



Special Newsletter – August 2021

Dear parents/caregivers

As many people within our wider school community are already aware, Nola Todd (Moana House Deputy Principal) and a friend were both hit by a car while walking across Montgomery Road before school on Friday morning. Nola sustained significant injuries to her neck and spinal cord and her friend broke her leg in two places. Nola was flown to Christchurch Hospital for specialist spinal care and underwent surgery on Saturday to fuse together some of the vertebrae in her neck. Once she is out of ICU, Nola will be transferred to the Burwood Spinal Unit where she will stay for rehabilitation. I am sure you will join me in wishing Nola and her family a complete and speedy recovery. We all look forward to seeing Nola back in Whanganui before the end of the year.

On an organisational level, my Senior Leadership Team (myself, Elizabeth Spooner, Jenny Langrish, Paul Turner) will pick up Nola's leadership portfolios for the rest of this year with immediate effect. With regard to Nola's Moana House and Year 12 responsibilities, I have appointed Jemma de Smidt (Academic Dean; Teacher-in-Charge History and Psychology) and Rebecca Hardy (Positive Behaviour for Learning Co-ordinator) to the newly formed fixed term position of Moana House Co-Leaders until the end of this year. Jemma and Rebecca will provide pastoral support and leadership to the 350 students in Moana House, the two Moana House Deans (Hunter Wilson and Phil Chiet) and the 14 Moana House Form Teachers.

Thank you very much for your ongoing support of our students and staff.

Ngā mihi

Martin McAllen
PRINCIPAL