



# Prefects' Investiture and Leadership Assembly – Morning Comment

Heads of College, Lily Champion-Smith and Torin Ward

**Friday 3 February 2023**



Tena Koutou, I'm Torin and this is Lily and we are your Head Prefects for 2023, but first our Deputy Heads of College, Poppy Rumble and Lachie Odlin will introduce themselves.

**Lachie Odlin** is the son every parent dreams of, he is smart, witty, organised, and above all highly athletic, with the peak of his sporting career coming in 2022 when he carried the shock social basketball team to victory for the second year in a row. With 100% of contribution coming from the bench.

All sporting jokes aside Lachie has had a tremendous success in the academic field, with him achieving both Level 2 and 3 with Excellence endorsed within the same year. This wasn't all smooth sailing for Lachie as he gained three Merits in the process which vastly hindered his chances of being Dux and Deputy Head Prefect – this deepened his fear of not being greater than his rival Dux of 2021, his brother Oliver Odlin.

Nonetheless he is truly one of the most organised students I have ever meet, with him mentioning this morning that he slept in his prefect uniform to ensure he got to school on time. Which I won't lie is a flawless plan. From his academic successes to his uniform organisation, he has been setting himself a clear path toward Deputy Head Prefect, from the first time the Odlins had dinner with Mrs Leighton, to the most recent time he chauffeured her around Wānaka. But don't worry he's not that much of a suck up in person.

**Poppy Rumble** needs little introduction. Starting at St Andrew's College in Year 6, she followed three sibling: a Maadi Cup winner, a New Zealand Swimming representative, and an ATCL drama award winner. Needless to say Poppy had to try her hardest not to be the family disappointment.



Poppy has become perfect embodiment of culture at St Andrew's within productions and the cultural committee. She has gained notoriety throughout the College for infamous theme day outfits; rocking up in the most fashionable outfit she could put together with only a weeks' notice. She has always pushed the envelope a little too much for Ms Jones' liking, earning herself a few dress code violations in the process.

She has never left a Formal without a best dressed trophy, however, in her eyes her reputation will never recover from when she only won best dancer at the 2021 Semi Formal, I do believe she was wrongly stripped of that title.

If you ever see Poppy around the College, know she will always be keen for a chat, but just keep in mind that you might struggle to get a word in.

**Torin Keir Ward.** Head Prefect 2023, Head Boy of Tai Tapu Primary School, Senior A basketball team, Academic Colours 2021, third in New Zealand for pole vault, South Island rugby representative 2018 and what he quotes to be his highest achievement, the Year 7 handwriting champion. With all these huge achievements Torin credits this to, in his own words, "just being an amazing kid". Torin is a true academic weapon receiving Excellence endorsement two years running – this is something he truly prides himself on. Torin being the most competitive person I know thrives off once being named the fastest Rubix cube solver in New Zealand, something he will never live up to again. All jokes aside Torin is a dedicated and hard working individual and has definitely earned his position this year, I strongly encourage to have a chat with him if you get the chance and if your lucky he may share some of his rubix cube secrets.

Slay, Queen, Pop-Off these are the wise words of our Head Prefect **Lily Champion-Smith**. Lily is known for her devotion to the St Andrew's College sporting programme. This first became apparent in Year 9 when she attended the netball trial for the senior A team, her fiery spirt and competitive nature quickly made her known on and off the court. She was impactful but unfortunately she didn't make the team. Year 9 did not get any better, as she consistently broke dress code, our Dean even went as far as to buy her earrings that met the College rules. Lily is also a high achieving academic as she achieved both Level 1 and 2 with Excellence endorsement. Despite this she did her best to fail as many Externals as possible last year. On a positive note Lily is a phenomenal public speaker which she has won numerous awards for, and has become infamous around the school for her speeches. This is lucky as she was stuck in Rarotonga due to the Auckland floods and had to write and learn this speech in two days.

Now we've introduced ourselves and you know some embarrassing yet valid facts about us all it is time to present our theme for 2023. Torin, Lachie, Poppy and myself alongside the prefect team have chosen the theme "blue and white do it right". This theme focuses on raising the school spirit and culture within the College. We have seen some school spirit ups and downs throughout our time and we want to work hard this year to get it to the best it has ever been.



T: This theme of Blue and White do it right came from a realisation that this year we are finally able return to some of the College's rituals and traditions again, meaning we have an opportunity to take the St Andrew's spirit to the next level. We first discussed this theme because COVID-19 had such a detrimental effect on us all and we had limited chances to really get into the St Andrew's College spirit. However, we all know St Andrew's has a great fun-loving culture and an energetic spirit that deserves to be shown, therefore through the theme of Blue and White do it right we can put a real focus on building on this spirit. This will be a great opportunity to show what makes our College so supportive and unique.

L: Looking back to my first couple of years at house events such as Athletics Day and Highland Games were the most hyped up events of the year. Coming from a small country school where house events were non-existent I was unsure what to expect and it wasn't until my friends started showing me pictures of their teletubby or hot chilli pepper costumes that I realized I was slacking. Me wanting to fit in, I made the immediate after school trip to the \$2 shop and bought every red colour under the sun. Showing up on the day and getting into our separate houses for the marches and house chants, I was so excited to get into the spirit of supporting my house and just having some fun.

T: We are super excited for this year and want you guys to help us build onto this St Andrew's College spirit. School spirit is similar to faith, you either have it or you don't. At St Andrew's we want to prove it to ourselves and other schools that we uphold a great culture and spirit. There is a fine line that draws the difference between outstanding school spirit or just marginal school spirit, what takes us above this line is the enthusiasm that each of us can bring and the way we show it. Therefore it isn't just about cheering and showing enthusiasm but also demonstrating our culture the right way.

L: We can all build this St Andrew's culture, whether showing it through supporting cultural events such as production, Polyfest, musical shows, or dance shows, being present and involved in school athletics and Highland Games or just getting showing up to rowdy for our sporting teams. However all this starts with the little things, being kind and respectable, showing a tidy presentable uniform and representing the school in a positive regard.

T: To summarise, we want to bring the St Andrew's College culture and spirit to life in all aspects. This means appreciating and celebrating the culture we uphold here, as well as working together. After all, you chose this College so you might as well put your all into it and show what St Andrew's culture is about.

And remember "blue and white do it right."