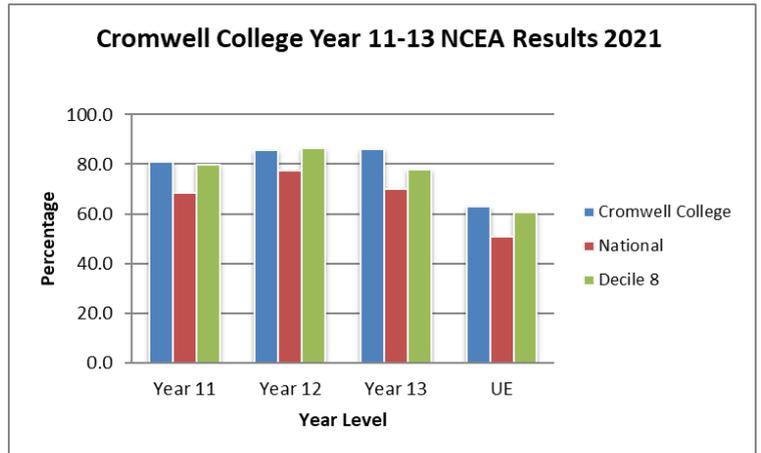


Kia ora koutou e te whānau

Year 11, 12 and 13 NCEA achievement at Decile 8 levels is a key target for our kura. It is a goal that our students are now consistently achieving. In 2021 Year 13 were 8% above the Decile 8 figure and Year 11 and 12 were within 1% of the Decile 8 figures. Our University Entrance results have improved to 62.2%, 2% above the Decile 8 figure and the proportion of students gaining a Merit or Excellence Endorsement improved from 30% to 37% of the senior cohort. I congratulate our staff and senior students for maintaining the focus on academic achievement in spite of the ongoing disruptions due to Covid 19 and another lock down. He rawe - well done.



The Year 7 Camp programme finished today with all 4 classes having now taken on our Kawa Challenges, learnt more about our place, our values, our stories, their class and teacher. We have heard very positive feedback from staff, students and parents about the wonderful start this programme has given Year 7's on the College Journey. Thank you again to Katrina Pollard who has led the programme and ngā mihi to our Board for funding this new initiative.

Ms Croad's Year 7 class at Bannockburn Inlet



Ngā mihi nui to Summit Group Financial Ltd for recommitting to support our College as a Platinum Business Sponsor. Peter Morrison, one of the owners of Summit Financial, was the major driver of

our successful Business Sponsors Programme when it started back in 2009. The programme has directly benefited students through extra staffing, capital purchases, academic scholarships for NCEA endorsements and a sport and culture fund to support travel and accommodation for teams and individuals. The loyalty, generosity and commitment of our sponsors over 13 years has made a big difference in our kura. We are very grateful to The Gate and Heartland Ricoh for their ongoing Foundation Sponsorship. Our Board looks forward to reconnecting with our business community once there is some return to normality in a post COVID world.

We have recently appointed Jen Innes as our Junior Sports Coordinator. This role is in its 4th year and has enabled an increased range of sporting opportunities for our Year 7 and 8 students. The position is only possible because of the foresight and generosity from Southern Lakes ITM. This funding



was originally for 3 years and Maree and Paul Piebenga have committed again because of the positive impact of this extra capacity in sport coordination. I have enjoyed my kōrero with Paul and hearing of the benefits he sees through the sponsorship arrangement: increased engagement in sport and all that this brings for wellbeing, health and fitness for our rangatahi (young people): growing potential in our students through the increasing sense of pride and belonging that develops when rangatahi are part of well organised and committed teams, and, knowing that this makes a real difference, in the long term, in our community.



Tēnā kōrua Paul and Maree - thank you.

The COVID wave is now being fully felt in our kura. Today we have over 180 students away, over a third of our school. We have one confirmed staff case, several away unwell and around 20 student cases as of today. There are many students and parents at home who are household contacts. I also know that there are families and students who will be understandably anxious at this time. I encourage connecting with the Whānau Teacher if there are any questions or concerns.

A sincere thank you to parents and whānau for the support with rostering home as this is allowing us to continue to keep our school open with face to face learning for the majority. Our learning is available online through Hapara for Year 7 and 8 and Google Classroom for Years 9 - 13. I encourage students, when they are well, to re-engage with their learning and to email class teachers with any questions.

Noho ora mai rā, me ngā manaaki, keep well and take care.

Mason Stretch  
Tumuaki (Principal)