

Wellington High School



NEWSLETTER FOR SEPTEMBER 2014 FROM THE PRINCIPAL

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Nga mihi nui koutou, Greetings to you all.

An extremely busy term has come to an end, and students and staff are ready for a well-deserved holiday that will allow them to charge their batteries for the rigours of Term 4.

In this regard I ask that families take the time to talk to their youngster and help them to structure their time so that the demands of school work, recreation and family life are in balance. Another busy term is looming and we want students to be focussing on assessments and end of year activities and this planning requires some support.

In week seven and eight of Term 3, the school hosted the Education Review Office for a scheduled review. The outcome of this review is yet to be made available to us but verbal feedback was positive and their overall judgement was that the school is well placed to continue to deliver quality learning to our students. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff, students and the Board for their input into this review.

We are receiving enrolments for 2015 at present, and the roll is filling up, so if you know of youngsters who intend to be with us and have yet to be enrolled please encourage them to act as we want to ensure that our planning and timetable is structured to best meet the needs of all students.

Finally I hope that all students and their whanau have a restful and enjoyable holiday, sharing family time together and working to plan for a successful Term 4.

Best wishes

Nigel Hanton
Principal

CALENDAR

Last Day of Term 3	26 Sept
First Day of Term 4	13 Oct
Te Whanau a Taraika Hui	13 Oct
Board of Trustees	20 Oct
Sports Awards	21 Oct
Music Evening	23 Oct
Whakanuia	30 Oct
Senior Prizegiving & Last Day	31 Oct

FAMILY HOLIDAYS DURING TERM

Family holidays should be arranged during school holidays.

in exceptional circumstances, families wishing to remove their student from school during term time for trips or holidays, must apply to the Principal for leave.

Interestingly, the Ministry of Education categories this type of absence as "explained but unjustified".

THANK YOU

Once again, BNZ has been really supportive of Wellington High School by being reader/writers for a number of our students with Special Assessment Conditions during recent exams.



They did a great job with the students!

We would like to say a big thank you to the team of volunteers: Theo, Illya, Ranil, Jocelyn and Katrina.

ONLINE REPORTS UPDATED

As you know we have moved our reporting to an online format this year to reflect the ability of the parent portal to provide you with assessment information as it happens throughout the year. This note is to signal that we have updated the information that appears on the portal.

Under the Reports tab, parents and caregivers of Year 9-10 students will find a new junior learning skills grid where students have self assessed and their rōpū teachers have commented on their assessment. Parents and caregivers of Year 11-13 students will find a senior progress report where teachers have indicated student progress against Academic Progress, Classwork and Learning Behaviour. In addition, if students have been involved in practice examinations this term, there is a result notice for these.

Assessment at Year 9 generally relates to National Curriculum Level 4 and assessment at Year 10 generally relates to National Curriculum Level 5. Exceptions to this are languages which are aiming for Level 2 at Year 9 and Level 4 at Year 10. In addition, mathematics assessment information relates to multi level achievement.

Assessment at Years 11-13 is on the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) Levels 1, 2 and 3.

At both junior and senior level, teachers have added more comments to assessments on the portal. Our aim with these comments is to provide students with some direction towards the next steps that they need to take with their learning. This is called formative feedback.

You should have received details of parent portal access by email earlier in the year. If you did not receive this please contact the school.

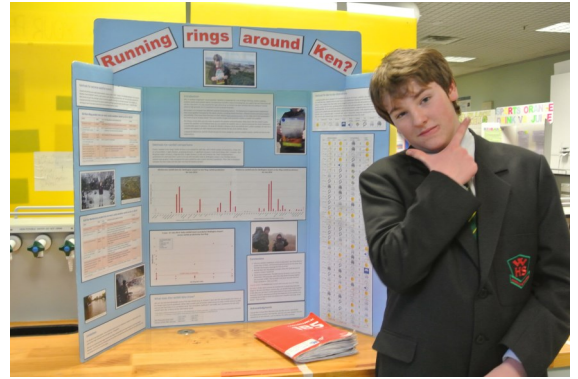
www.whs.school.nz
(04) 385 8911
admin@whs.school.nz



SCIENCE FAIR SUCCESS

Congratulations to all those students who entered the recent NIWA Wellington Regional Science Fair. Wellington High School competed with 41 other schools and came away with a haul of 17 prizes. It was a huge effort by all involved.

Callum Davidson, <i>Falling Sand</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First in Class 4 • Royal Society of NZ Wellington Branch Prize for best overall exhibit
Jack Tregidga, <i>Astroblaster</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Otago • Kainic Medical Communications • Victoria University of Wellington Faculty of Education • Third in Class 5
Joshua Stewart, <i>Whether the weather</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geoscience Society of NZ • Met Shop • Highly Commended
Luke Porteous, <i>Rubber Motor</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highly Commended • OPUS International Consultants
Shaked Noy, <i>Rolling Balls</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third in Class 5 • Victoria University of Wellington Faculty of Education
Stanley Sarkies, <i>Cool Balloon</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measurement Standards Laboratory; Callaghan Innovation • Third in Class 5 • Victoria University of Wellington Faculty of Education



FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVING

This year has seen the introduction of a new programme which aims to extend 'Gifted and Talented' students in Years 9 and 10.

Future Problem Solving is an international program which sees students apply logical and creative problem solving skills in a near future context. This group of roughly 50 students has been energetic and inventive, and many of the students involved have shown that they were never inside the box to start with. One group recently completed the 'lock-up', the national competition in which they completed a booklet in two hours. Congratulations to these four – Jessie Andrews, Daisy Abraham, Ruby Medicott and Ben Roberts – and to all who have been involved in this program.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF ERO'S PARENT BOOKLETS?

The Education Review Office (ERO) publishes a series of five booklets for parents and caregivers. We want to find out how useful the information is to parents, how the booklets can be improved, and if parents would prefer to receive the information in a different way.

We're starting with a survey of *How is my child doing?* To take part in the survey go to www.ero.govt.nz – Featured Publications. The survey runs until the end of September and only takes a few minutes to complete.



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

The Term 4 Community Education Centre programme starts on Saturday 11 October, with a large number of interesting courses and workshops on offer.

Check out what's available and enrol on-line at www.cecwellington.ac.nz.

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

JOHN KIRWAN WELLINGTON EVENT FOR STAND BY ME: HELPING YOUR TEEN THROUGH TOUGH TIMES

The father of three teenagers, and an advocate for depression awareness, Sir John Kirwan will be in Wellington for an author event this October. Learning to navigate feelings of teenage anxiety and depression is the subject of his new book, "Stand By Me: Helping your teen through tough times".

WHERE: Wellington Girls College auditorium

WHEN: Tuesday 7 October, 2014, 6.15-7.15pm (Doors open at 5.45pm).

TICKETING: \$19 and \$15 (plus booking fee) through Eventfinder.co.nz or on the door on the night (cash only). Light refreshments will be available on arrival and are included in the ticket price.



JAPAN FESTIVAL



Students from Wellington High were invited to participate in the bi-annual Japan Festival. The 2014 festival also marked the 20 year anniversary between Wellington and our sister city Sakai.

The students were asked to design a panel for a 10 metre high kimono. Sixteen other schools participated in this collaborative event. A big thanks to Alba Piles-Perea (Year13) who designed the Tui motif.

SCHOOL ART AWARDS

Jasper Massov (Year 13 Painting) has had one of his paintings selected for the Third Wallace Exhibit Secondary Schools Art Awards 2014. The Awards will be presented and the Exhibition of winners and selected finalists on Monday the 29th of September 2014 at the in Auckland.

We wish him all the best and congratulations on becoming a finalist. Jasper's work will be on show at the Pah Homestead, from 30 September to 12 October 2014.



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

YEAR 10 DESIGN TECHNOLOGY LAND

"THE BIG ONE"

As part of the 20th Anniversary of the school marae, Taraika, the Year 10 Design Technology class were given a brief to design a sculpture to compliment the marae. Students researched local Māori history and stories surrounding Taraika. They took a field trip around Wellington to see what professional sculptors do and get a feel for what would be appropriate and in keeping for such an important part of the school.

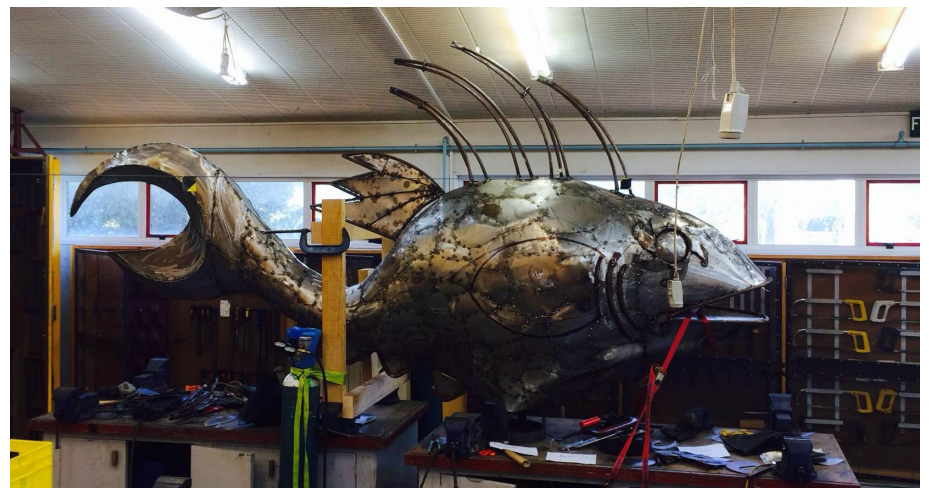
Once they had a theme, students then researched ideas to use as a starting point. The class based their concepts on these original ideas. Once they had completed their designs, they chose Lauren Ohara's spined fish as the most suitable candidate.

Students divided themselves into groups and each group drew a full size fish outside in the car park to see how big the componentry would need to be. Once a size was chosen, each group decided on a section to be fabricated. All kinds of advanced skills were required in the build, ranging from plasma cutting, welding, steel fabrication and, more importantly, safety and organisational skills. The sculpture took two terms to complete.

The sculpture was then taken to Perry Metal Protection. As a founding member of the Galvanizing Association of New Zealand, Perry Metal Protection operates sites in Auckland, Hamilton, Tauranga, Wellington and Christchurch, offering highly efficient galvanizing facilities. Graham Black, the site manager, had a son who had attended Wellington High and kindly offered their services free of charge. We would like to thank Perry's for their generosity and professionalism.

The Fish "Taraika" will be mounted on a telephone pole donated by Board of Trustees' member Gerry Glynn. This will happen as part of the renovations currently taking place and will in place in time for the anniversary celebrations.

If you would like to see images of the year 10 class constructing the fish visit the school Moodle site. Images are displayed on the Year 10 design technology course page.



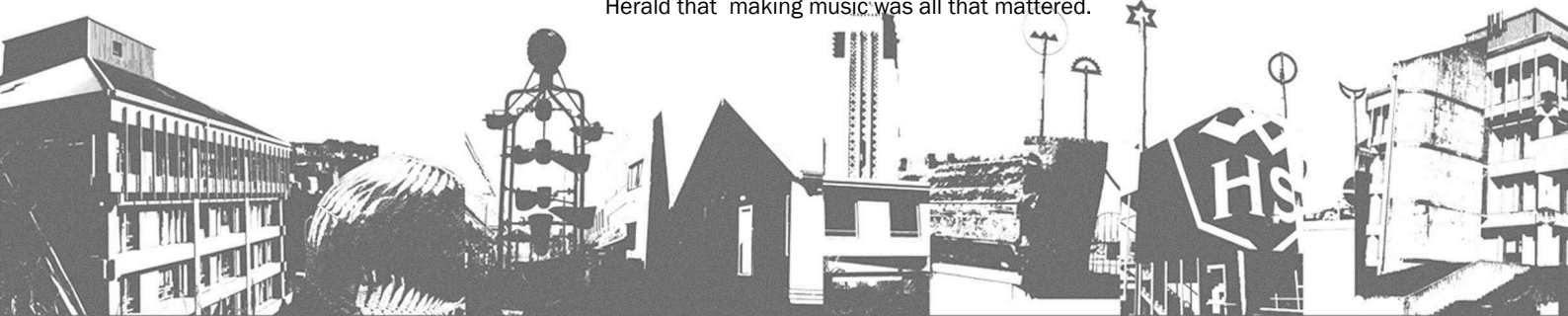
HEAD CHEF TAKE ON ROCKQUEST FINALS



Good luck to Wellington High School students Carlos McQuillan, Leon van Dijk, Dylan Quinn and Ted Bartley who are heading to Auckland for the Smokefree RockQuest national finals this weekend.

Their style sounds a lot like reggae, but with elements of rock and pop. They have been playing together for about a year, but have also collaborated through other bands in their region.

Although they were looking forward to taking part in this year's RockQuest competition, Carlos told the New Zealand Herald that making music was all that mattered.

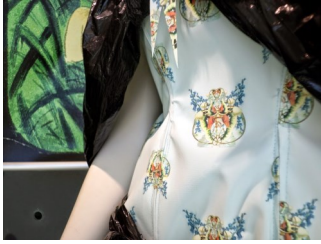




TECHNOLOGY NEWS

WOW FASHION

The Year 13 Fashion students have installed their Wearable arts garments all over Wellington as part of the WOW festival event.



Each student has interpreted their themes to incorporate their own style and interests. Their work is up around the city in Te Papa Store, Gordon Harris Art and Graphic store (Victoria St), Reigers Copy Centre (Bond Street), Met Shop (Dixon Street), and in Lower Hutt.

Sheryl Wong and Christoph Nutsford had the opportunity to design and digitally print their own fabric print inspired by the Lantern Slide Alice in Wonderland collection in the photography archives at Te Papa.



Jon Pilalis WOW work is being flown to a conference in Christchurch and will end up being displayed at Parliament.

Materials used have been diverse from vacuum forming over muffin tins to use as moulds to paper mache over, garden gutter mesh, clarinet reeds, PVC fencing, peacock feathers, vinegar and steel wool rust dying, making own materials from transforming plastic L pockets, to paper made flowers, and papier mache sculpture.

The work will be in the stores until the holidays and the WOW season is finished. Remember their names and check them out, you will be WOWed.



2014 NZIFST/CREST STUDENT PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE

Three WHS teams took part in the Product Development Challenge.



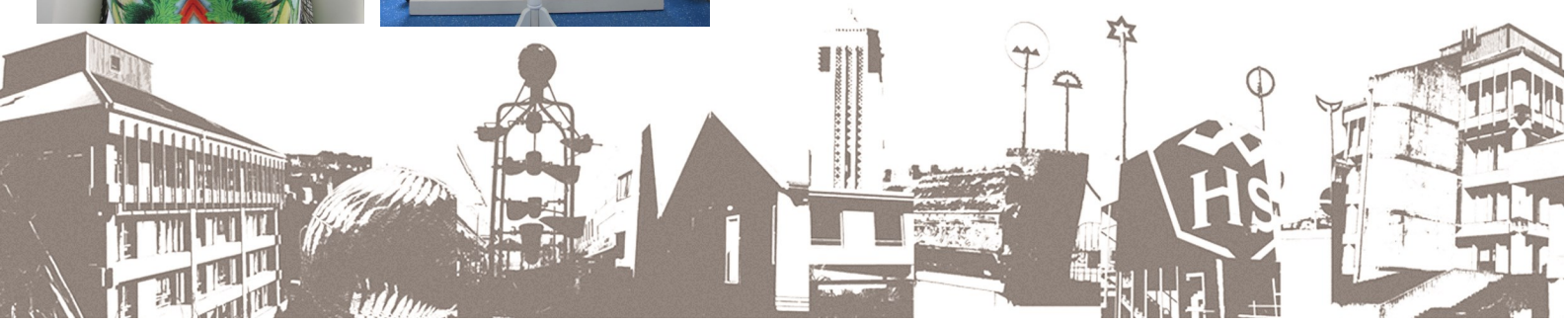
Mentors from the Ministry of Primary Industries set the brief for the students to develop a value added product based on a Primary product to be able to be exported. In the process, the students have developed new skills and gained an insight into the product development processes used by the

food industry.

These students have completed the challenge outside of class time and have come up with fantastic products. During the judging event held at Massey on Tuesday 23 September, all three Wellington High School teams came 2nd Equal with Highly Commended as well as receiving their Silver CREST award. Well done to these students:



- Ruby Medicott & Daisy Abraham (Aquarians) Kiwi Custard; a lactose free snack designed for the Japanese market
- Mrinali Kumar & Button Brown (Nature Vibes) Manuka Honey Frosting made from labna (strained yoghurt and honey, a healthy alternative to buttercream frosting for the American market
- Kasey Leary & Freya Elkin (Sulla Inc) Chu Rou Mien Tiao Seaweed Noodles & Pork Scratchings, designed to address micronutrient malnutrition for the Asian market





FEMINIST FUNDRAISING AND CALLS TO ACTION

Ciara O'Callaghan & Saskia MacDonald raised over \$500 at the WHS Learning Conversations on 23 July 2014 by selling baking to hungry visiting families. The money raised went to Medical Aid for Palestinians to help in the recent & on going crisis in Gaza.

The whole Feminist club did cheese toasties & waffles one rainy lunchtime in August & raised over \$200 to give to Wellington Refugee Settlement service to buy more than 40 new pillows for the recent refugees

The Feminist Club also recently attended the March

to Change NZ's Shame which was a uniting call to action to address sexual and domestic violence. They also took their message to the nation when they were interviewed for a piece on the 4.30 Show which is still to air. Wellington High is so proud of this group and commend their commitment to social justice action.



MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

On 15th August, we held the Year 9 inter-rōpū maths quiz in the Riley centre.

Seventeen teams of three students battled it out with a section on multiple choice questions and a section on longer problems. Lollies were given out to aid concentration and thought processes, and at the end two teams came out clearly on top.

The winners were "Cake (not pi)", a team from Royal 1 made up of Simeon Collier-Foley, Matthew Corfiatis and Raven Box. One point behind them were a team from Kelly 1 - Arabella Faber, Zebedee Schrader and Eli Jarvis.

SPORT

FIRST XI SUCCESS

Tournament week saw us extend our three-month long undefeated streak to seventeen games (with fourteen wins), which unfortunately ended in the quarter-finals. We finished a creditable sixth in a twenty-four team competition, the highest finish for WHS in a number of years. It was a positive end to a wonderfully successful season, which was especially meaningful as it was the final year of representing the school to the ten Year 13s in the team.



REP VOLLEYBALL

WHS students dominating the U17 Boys Wellington Volleyball Representative team. They are competing in the Inter-Provincial Champs during the school holidays. Good luck to the team particularly Edi Rose, James McInnes, Lawrence Webster, Pako Dunn-Seomeng, Thomas Gibson, Campbell Tacon, Edi Rose

KARORI YOUTH AWARD WINNER

Wellington High School student Qudratollah Hussaini was recently recognised at the Karori Youth Awards "Achievement in the Face of Adversity". Qudratollah came to New Zealand in February 2013 under the family reunification scheme. He arrived traumatised and sad having suffered terribly in his homeland, Afghanistan. He had absolutely no schooling and had never learnt English. During his short time here, Qudratollah has acquired functional conversational English, and learnt to read and write in English. His progress with this language has been impressive and it is admirable the way he has overcome the dual disadvantage of no formal education and his tragic family events.

He attends well and works diligently. Qudratollah is always respectful of others and interacts well with his peers and teachers. Most importantly, this year he is smiling!

Congratulations Qudratollah!

