

## **Prizegiving Speech - Medbury School 2024**

**Ka tangi te titi, ka tangi te kaka, ka tangi hoki ahau**

**Tihei mauri ora!**

**Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, ngā mihi mahana ki a koutou katoa**

**Nau mai haere mai ki te kura o Medbury**

**E ngā mana, e ngā iwi, e ngā hau e whā, Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, Tēnā koutou katoa.**

Mr. Richard Austin, Trust Board Chair,

Members of the Trust Board,

Invited guests, colleagues, parents, and boys of Medbury School – Kia Ora, and a very warm welcome to you all.

Thank you for joining us today for this Prizegiving celebration, a reflection of the achievements of all our boys and the Medbury Difference.

To the boys assembled, thank you for your contributions throughout this year. Whether or not you cross the stage today, remember that each one of you has made progress. It's not about comparing yourself to others—it's about focusing on your own growth and the changes **you** can make. Remember, it's **ME vs ME** – that's what counts.

### **Farewell to the Leavers**

To our Year 8 leavers, you've truly been an inspiration. As the Class of 2024, you have made your mark, taking opportunities, growing friendships, and creating memories that will be cherished. I would especially like to acknowledge Head Boy Ryan Collins and his Deputies, Freddie Rolleston and Niall Nesbitt. You have all embodied excellence, integrity, respect, and empathy, leading by example throughout the year. Please join me in acknowledging them, along with all of our leavers, for their contributions to Medbury.

### **Staff Appreciation**

I also want to thank our dedicated staff for their tireless work this year. Schools are only as good as their people, and at Medbury, we are fortunate to have the very best. Every boy here has been supported and guided, whether in the classroom, on the sports field, or on stage. Boys and parents, please join me in showing our appreciation for our wonderful staff.

### **Gratitude to Parents**

To all the parents, guardians, and caregivers, a heartfelt thank you. Educational research consistently shows that when parents are actively involved in their children's education, students perform better. Your support throughout the year has been invaluable, whether through the MPA Committee, community service, sports coaching, or the many other contributions you've made. Special thanks go to Sarah Robinson,

who is stepping down after her remarkable service as MPA President. Thank you, Sarah, for your dedication to Medbury.

### **Medbury's Vision: Learn, Lead, Succeed**

As we prepare for the summer break, I want to reflect on Medbury's vision of **Learn, Lead, Succeed** and what it truly means to be a Medbury Graduate. We often underestimate ourselves and overlook our unique talents. It's crucial to embrace our differences and use them to our advantage.

I want to share a story that highlights the importance of digging deeper to find our potential. I once met a farmer in Australia who had worked his family's land for years, struggling to make a living. Eventually, he gave up and the land was sold. Years later, he visited and discovered that the land was now being mined for nickel—a fortune hidden just below the surface all along.

This story applies to our boys at Medbury. Are we truly uncovering the full value of our talents, or are we just scratching the surface? At Medbury, we mine for potential, helping boys find their strengths and nurturing them to grow, learn, lead, and succeed.

### **Embracing Innovation and Creativity**

Success in life requires a culture of innovation and creativity. We are all inherently creative, but imagination is the key. A Medbury education places imagination at the center of everything we do, whether in the classroom, on the stage, in sports, or in leadership. Creativity isn't just about being artistic—it's about bringing original ideas to life and using all the resources available to solve problems.

### **A Culture of Passion and Zest for Life**

At Medbury, we strive to cultivate a culture where passion, creativity, and collaboration thrive. Being successful is not about wishful thinking, but about cultivating ideas, working hard, and embracing the unique qualities each of us possesses.

As you move forward, remember that you are capable of greatness. Passion will lead you to a life of meaning and purpose, and by digging deeper into your talents, you will understand your full potential.

Thank you all for a fantastic year. Enjoy your summer break, and I look forward to seeing how you continue to grow and succeed.

**Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa.**