAR
- 2 UNIFORM 'BUY & SELLS' PER YEAR

NO FUNDRAISING!

JHC PTA IS FUNDED BY A \$15 DONATION PER STUDENT, PER YEAR



Parent, Caregiver, Whānau and Community Engagement

At James Hargest College we are always interested in engaging with our community and listening to parents, whanau and the wider community. If you have any good ideas or there is something special that has happened regarding Hargest, or there are issues, concerns or complaints we should be aware of, please contact the school office Senior Campus (2176129) or Junior Campus (2179250) or via email, office@jameshargest.school.nz You will be put in contact with an appropriate staff member

Information Updates

If you have any changes to your details (e.g. address, phone numbers, medical details, emergency contacts, etc), please let the school know as soon as possible in order to keep our records up-to-date.

Please email Mrs Moreton (Senior Campus) with any changes at office@jameshargest.school.nz

or phone 2176129

or Mrs Cribb (Junior Campus) at juniorcampus@jameshargest.school.nz

or phone 2179250

E-mail Newsletters

The next newsletter will be issued via email on Friday 14 February.

Hard copies of the newsletter will be available from either the Junior or Senior Campus office.

You can view the newsletter on the Hargest web site www.jameshargest.school.nz

Cricket

Congratulations to Charlotte Morris, who was selected in the Otago U19 Womens team for the National U19 tournament. Good luck Charlotte!



Coming Events

Senior Campus

December 2024

Fri	6	Year 9 and 10 Prizegiving 12:30pm Last day of classes
Tue	10	PTA Uniform Buy Back 4:00pm, Uniform Sale 6:00pm - Senior Campus Hall

January 2025

Thu	23	PTA Uniform Sale - Senior Campus Hall Buy Back 4:00pm - 5:00pm Uniform Sale 6:00pm - 7:00pm
Mon	27	Course Consultation (Year 12 and 13) Year 13: 10:45am-12:00pm Year 12: 12:45pm-2:00pm Peer Support Training
Fri	31	Ka Hikitia - Year 9's start

February 2025

Mon	3	Year 7, 8, 9, 12 and 13 in attendance Year 13 Orientation
Tue	4	Whole school in attendance
Thu	6	Waitangi Day observed
Thu	20	Athletics Day
Mon	24	Athletics postponement day
Wed	26	Matatini trip leaves

Junior Campus

December 2024

Fri	6	Last day of classes
Tue	10	PTA Uniform Buy Back 4:00pm, Uniform Sale 6:00pm - Senior Campus Hall
Tue-Thu	10-12	PE Gear sales at Junior Campus 3:30pm

January 2025

Thu	23	PTA Uniform Sale - Senior Campus Hall Buy Back 4:00pm - 5:00pm Uniform Sale 6:00pm - 7:00pm
Thu	30	Meet the Teacher, Junior Campus 2:30pm
Fri	31	Ka Hikitia - Year 9's start

February 2025

Mon	3	Year 7 & 8 in attendance
Mon	10	Year 7 Camps start
Thu	6	Waitangi Day observed
Fri	28	Year 8 Camps start

Website www.jameshargest.school.nz

Phone 03 217 6129

Senior Campus

288 Layard Street, Invercargill

Email: office@jameshargest.school.nz

Junior Campus

6 Layard Street, Invercargill

Email: juniorcampus@jameshargest.school.nz

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