

## Industry support for senior students at Carmel College developing new food products

February 2021

Despite what has been a very disrupted school year, seventeen Year 12 students from Carmel College have achieved Team Silver Challenge CREST for developing new food products.

The five teams were supported by teacher Sandy Goonan and mentored by Sarah Leakey and Mitchell Thompson from Sensient Technologies, Elise Waddell from Hawkins Watts, and EeLaine Yeoh, Rebecca Lock, Jane Dunn and Shirin Haydarzadeh from Tip Top.

Each team developed a novel product to meet the brief set by their mentoring company. Their finished products were: a range of botanical iced teas; shareable, dairy-free frozen desserts – “ice cream” sandwiches and Kiwiana-inspired sorbet bites; South American-inspired dessert sauces; and organic, fruit and vegetable flavoured energy drinks.

In November, the teams presented their projects and products at a CREST showcase held at the school. Among those attending were their mentors, and four fourth year food technology students from Massey University. Two of the Massey students had “been there, done that”, doing Team Silver Challenge CREST projects when they were at school. One was a past pupil of Carmel, so a great role model for the girls.



*Mitchell Thompson and Elise Waddell tasting the energy drink at the CREST showcase*

The food industry also supported three of Sandy's Year 13 students. Margie Hunt, Jess Chong (Delmaine) and Emily Barry (Griffins) each mentored a Year 13 student, who did an individual product development project for NCEA L3 food technology. Products developed were Kiwiana- inspired dessert sauces, no allergy, high protein bliss bites and high protein, low sugar cookie bites. The two students who submitted their projects for NZQA Technology Scholarship in Food were successful in achieving it.



Congratulations to Sandy and her students for persevering under such difficult circumstances, and a sincere thank you to the mentors and their employers for supporting the school.

**Jenny Dee (FNZIFST)**  
**Careers Co-ordinator**