



Dear Parents, Caregivers, students and supporters of the College,

The end of the term and the school year are rapidly approaching. It is a time to thank all in the Aquinas College community for your assistance in a variety of ways. Firstly my thanks go to all of our students who contribute so fully to the life of the college, for their passion and enthusiasm whether it is in their classwork or activities outside the classroom. Any school is only as good as the students make it each day and we are fortunate indeed to have such positive students who live our "touchstones" during the year.

My thanks also go to all of the staff at the college for their commitment and dedication to providing the best educational opportunities for each of our students.

Our thanks as a College go to all of our parents and supporters who have assisted students in their activities. There is a vast range of activities that go on each year in the College and without the willing support of our wider community it would not be possible to sustain all of them. So whether it is as a transporter, coach, manager, parent help or general supporter we extend our grateful thanks.

In a similar vein our thanks also go to our parents and wider families who have supported the students in their academic work and for the encouragement given to the students to strive to reach their potential. It is encouraging and rewarding for us as teachers and staff at the college to see our students doing their best to live the touchstone of "scholarship" through their class work.

We extend a warm invitation to parents and family members to attend the final prizegivings at the end of the year. These are special times that allow us to acknowledge and celebrate the success and achievement of our students:

- The **Junior Attitude and Effort assembly** will occur on Wednesday 7 December starting at 12.30pm in the Gymnasium.
- The **final full school Academic Prizegiving** will occur on Thursday 8 December starting at 10am in the Gym. After this celebration, students will be released for their Christmas break.
- As we begin the season of Advent may we open our hearts to God's love to prepare and welcome Christ into our lives and homes. We extend our best wishes to our college community for a holy, happy and safe Christmas break with family and friends.

Farewell to Staff

I also take this opportunity to farewell some staff members:

Terry Consedine is retiring after 10½ years of service as Deputy Principal to Aquinas College. Terry has been an inspirational leader and has given willingly of his time to Service, management, RE teaching and as a role model for our Special Catholic Character.

Terry Eggleton is retiring after 14 years teaching in the Year 7/8 faculty. Terry is a foundation staff member, initially as the Year 7 Dean and teacher. Terry will be remembered for his involvement with school productions, hockey, his humour and love of every student.

Louise Mabbett retires from her 6-year position as French teacher at the college. We thank Louise for her involvement as teacher, Noumea French trips, Fiji Service trip, International Week and friend.

Joe Burke and **Katie Boyle** are teacher aides who have given outstanding service to the school over the past 12 months. We wish them well next year, as Joe returns to university for further study and Katie returns to Gisborne to be with her family.

Sam Harris has been teaching RE this year while his wife is on Maternity Leave. Sam leaves us and Monique Harris returns to the college in 2017. Thank you Sam, and the very best of luck next year.

College Website

Over the last few months we have been reviewing and renewing the college website using the services of Josh Reid of Reid Design. The new website will replace the existing website towards the end of the term. Shem Banbury and other staff have been working on preparing and transferring material from the existing website to the new one. We are aiming to have the crucial material transferred to the new website before it "goes live", and other material will be worked on over the summer break. A huge thanks to Shem for the increased workload and expertise involved in renewing the college website, and to the team who have assisted Shem.

ICT vision for the college: As a College we are keen for ICT devices not to become the main focus of learning but for them to be one of several tools/strategies to enhance teaching and learning. There is great opportunity with the use of devices to raise the level of critical thinking. The opportunity is there to develop 21st Century learning skills of Collaboration, Innovative Teaching practice, Real World problem solving, Knowledge Construction and Skilful Communication. We want devices to enhance the high standard of teaching that is already going on at Aquinas College. We have had considerable discussion around the use of computers as a learning tool over the past few years and considered different ways in which this might occur through a BYOD programme or through the school providing machines for student use. We are also mindful of the cost of devices and that, if students were asked to provide a device from Year 7, families could be in a position where they are purchasing three devices for each child during the time they are at the college.

As a result of this thinking, the Board of Trustees has agreed to the following plan over the next few years:

- That the College takes responsibility to provide devices for Year 7-10. The main device we will be using in this regard is the "Yoga", a robust and portable machine that provides the power and flexibility needed to deal with a wide range of uses. We are aiming to purchase enough machines to provide a ratio of one machine per two students. Sometimes the students may be working in small groups with one machine. Other times it may be a machine for each student. The expectation will be that students are not using computers all day, every day. As mentioned earlier we want the computer to be one of a number of teaching tools/strategies used in our classrooms. Strong relationships between students and between students and staff will always be critical for successful learning.

The second recommendation is that in 2018 we ask Year 11 parents to purchase a laptop of given minimum specifications. Early next year we will provide parents with more detail around the specifications of the machines needed so that it would last for the remainder of their time at college. It would remain voluntary for Year 12 and 13 to bring devices during 2018. By 2020 all the Senior School Year 11-13 would be bringing their own device.

This means a family will only be expected to provide one machine during the student's time at college, and this will be at the senior levels. We will provide access to machines for students not in a position to purchase a laptop. Our present computer rooms will still remain for specialised use in a range of subject areas.

Sadly, but with 'Pure Joy' Aquinas College will fondly farewell two of its finest staff members at the end of the 2016 academic year. Terry Consedine and Terry Eggleton are both retiring from successful teaching careers.

To honour and pay tribute to the 'Two Terrys' for their very fine contributions to not only Aquinas College, but also to their careers in education, a Thanksgiving Mass and Supper was held to enable the wider community to come together in prayer and joy to farewell these highly-esteemed teachers. Friends, families, students, staff and parents came out to show how very well respected these men and their life's work is held

"act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with your God"

Michael Cooney, Aquinas College BOT member, and a well known, local identity paid tribute to Terry Eggleton and Terry Consedine at a Thanksgiving Mass held at St Mary Immaculate Church on Wednesday 23rd November. At the conclusion of Michael's tribute, he acknowledged the work and heart of our 'Two Terrys' through Micah 6:8 "act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with your God".

Over 400 people attended the Thanksgiving Mass, where Bishop Steve and Mons Frank Eggleton con-celebrated the Mass. The Two Terry's were delighted with the large number of past students at the event, along with parents, friends and colleagues they'd worked with over the years.

Bishop Steve spoke genuinely of the talents and service the Two Terrys have given not only to Aquinas College, but to New Zealand Catholic Education. Bishop Steve highlighted the many similarities in these two fine men - **"strong Catholic faith background", joyous, prayerful, reflective, service, Special Catholic Charater, model Jesus to our youth, live their faith, much loved and well respected teacher, looks out for the quiet ones, the strugglers; never holds grudges; makes everyone laugh."**

Bishop Steve bestowed a blessing over the Two Terrys acknowledging their careers and thanking them for their life-time's work. Bishop Steve also prayed a blessing over their wives thanking them for their support of their husbands and asked for God's blessing to them all in this next phase of their lives - retirement.

Paul Ferris, CEO of NZ Catholic Education Office, travelled from Wellington to Tauranga to attend the Mass. He acknowledged the 40+ years of service each man had given to education. He thanked them on behalf of NZ Catholic Education for the pivotal positions they had both held in their careers, the changes that they had implemented over this time and the wisdom and care they both had brought to students and management.



Above: Bishop Steve Lowe offers up a blessing on Terry Eggleton (foreground) and Terry Consedine.

Below: Paul Ferris, CEO NZ Catholic Education, Office, presents the 'Two Terrys' with Certificates of Honour.



As CEO of NZ Catholic Education, Paul Ferris presented Terry Consedine and Terry Eggleton with Certificates of Honour. These awards are prestigious, given to only around 3% of staff working in our Catholic schools. They are awarded for outstanding ongoing service to Catholic Education. Our community is delighted that the Two Terry's were acknowledged with such an accolade.

Ray Scott, Principal of Aquinas College, in his speech of thanks to Terry Consedine and Terry Eggleton, acknowledged the contributions both men had made to Aquinas College. As a member of its foundation staff, Terry Eggleton was thanked for the many 'hats' he wore when the college was being established. They were thanked for their wisdom, their vision and their ability to 'get the job done' with grace and understanding. Ray presented a gift to both men from the Aquinas community that depicted a Maori kite basket of knowledge, with the college's six touchstones - Service, Joy, Family, Prayer, Truth and Scholarship - etched in stone flowing from the kite, with the community symbolized by stones scattered in the forefront. Trish Eggleton and Wendy Consedine, were presented with bouquets of roses in acknowledgement of the support they had given their husbands over many years.

The college choir sang at the Mass and the parish music group, Emmaus, beautifully led songs that were meaningful to both Terrys. A supper followed, where the Two Terry's were able to share a cup of tea with the many people who had gathered. The laughter and stories continued into the evening, where the love for these two fine men was evident. Our best wishes for a well-earned retirement but we know we'll see your smiley faces around the college grounds for years to come. God bless and keep you safe always, Terry Eggleton and Terry Consedine.

YEAR 9 ACTIVITY WEEK

Year 9 Activity Week 2016 has got off to a great start! Monday, we headed off to Pilot Bay to have a go at Stand-Up Paddle boarding, but due to crazy, windy weather we had to put that idea on hold for another time. We all walked around or up the Mount (some of us needed to go up to the trig because we had never done that) and this was rewarded with an ice-cream! We had fun playing cricket and Frisbee on the beach and then finished off with a dip in the hot pools.

On Day 2 we are heading to the Flip Out Tramp Park. There are too many of us to go at once, so we will take turns and also do some school activities – touch rugby, cookie baking and quiz time.

The next two days will be spent at Rocktopia and Adrenaline Forest and finally we have huge bubble balls and an obstacle course as highlights on the last day. The week finishes on Friday afternoon with movie time.



Walking the length of Aotearoa to raise money for arthritis....

A young man named Kaz who is a nursing student from Dunedin is walking from Bluff to Cape Reinga in 66 days! He has been inspired to do the walk by people he has cared for who suffer from arthritis. A group of twenty of our Year 9 students were privileged to join him on his journey for a morning as he crossed through Pyes Pa, with their Dean Paula Skelton and Louise Mabbett. We had so many volunteers to help, we had to draw names out of a hat! The students brought a donation for the cause and meanwhile, back at school, Olivia Dennis and her friends organised a bake sale to boost the funds. Ka Pai Year 9!



School Donations and Student Accounts

Thank you for your commitment and support in paying your building fund donation, school donation and your student charges. We are very aware of the efforts so many families take to make it a priority to pay these accounts.

Your commitment to paying the building fund donation allows this money to go directly to the Hamilton Diocese to go towards a new multipurpose facility for the college. The school donation enables the school to purchase additional resources such as computer equipment for classrooms, Sports and Science equipment. It is also used to support the special character of the school with retreats and Catholic school exchanges.

The student charges are for activities that your child has chosen to participate in. These charges relate to costs that the school has already incurred and we would appreciate that these amounts be paid promptly.

We would also be grateful if those families with amounts still owing, are able to pay them before the end of Term 4 which is the 8th December 2016.

Christmas Mass Times: ST THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

CHRISTMAS EVE (Saturday 24 December)

5pm - St Mary Immaculate
7pm - St Mary Immaculate
10pm - St Mary Immaculate (9.45pm Carols)

CHRISTMAS DAY (Sunday 25 December)

12am - St Joseph's (Te Puna, Miha Maori)
9am - St Mary Immaculate
9.30am St Therese (Bethlehem, Miha Maori)

ALL SAINTS BY THE SEA PARISH

CHRISTMAS EVE (Saturday 24 December)

6pm - St Thomas More (5.30pm carols)
9pm - St Patrick's, Te Puke

CHRISTMAS DAY (Sunday 25 December)

9.30am St Thomas More (9.00am carols)

Note: There is no Te Puke 5pm Mass on Saturday 24 December or 5pm Mass at Mt Maunganui on Sunday, 25 December.



2017 Start-Up Dates

January 26 Year 12/13 Option Subjects Confirmation, 10:30am
January 31 Staff Only COL training day
February 1 Staff Only Day
February 1 Year 13 Student Executive Leadership Training, Whare, 9am
February 2 Year 7 students and Year 11 Peer Support students 8:45am-3:15pm.
February 2 Year 7/8 students 8:45am-3:15pm, plus Year 9-13 new students 8:45am-11:30am.
February 2 Mass for new students 10:30am (parents welcome)
February 2 Year 13 Student Executive Leadership Training, Whare, 9am
February 3 Full school 8:45am. Powhiri new students 9:45am.

2017 School Terms

Term 1 - Tuesday 31 January - Thursday 13 April
Holidays: Friday 14 April – Sunday 30 April (includes Easter and Anzac Day)
Term 2 - 10 weeks, Monday 1 May - Friday 7 July
Holidays: Saturday 8 July – Sunday 23 July
Term 3 - 10 weeks, Monday 24 July - Friday 29 September
Holidays: Saturday 30 Sept – Sunday 15 October
Term 4 - Monday 16 October - To Be Confirmed

2017 Stationery List available online at our website from Monday 12 December.

Wrapping up 2016 from the Careers Desk

Kia Ora Parents, Caregivers and Students

We'd like to take this time to wish you the best for next year. Preparing to leave school can be a daunting time. The choices on offer after you leave school can be intimidating. Some senior students may be tempted to bury their heads in the sand and not be proactive about finding a good match in terms of a job. Others leap at the chance to discover more. We encourage you to start this conversation with your child over the holidays.

Gateway Programme

The function of our Gateway Programme is to make the transition less of an ordeal and more of an adventure. The opportunities on offer are enormous. Coming onto the Gateway Programme allows each student that one-to-one conversation with Mrs Wendy Consedine, our Gateway Co-ordinator, about a future pathway forward.

It enables them to be mentored by an employer in their chosen work placement, whilst gaining both valuable experience and credits along the way. A Health and Safety programme worth approximately 14 credits is also available.

If you are returning to Aquinas and are interested in doing the Gateway Programme next year, we have attached a copy of the form you need to fill in. If you have any questions or you have a business where you maybe to supply a work placement for a student for up to 8 weeks, please email Mrs Consedine at wconsedine@aquinas.school.nz.

For those students who are leaving to study, these two websites will help.

<https://www.studylink.govt.nz/online-services/apply/help/how-to-upload-documents.html>
<http://www.connect.co.nz/landingPage/>

If students are looking for meaningful work during the holidays, why not consider working for free! This is a wonderful way to build up experience in your job field of interest, and learn practical skills like problem solving, teamwork and self-management. Moreover, what better way to give back to the community and meet others.

Search for placements on volunteernow.org.nz

STAR Programme

This year we have been able to offer a number of successful courses to Years 11 -13 via our STAR Programme. Keep an ear out next year for the STAR courses that will be available.

In December this year we are running the final STAR Barista course for the year with our trainer Neville from Espresso Stuff. This course is plenty of fun for the students involved and wonderful for providing skills for summer employment.

From all of us in the Careers Department. We wish you a very Merry Christmas and all the best for 2017.

Mike Smith, Wendy Consedine & Desiree Boniface

PTA Matters - December 2016



Thank you to the Aquinas Community for your support in 2016

A big thank you to the Aquinas community for supporting us in many ways including with lunchtime sausage sizzles, Entertainment Book sales, attending our functions and events and sponsoring us. Without you we would not be able to support our school in the ways we do.

This year we are proud to have provided events for clubs and sports codes to raise funds and we have allocated funds to art displays, shade sails, bibles for leavers, basketball hoops, handball courts, catering for new families' events, the Fiji Service Trip and more.

We look forward to continuing our work with you in 2017, to contributing to building community spirit in the school, to providing successful fundraising events and to supporting the community with the funds raised.



Teachers at the Twilight Festival



Year 9 students Tyla Roe and Abbie Matthews with the Joy Mural

Key Dates for Term One 2017

- **Twilight Festival: Thursday March 9th - mark the date in your diary. We'll be providing the opportunity for clubs and codes to run food stalls, there will be fun and entertainment and the opportunity for everyone to come together to enjoy a summer evening out .**
- **Hot Dog Lunchtime sales: Term One, Tuesday 21st February and Tuesday 28th March**

Friends of PTA - We are currently updating our database of those from the community who wish to join us by helping out at events such as the hot dog days and PTA events. If you are keen to receive emails when we are looking for some helping hands please email us at: ouraquinas@gmail.com.

Business Directory - The Business Directory is being launched in 2017. If you wish to advertise your business in this A5 booklet that will be distributed to school families please email us before Christmas at ouraquinas@gmail.com and we will send you the relevant information.



**Thank you Arigato
gozaimas Shukran
Merci Gracias**

To the wonderful families who have hosted Aquinas international students this year. Your care and support means everything to our students and leaves them with special memories of their time in New Zealand. We couldn't do it without you! Merry Christmas to you all.

If there are any new families keen to host a student for 6 months or more, please contact the Dean of International Students **Melissa Gillingham** for a homestay application pack. **Phone: 543 9038** or mgillingham@aquinas.school.nz



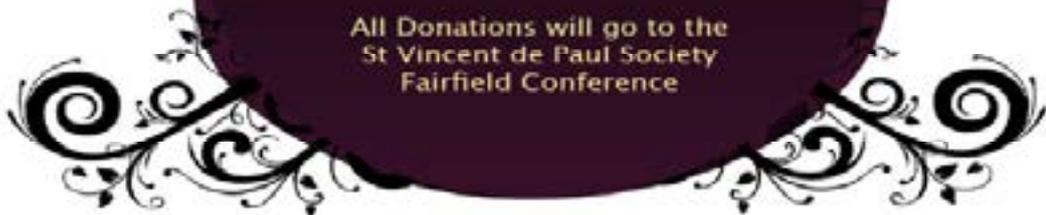
SEMBLEMANDE

John and Catherine Kwak
with friends

Sunday 18 December
3pm
St Joseph's Church
86-88 ClarkIn Road
Fairfield, Hamilton

Featuring students from the University of
Auckland, Waikato, Guildhall College,
Yong Siew Toh Conservatorium and the
Australian National Academy of Music.

All Donations will go to the
St Vincent de Paul Society
Fairfield Conference



SPORT AT AQUINAS

CANOE SLALOM

Jack Egan is in the New Zealand Development Squad for Canoe Slalom and has now been invited to represent New Zealand to be part of the Australian Open in Penrith which will take place in February 2017.

He also just competed at White Water XL and came second at the C1 race and made it into the finals for the K1 race and came 7th. This was in the Under18 years Junior Section so was a great achievement as this was a very tough course.

CRICKET

The Bay of Plenty Cricket Association announced their representative teams earlier this term with 7 Aquinas students (Aquinas has provided 29% of the 24 players) selected for their respective age group teams to attend tournaments during November/December.

BOPCA Coastlands Primary

Troy Schneeбели, Toby Taylor, Spencer Wills with Brayden Palmer as a Non Travelling Reserve.

BOPCA Junior Secondary

Finn Dempsey, Darcy Hoskin, Fergus Lellman, Carson Wills

KARATE

Thomas Bayly (Year 8) and Jordan Smith (Year 7, pictured right) both achieved their Karate Black Belts recently from Mile High Karate, Tauranga. They have been working towards this for the past 6 years and following an 18 hour grading, which ran from Friday 6pm evening to 12.30pm on Saturday (with no sleep) they both received their black belts.



RUGBY SEVENS

In further regional representative honour news, congratulations to Izzy Northcroft (Year 10) who was named in the Bay of Plenty Under 19 Women's Rugby Sevens team and still only 15 years old. Izzie has recently travelled with the team to play in tournaments.

TENNIS

At the Western BOP Intermediate Interschool Tennis Tournament held at Papamoa Tennis Club we were represented by a small group of Year 7/8 students. The conditions were typical of spring weather with four seasons in one day, meaning some wet and windy moments. The tennis was of a high standard regardless, with some of the region's top players, as well as some very good up and coming players showing off their skills.

Congratulations to Sam Taane (Year 8) who was the Premier Grade Boys Singles winner while Kate McCarroll (Year 7) won the Social Grade Girls Singles.

Sam Taane was also chosen as 1 of 4 Intermediate students to represent the region to compete at the North Island Champs that were held in Hamilton where 16 players (Top 4 players from each area) competed from the Waikato/BOP/Hawkes Bay/Poverty Bay. Sam gained a lot of experience from attending the tournament.

VOLLEYBALL

Aquinas had a fabulous day at the recent Spikers Volleyball tournament, coming away with runner up awards for both the girls and boys competition. A total of 36 keen volleyballers participated from Aquinas. Great athleticism and team spirit was shown. Well done to all but special mention to the following players who were runners up in their respective divisions:

Intermediate Boys Green team: Jaspar Collins, Antony Death, Lachlan Dillon, Austin Frear (captain), Jaspar Hawkes, Reece McCarthy, Harrison McGregor, Luke Nolan and Luke Appelman
Intermediates Girls Gold team: Maggie Blackmore, Sacha Brandon, Anna McFall, Makenna Nolan, Alexandra Taylor, Lucy Turner, Charlotte Watson and Grace Zurcher.

YACHTING

Max van der Zalm (Year 12) is back from the World Windsurfing Championships representing New Zealand in the Techno 293 in Italy (Lake Garda) and winning in the Silver Fleet. A fantastic result after finishing 6th at the same event last year. His next goal is to be selected for the Youth Olympics Windsurfing in Buenos Aires, 2018.

WATER POLO

Congratulations to both our girls' and boys' Year Y/8 Water Polo teams (pictured below) that both returned to the Bay wearing silver medals around their necks from the North Island Year 7/8 Championships. After winning all pool play games the girls team met St Cuthberts in the Semi-Final, taking a great win and advancing to the final to face Diocesan Girls. After a well fought final the Aquinas Girls were awarded Silver.

GIRLS: Sacha Brandon, Isabella Broadmore (Named in Tournament Team), Lucy Dekker, Alexandra Edwards, Georgie Gash, Sia Hay, Erin McCarthy, Briarna McGrory, Makenna Nolan, Sinead Simpson, Lucy Turner. Coach Tristan Edwards, Assistant Coach Kayla Dew and Manager Tammy McGrory.

BOYS: Nathaniel Barry, Dylan Beilby, Harrison Bos, Corbin Mackay, Dominic Piceno, Angus Porter, Troy Schneeбели, Jacob Saunders, Jackson Roper (Named in Tournament Team), Brayden Dew (named in A Grade Tournament Team)

At the Year 9/10 level our Boys and Girls Water Polo teams also travelled to Auckland to compete at the North Island Junior Water Polo Champs bringing home double gold.



For the boys they were finals ready and had the mental edge after an earlier win over Westlake in pool play. The Tauranga side went up 4-0 after the first quarter to create a huge wall for Westlake to climb if they wanted a comeback.

An even second quarter saw the scores at 5-1, but the third blew the gap out to six with goals from Noah van Oudenaaren, Marshall Barker, and Loui Schuler.

Kiahi Horan made the gap seven with just 3:39 left to play in the final, but then Westlake caught fire and threatened a last minute comeback. Westlake pieced together five goals in one minute and thirty-eight seconds, but it was too late. Aquinas had done the damage and claimed the North Island Junior Secondary Schools Championships Division One for the first time ever winning gold in the final against Westlake Boys, 11-9.

Congratulations to Kiahi Horan, MVP Division 1 Boys, and Loui Schuler both named in the tournament team, to all players – Marshall Barker, Connor Farrell, Nicolai Fourie, Zane Mackay, Noah Orchard, Troy Schneebeli, Nicholas Scott and Noah van Oudenaaren and to coach Brendan Horan and manager Michelle Schuler.

The girls finished first in their Division 2 pool, with wins against five schools and a draw with St Kents. Going on to beat Sacred Heart girls and to play Epsom Girls Grammar in the semi-final to win 8-5. It was a close affair in the division two girls' final against Diocesan Blue. The 8-6 result came down to crucial moments, including an Anna Low goalkeeper shot that made the buffer three for Aquinas at halftime. Bridget Simpson managed three goals for Aquinas and the team winning gold in Division 2.

Congratulations to Bridget Simpson, MVP Division 2 Girls and to the whole team – Klara Allen, Lucy Ellis, Madeline Gash, Georgia Jones, Kate Kuka, Anna Low, Jessica Thomas, Taylor Verhoeven, Aimee Watene. Congratulations also to Coach Kellie Low and manager Julie Simpson for all your efforts with the team.



O'Neill Surf Academy NZ

Wave Warriors After School Surf Club

The O'Neill Surf Academy have teamed up with Surfing New Zealand to deliver their national junior surfer programme...Wave Warriors.

Our Wave Warriors After School Programs run over 8 weeks, 1 session per week and are designed to build surf skills and water confidence in a fun and safe environment.

Each surfer receives a Surfing NZ Wave Warrior Log Book jam packed full of skills, tips and performance goals that they work through with their instructor. All surf equipment is provided however we welcome kids to bring along their own gear if they have it.

GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION (GATE)

The Gate classes have had a busy and fun filled year in 2016, culminating in a celebration at the GATE Presentation Night held on the 24th of November.

The entire night was organised and run by the Year 9 GATE students. Each group of students showcased their learning as Autonomous Learners throughout the year to parents and other family members, and to the Principal Mr Ray Scott, Deputy Principal Mr Terry Consedine and Director of Pastoral Care Mrs Isabel Jeftha. It was wonderful to see the wide range of projects the students have been working on throughout the year and see how far they had progressed towards becoming autonomous learners.

The Year 8 Gate students were excited about sharing their entries in the 'Fair Go Ad Awards'. They had worked extremely hard to develop products from cycles to bottles and develop five creative advertisements to submit to the competition. The students worked on weekends and during the school holidays and gave up many lunch breaks to complete all five ads to their satisfaction. They are very proud of their achievements and eagerly await their results.

The Year 9 GATE students spent the first half of their year learning about the innovation process after which they worked on developing their own solutions to real world problems. Their work was entered into the 'Young Innovator Awards'.

A group of senior GATE students from Year 10 – 13 met during their lunch hours, once a week to work on developing innovative solutions to identified problems. The students worked in mixed level groups with one of our senior groups taking third place in the senior section and winning the people's choice award.

The 2017 GATE programme will get underway during Term 1 next year. Selections will be made in consultation with staff, however if you would like your child to be considered for the programme, you can email Jenny Livingstone at jlivingstone@aquinas.school.nz

Present this flyer when you buy your Christmas Tree from



KAIMAI CHRISTMAS TREES

and **\$20** of your purchase will be donated to

Aquinas College French students fundraising for their trip to New Caledonia (offer applies to the first 120 trees purchased only).

Trees can be purchased from Kaimai Christmas Tree Farm at 1080 Omanawa Road or from Memorial Park during the month of December. Trees range in size and price, starting at \$40.

See website for details:

www.kaimaichristmastrees.co.nz

or find updates on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/KaimaiChristmasTreeFarm

