

Wellington High School

NEWSLETTER FOR NOVEMBER 2012 FROM THE PRINCIPAL



From the Board of Trustees



Gerry Glynn, Chairperson, Board of Trustees

Kia ora

2012 has been a watershed year for the BoT and management of the school: a new Principal, two new Deputy Principals and the election of three new board members including myself, Deanne Daysh and Ganesh Nana. The "new look" BoT is settling in well and bring together a synergy of diverse skills. The co-opted BoT members Lorraine Allison and Mitzi Austin have provided huge support to the Board's governance structure this year and we thank them. We also farewell Adaire Hannah, who has been the staff representative on the board since 2009 and student reps Samuel Austin and Evie Orpe.

The Board's upcoming priority is to review the Wellington High School Charter before submitting it for your feed-back in the New Year.

2013 is shaping up to be an exciting year. Enrolments are up, including in Year 9, which will further add to the dynamism of the college.

The BoT thanks our leaving senior students for their contribution to the school. We trust you will continue to grow confident with your place in the world and pursue all the positive opportunities life brings your way.

We wish all the college community a wonderful and safe summer.

My email address is:

gglynn@welectricity.co.nz should you wish to raise any governance matters. Heikonera

Best of luck to all our Year 11, 12 and 13 students in their NCEA exams!

WHS Dux for 2012



Xavier Ellah

Congratulations to Xavier Ellah who was named WHS Dux for 2012. Xavier came First in Art Painting, Graphics, Painted Word, Photography and French. He was also awarded a Victoria University Excellence Scholarship and a Massey Vice Chancellor's High Achievers Scholarship. We also congratulate Vinny Wilcock as runner-up and Tina Chen-Xu, who won the Peace Prize

Double Award Winner



Mereana Latimer

Mereana Latimer was awarded a Discovery Science Scholarship, a scientific scholarship for Maori students by Victoria University. Mereana will receive 2 weeks of lab experience at Victoria University next January, and will also be awarded a \$1,000 grant. Mereana also received a Victoria University Achiever's Scholarship.

Science Student Wins Forum Place.



Lily Mason-Mackay

Congratulations go to Lily Mason-Mackay who has been selected from applicants all around New Zealand to attend the Rotary National Science and Technology Forum in January 2013. Lily will spend two weeks with other Year 12 students, experiencing advanced work in laboratories under the guidance of University and Technical Institute staff. Our thanks to Harbour City Rotary Club for their very generous sponsorship of Lily to this forum. Lily was also the recipient of the Year 12 Dean's Award

Silver Crest Winners



Silver Crest winners - Trish Castillo, Jon Pilalis and Novia Karaitiana

Once again Wellington High School participated in the The Royal Society of New Zealand Silver Crest Project run in conjunction with Massey University. This year we had three teams enter in the year long project: Team Fizzpop (James Malcolm, Vanessa Taal and Scarlett O'Callaghan) developed a fizzy chocolate ice cream with chocolate coated popping candy and chocolate sauce to meet their brief of developing a novelty frozen confectionary for NZ teens over summer. Team Tcol (Milan DeMaule, Kris Devereux and Louis Robinson) developed 'White Chocolate Berry Swirl' which is a biscuit on a stick and contains blackcurrant powder and quinoa. This product was high in protein, iron and vitamin C, aimed at growing adolescent girls. Finally, Team Dicapri (Trish Castillo, Jon Pilalis and Novia Karaitiana) developed 'Times Two' which is a fruit and vegetable popsicle aimed at young children. We are pleased to announce that all three teams received Highly Commended Silver Crest awards and Team Dicapri was the winner.

Congratulations to them all and we wish them well in their exams.

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



Double Sports winner



Henry Tutaka

Year 11 student, Henry Tutaka, recently received the College Sport Wellington Sportsman of the Year 2012 Service to Sport award. He also received a Sport NZ Wellington Region Sport Volunteer award. The award recognises and acknowledges the important role student sport volunteers play in our community. It was awarded at a Sport Volunteers Breakfast on 25 September 2012. We congratulate Henry on this fine achievement.

Library events

On 26 September Louisa Wall, Labour Party Member of Parliament for Manurewa, and Tim McIndoe, National Party Member of Parliament for Hamilton West, debated the issue of **Gay Marriage**. The discussion was vigorous but polite.



Xavier Ellah and Flora Reilly Davis

Then, on 2 November, we celebrated the unveiling of Xavier Ellah's and Flora Reilly-Davis' poems on the wall of the Writers' and Artists' walkway. Anna Jackson, the poet who worked with the students, family members and a small number of staff attended the celebration.

Sports Awards Dinner



Matthew DiLeva and Dom Faherty

Dom Faherty and Matthew DiLeva attended the Sport Wellington awards dinner this week. They were both finalists in the Athletes With a Disability category and WHS was the only school to have two finalists in this category.

Year 13 Drama



Nino Raphael and Matt MacDiarmid as Sassoon and Owen from *Not About Heroes*

In late October, Year 13 Drama students showcased a selection of scenes from great playwrights in the last performance of the year. Shakespeare, Samuel Beckett and Bertolt Brecht, as well as New Zealand authors Jean Bett, Toa Fraser and Renee were all featured. The high standard of work and rich variety of the evening was a fitting farewell to their time in the WHS Drama department. Congratulations to all who graduate this week.

Science by Satellite Link

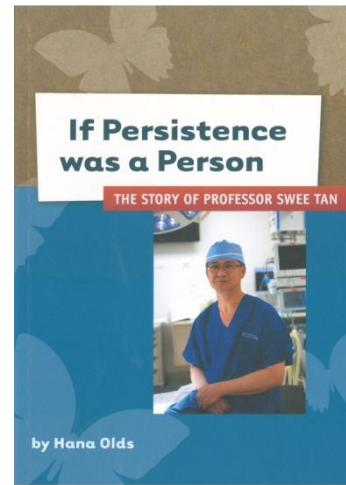


Year 10 Kelly Students

On Thursday, 1 November, our Science Enrichment students attended a one-off satellite link conference with Geochemist Dr Karyne Rogers from GNS Science.

Students explored the effects of climate change on the environment, how environments change over time and the effect on marine environments. Science students quizzed the Doctor on a wide range of relevant and timely questions about climate change and discussed the best ways to mitigate the coming ecological crises. The questions and answers were live with a two-way camera link between WHS and Te Papa. We were very lucky to have the doctor's complete attention as we were the only school selected for this opportunity with scientific experts.

Book Launch at WHS



Hana Old's book on Professor Swee Tan

Year 9 student, Hana Olds, held the launch of her book on the work of Professor Swee Tan, *If Persistence was a Person*, in the library at Wellington High School. The book, which is aimed at younger readers, tells the inspirational story of Professor Swee Tan's early childhood on a Malaysian farm to one of the world's most innovative plastic surgeons. Copies of the book are available from Student Services for \$20 and all profits go to the Gillies McIndoe Research Institute.

Junior Debaters

And speaking of talented Year 9 students, the WHS Junior Certificate Debating Team, consisting of Jessica Easton, Lucas Gosling and Tallulah Martin-Naylor, have won through to the finals of their debating competition. They face off against St Catherines College on Monday, 26 November at 7pm in our Library. You are welcome to attend.

