

Wellington High School

NEWSLETTER FOR APRIL 2014 FROM THE PRINCIPAL



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Kia ora and Greetings

Term One has ended on a very high note following a busy few weeks that has seen lots of action in the school. Students are leaving to travel to Nepal and Indonesia, we have had parents interviews and have continued great work in the classrooms, supported by innovative professional development opportunities for our staff. There have been significant student achievements that are outlined in the body of our newsletter. Although students and staff are ready for a holiday they can look back on a very successful term. I would like to thank families for their support of the school in all that we do.

As we have worked through this term we have been looking carefully at student profile data, which helps inform the decisions we make in all aspects of school operation and performance. There is one piece of data that stands out, and this provides a real challenge. In 2013 NCEA Level 1 results show 100% success rate for students who attended 95% or more of all their lessons. The correlation of attendance and achievement is plain and therein is the challenge. As students progress through the senior school their attendance rate drops, so the ability to succeed with confidence can be compromised. We need your family's support in ensuring that your youngster attends every scheduled lesson every day. The outcome of this focus on attendance is clear.

Another way families can support us is through making the voluntary family contribution to the school. The money generated by this donation is very important to us as it allows us to provide many facilities, especially in terms of technology, that we need to provide a twenty first century learning environment. I urge you to make this contribution if you have not already done so. We do appreciate this support and use the resource wisely.

I would like to pay tribute to a group of families, staff and students who have supported the school in a very unique way. A couple of weekends ago a group of enthusiastic whanau members spent two days painting Taraika. In that time the whole interior was repainted along with the front face of the whare. The difference this has made is enormous, and provides a clean canvas for the decorative treatment that is being undertaken in time for Taraika's 20th anniversary in November this year. Kia ora whanau, nga mihi nui. In closing I thank all families for their support of the school. I wish you all a very happy and safe holiday and look forward to seeing you all in Term Two.

Tena koutou katoa.
Nigel Hanton

CALENDAR

First Day Term Two	5 May
Board of Trustees	19 May
Te Whanau a Taraika Hui	9 June
Queen's Birthday	2 June
Open Evening	16 June

DENTIST

Simply Dental provides a free service for dental care for all for ages 0-18yrs.

Please call 0800 123 343 or email info@simplydental.co.nz



Short-term Courses for Life-long Learning at the Wellington High School

Community Education Centre

Check out what's available at Community Education for Term 2 and enrol online at www.cec.wellington.ac.nz.

For more information or to enrol by phone, contact the CEC office on 04 385 8919.

REPORTING 2014

This year reporting has moved to an online format to reflect the ability of the parent portal to provide you with assessment information as it happens throughout the year.

JUNIOR REPORTS (9-10)

Each term students will complete a self review of how they are working towards attaining the necessary learning skills for success in the future. This will be posted on the portal at the end of week 8 each term. In addition, teachers will post grades and a comment in each of the student's subject areas. This should provide rich feedback on top of what a student receives in class to enable the next steps. Grades possible at a junior level are: Working towards the level, Achieved, Achieved with Merit, Achieved with Excellence or In progress. These relate to the 'aspirational' curriculum level at each year which is level 4 for year 9 and level 5 for year 10 with the exception of languages.

SENIOR REPORTS (11-13)

In terms 1, 2 and 3 a student's subject teachers will rate students in terms of their Academic Progress, Classwork and Learning Behaviour. Students will either be Doing Well, Meeting Requirements or Causing Concern. These one page reports will be posted on the portal at the end of week 8 each term. In addition, teachers will post grades and a comment in each of the student's subject areas as per junior reports. Grades for senior reports will be either Not Achieved, Achieved, Achieved with Merit, Achieved with Excellence or Not Yet Assessed.

You will have recently received an email with your Parent Portal login details. If you have not received this, please email admin@whs.school.nz

www.whs.school.nz
(04) 385 8911
admin@whs.school.nz





WHS FEMINIST CLUB



This club was formed in 2013. Students meet regularly to discuss matters of interest and issues of importance.

Earlier in 2014 it was felt that a balance needed to be struck with an anti-abortion protest that was happening outside the entrance to Wellington Hospital. So for several weeks students have taken their counter-protest to the streets and quietly demonstrated their viewpoint. This has generated a large amount of interest and comment, much of it positive.

The students have greatly appreciated the tooting and comments and welcomed the opportunity to debate the issues involved.



The group also recently ran a flea market during lunch time.

Donated goods cost a gold coin and the group raised \$665. This money was donated to Family Planning which was the selected recipient due to recent funding cuts.

RELAY FOR LIFE

Wellington High School Year 13 students Demi Tiller and Zac Blakely organised a group for the Relay for Life held recently. They had an outstanding result, in coming 18th out of 80 groups.

Students involved were:
Callum Hildred, Oscar Thomas, Sheryl Wong, Kaiya Waerea, Luke Porteous, Els Russell, Eli Mulheron, Charlie Hard, Campbell Barrett, Christy Kimble, Remy Walshe, Demi Tiller, Eleni Hackwell, Emily Yeatman, Felix O'Hagan, George McDougall, Georgia Whiting, Lily Carter, Louise Nodder, Meghan Evans, Sam Forman, Stan Sarkies, Zac Blakely, Zoe Isaacs and Ruben O'Hara

Well done to all of you!



TENZ AWARD



Kylie Merrick, teacher of fabric and fashion technology, has been awarded the prestigious

TENZ award her contribution to technology education. The award is in recognition of outstanding capability in teaching of Technology and consistently displaying excellence in teaching practice.

Congratulations, Kylie.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

Entertainment Books are now being sold through Wellington High School as a general fundraiser.

Groups within the school can apply to access the funds raised.

To pay securely online or order your Digital Membership visit:

<https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/104r121>

ANAROA HILL UPDATE

On 17 and 18 March, Year 12 and 13 Ag/Hort students carried out the first harvest of Pinot Noir and Pinot Gris on Anaroa Hill Vineyard.

They then transported the harvest to Eastern Institute of Technology and started the wine making process; destemming and crushing, water pressing, yeast inoculation and fermentation.



Nathan Merrett harvesting Pinot Gris to take to Eastern Institute of Technology for white wine making.

The grapes were tested around 20-21 brix for sugar content and tasted great and the red Pinot Noir is being fermented and aged with French oak chips from Allure Forest.

On the second day the students carried out wine analysis for acid strength and quantity, and bottled last years Gimblett Gravels Merlot.

Then we visited Mission Estate in the middle of their Sauvignon Blanc harvest. Students got to view wine making by the truck load, new technology and innovations, processing equipment, and oak barrel storage in the winery.

Thank you to Kristy and Charlene, for driving and helping on the fieldtrip.



Wai, Zoe, and Nathan bottling and packing the 2013 Gimblett Gravels Merlot.



WHS Sport

Term 1 Highlights

FUTSAL

Three of our Futsal teams competed in the New Zealand Secondary Schools' Futsal Champs, earning some impressive results. The Senior Boys came 4th after narrowly missing out on a spot in the final. The Open Girls' team lost only one game, finishing in 3rd place. These are some fantastic results in the largest Futsal Nationals to date.



Open Girls' Futsal
3rd Place and NZSS Futsal Champs



Senior Boys' Futsal players
Owen Parker-Price and
Captain Josh Mann

NETBALL

With trials completed we start the season on the 10th May with 7 teams.

Congratulations to all trialists and in particular to those who made the Senior A and Junior A squads. We are looking forward to another successful season ahead.

Senior A Squad

Kate Abernethy
Jenna Blackburn Churcher
Clara Bosshard
Olivia Kiel
Zsontell Levi-Teu
Eleni McCallum
Tamara Penetito
Stella Rastorfer
Grace Stone
Romy Tennant

Junior A Squad

Ellen Ambler
Annie Birch
Jean Donaldson
Caishar Haribhar-Thompson
Julia Glennon-Sakaria
Tessa Hill
Meredith Metcalfe
Marika Mills -Szabo
Maddy O'Connor
Kennedy Steward
Maia Whitaker

VOLLEYBALL

The Senior Boys' Volleyball team travelled to Palmerston North to compete in the National Secondary School Champs during Summer Tournament Week. Finishing 3rd in Division 4, it was a great learning curve for a young team.

Our Senior Girls' Volleyball team had a very consistent season to win their division two competition, while the Junior Girls' Year 10 team won a thrilling final to take out their division. These are exciting times for volleyball at WHS.



Senior Girls' Volleyball
Division Winners

WINTER SPORT

We are straight into winter sport at the beginning of Term 2.

Students, it's important that you know what's required of you in regards to your particular sport/team, and that you make a full commitment for the season. All team lists and draws can be viewed on the sports noticeboard on L1 of M block, or see Josie in the Sports Office if you have any queries.

Parents/caregivers, your support in making sure your student is attending all trainings and games is greatly appreciated.

A huge thanks to parents, staff and volunteers who were involved with our teams in Term 1, and to those who are on board for winter sport.

We are very grateful for the time, energy and expertise you offer, and would not be able to provide these sporting opportunities to our students without you.

CYCLING

Holly and Zac Blakely's hard work on the bike is paying off. Zac placed 10th in the U19 Men's 10km scratch race at the Elite Track National Championships in March, while Holly kicked off the Bike NZ National Junior Series in style, finishing second in the recent U17 Girls' Junior Tour.



JUDO

Qona Christie's judo success is continuing, she gained two silvers and a gold medal at the East Coast Judo Open in April. Congratulations Qona and good luck for your upcoming events!

ATHLETICS

Elise Forman and Roydon Goldsack both qualified for the North Island Athletics Champs after top performances at the Regional Champs. Elise placed 3rd equal in the Hurdles and 5th in the 200m, while Roydon jumped a personal best to place 5th in the Triple Jump.

CONGRATULATIONS

Kathleen Rose, who is in Year 9, who has been selected for Junior Women NZ inline hockey team for Oceania Champs. Well done!

