

Wellington High School

NEWSLETTER FOR DECEMBER 2012 FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Greetings



Principal Nigel Hanton

We have almost arrived at the end of a very busy year, which has continued the proud tradition of Wellington High in terms of great opportunities, fantastic learning and high levels of student engagement in the school. I would like to thank all of the school community for playing their part in this dynamic process, which has delivered success to our students.

Senior students have completed their external assessments, and juniors have completed assessments and Year 10s their examinations. The feedback they receive from these will allow them to set new learning goals for 2013....after they have had a holiday!

Best wishes to you all. I wish you a safe and enjoyable Christmas and summer break with family and friends.

Ngamihinui

Back to School 2013



Tuesday, 29 January - Senior course confirmation for certain students

Thursday, 31 January - All Year 9 students at 8.45,

Friday, 1 February - All Year 9 students, new Year 10-13 students

Monday, 4 February
8.45 - All Year 9 and 10 students
10.20 - Year 11 to 13 students start

Wednesday, 6 February - Waitangi Day Holiday

Thursday, 7 February / Friday, 8 February - school photos

Junior Debating Success



Denis Wright, Tallulah Martin-Naylor, Lucas Gosling and Jess Eaton

The WHS Junior Certificate Debating Team has been crowned the Wellington regional champions. The Year 9 team, consisting of Jess Eaton, Lucas Gosling, Tallulah Martin-Naylor and coach Denis Wright, defeated St. Catherine's College in a hard fought final on Monday, 26 November. The team successfully affirmed the moot 'That child beauty pageants should be banned'. We are checking the archives, but think this may be the first time Wellington High School has won a regional junior debating cup. We congratulate the team on this wonderful achievement.

SCPS Junior Outreach Programme



Eight Year 10 students with ability and interest in science were chosen to attend this **Year 10 Colourful Science Day** at VUW. The aim of the day was to engage our students in some cutting edge science experiments related to the chemistry, physics, and biology of colours, colour perception, and the human eye. The programme included a nano-technology component. Our students learned more about the process of science, the relevance of science to their own lives and the potential of science to solve some of the big issues that face the world today. Students chosen to attend were: Eddyn Perkins-Treacher, Jaquille Haribhai-Thompson, Tess Breitenmoser, Liam Scully, Henk Wilcock, Callum MacRae, Ted Holmstead-Scott and Scott Dench.

Australian Mathematics Competition



Katya, Oliver and Eddyn

On the 28th of August this year, 26 WHS students from all year levels sat the Australian Maths competition. Three of our junior students did extremely well. Katya Sellen and Oliver Sundin, who are in Year 9, were both in the top 5% of all NZ entrants in their age group. Eddyn Perkins-Treacher, who is in year 10, was in the top 8% for his age group. Other students who performed well include Tess Breitenmoser, James Matheson, Sheryl Wong, Ruairi Cahill-Fleury, Hunter Eagle, Adrija Mazumdar, Chase Zemke-Smith and Sam Daysh.

Duke of Edinburgh-Hillary Award



WHS Students on a tramp

The Award operates in many countries and encourages young people to take on challenges such as community service, taking on a new skill, doing a physical activity and doing an overnight tramp. Students have to be motivated, enthusiastic about taking on new challenges and be prepared to get out of their comfort zone. I would encourage students to enrol for this Award if you think they have the above attributes. Completing this Award shows you have
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www.whs.school.nz

(04) 385 8911

admin@whs.school.nz



“stickability”, commitment and reliability. Duke of Edinburgh Award candidates have to be at least 14 years old. If interested, please see Bharat Pancha at the start of 2013.

Junior PE



Ruairi Cahill-Fleury being tested

With the Junior PE Enrichment programme, we have been looking at how we test for predicted maximum oxygen consumption (VO2 max) via the much hated “beep test”. To demonstrate what VO2 max really was, the group visited Bodylab where Ruairi Cahill-Fleury volunteered to have a true VO2 max gas analysis test. This required Ruairi to run on a treadmill at progressively faster speeds until exhaustion, while a computer analysed the oxygen and carbon dioxide he inhaled and exhaled. Ruairi scored exceptionally well, measuring **72.82 ml/kg/min**. To put that in perspective, 35 ml/kg/min is the norm for a sedentary male, 60 ml/kg/min is considered excellent for an 18 year old male and top cyclists have measured between 66–76 ml/kg/min. Ruairi should be very happy with his result!

Gateway success



Lizzie Love - Paper Bag Princess

The Gateway Programme would like to take this opportunity to let you all know that this year we had 30 students in placements and a few of the placements have led to full time, part time and holiday work. This year’s students have left us, some to tertiary education and others to work. We wish them all the best in their endeavours and know that they will do well in whatever they take on.

We would also like to take this

opportunity to thank all the fantastic employers out there who have supported the Wellington High School Gateway Programme. Without their support, we would not be able to continue the Gateway Programme. We look forward to working with them again next year and encourage you to support them in their businesses. Please see a list of all our employers on our website.

Fashion Students Travelling to Europe in 2013!

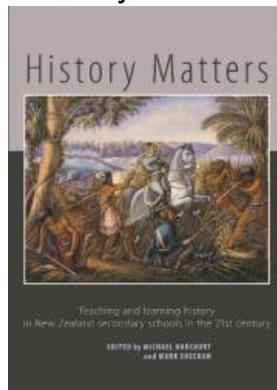


Imagine:

- The Globe Theatre – Shakespeare costumes, swords, poisons and sets and the V & A Museum – going behind the scenes where no public get to go
- Spending time with fashion gurus such as Vivienne Westwood
- Indulging in the incredible art work at the Louvre in Paris
- Spending a lazy afternoon at the feet of the Eiffel Tower sketching and painting away or wandering around Montmartre being inspired by local artists
- Taking courses with French fashion pre-a porter designers

If you can imagine yourself being there experiencing this amazing opportunity with your friends, then you have to sign on. Hurry up as places are limited and we don’t want to leave without you. Contact trip organisers at the following e-mail address: whs.europe.trip@gmail.com

History in School



Teacher Michael Harcourt was recently involved in the editing of

a new book on the teaching of history in New Zealand. Not only did he edit the book and coordinate the various contributors to the book but he also wrote one of the chapters himself. This book is an invaluable look into how the teaching of History has changed recently but also how it continues to develop as a teaching and learning subject. It is hoped that other learning areas will soon be able to create their own versions of this volume.

Bagpiping



Bill Rattenbury and his bagpipes

On a beautiful Saturday in November, Year 9 student Bill Rattenbury won the Development Scholarship (for piping) at the Upper Hutt Highland Gathering held at Harcourt Park. The prize money goes towards attending the RNZPBA (Royal New Zealand Pipe Band Association) Summer School in January. Bill played in both D and C grades and won the most points for his 2/4 and Slow Marches. Well done, Bill!

Community Education Centre

The New Year 2013 Community Education courses

open for enrolment on 3 December.
Courses start 16 February 2013

Our new brochure not only list Wellington High School courses for adults, but also those at Onslow and Newlands Colleges.

We begin a community education relationship of provision with Onslow College from the start of 2013 and invite you to view courses available at all three schools on our website: www.cecwellington.ac.nz

