



Upper Hutt College Newsletter

AUGUST 2017

Dear Parents / Caregivers

The last few weeks of Term 2 were sad and challenging weeks for our school community, with the death of two students – Sean Roberts (Year 9) and Perez Hayward (Year 11). No school is ever fully prepared for dealing with the impact that losing a friend and classmate can have, and students can be affected in many different ways. We have a number of procedures and protocols that enable us to provide immediate (and longer term) support to our students and staff as well as ensure that we can support the families and whanau who have lost their much-loved son or daughter. At the same time, school must continue as normal.

It is in these times, that the kindness and thoughtfulness of our students shine, as they support each other through difficult days, and seek ways to show how much they care in positive and tangible ways that can help the grieving families and whanau.

A mufti day was held, and a large amount of money was raised by students and supplemented by the generosity of staff and anonymous donations from families. This money was donated to Sean and Perez's whanau, as well as to the family of Ibrahim Hamidah who lost his father in an accident at the same time. Students attended the funerals and tangi of the Sean and Perez, and all sports teams wore black armbands as a mark of respect.



Sean Roberts



Perez Hayward

I'd like to thank our parents and wider community and especially our school Guidance team for their support of students during those weeks.

Judith Taylor
Principal

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 2 August

UHC Careers Evening

Tuesday 8 August

Rimutuka Whanau Hui

Wednesday 9 August

Parent Teacher Interviews (Seniors)

Thursday 10 August

Sports & Cultural photo day

Monday 14 August

Year 12 Drama Production (all week)

Thursday 24 August

Parent Teacher Interviews (Juniors)

Saturday 26 August

Upper Hutt College Ball

Thursday 31 August

World Food Day

Monday 4 September

Mid Term Break (No school)

Winter Tournament Week starts

Friday 8 September

Year 11 Art Day

Monday 18 – Friday 22 September

Senior Exam Week

Contacting the College

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Absences absences@upperhutt.school.nz

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Web page www.upperhutt.school.nz

Download the UHC App [here](#).

Youthtown Snow Adventure Camp

I was fortunate enough to earn a Scholarship (worth \$750) to go to the 5 day Snow Adventure Camp held at Mt Ruapehu, which was sponsored and run by Upper Hutt Youthtown. I was accompanied by Emoni Falepapalangi, another Year 10 Upper Hutt College student, as well as a few others from schools around Upper Hutt such as Fergusson Intermediate, Heretaunga College and HIBS.

We departed on the first Sunday of the holidays and it was a 5 hour road trip up to the Youthtown Lodge in Ohakune. First day, first touch of snow, and the preparation we needed to undergo before we could try the slopes took so much time - renting equipment, boards, and gear - not to mention the lessons. But once we finished that, the 'relax and chill' feeling kicked in. Regardless of how much I fell over, and how exhausted it made me, I really enjoyed myself. Unfortunately, my snowboarding skills didn't improve any further and for the 3 days we did have on the snow (weather conditions cut 2 days), I felt as though I couldn't get out of square one!



Being caught in a blizzard on Wednesday at the top of the mountain made things a lot slower, and more dangerous. What would have been a 20-30 minute trip took 3 hours to travel down. The next day we were supposed to leave but we were lucky enough to stay for another 2 days due to closed roads.

On Saturday we left Ohakune at 9am and arrived safely back at Upper Hutt at 2pm. Overall, I realised that I'm not good at everything first try. Nevertheless, I met some amazing people as well as new experiences that won't be forgotten.

Isaiah Mansell
(Year 10)

Upper Hutt College Careers Evening

Make sure you don't miss out on our fantastic Career Evening on **Wednesday 2nd August**. We will have 30 speakers and presenters, plus NCEA information and Study Link information. The speakers are from local Polytechs, Private Training Organisations, Universities and even ex-students who have moved into their working lives.

The evening will start with a brief presentation in the Hall at 6.30pm, and then students (and their parents/caregivers) will move on to hear their chosen speakers. Students from all year levels, and their parents/caregivers are invited to come along and hear about different career opportunities.

For further information, please contact the Careers Advisor, Vicki Smith, smithv@upperhutt.school.nz

Staff News

The end of Term 2 also saw two teachers leaving the school:

- Jo Nicol, HOD History, taught at the school for 18 years, sharing her passion for History and her growing interest and skills in bringing technology to the classroom. Jo has joined a company that provides professional development to teachers.
- Anneliese Brown taught in the Biology and Science area, ran the after-school Homework Club and was involved in the setting up of PB4L this year. Anneliese is taking up a teaching position in the United Arab Emirates.

We welcome Mark Redgrave as our new Science teacher, who joins us from Mountainview High School in Timaru. Adrienne Heath takes up teaching duties in History and Social Studies and DVC.

Communications

We have recently launched several new features that will help us to communicate with students, parents and caregivers, and the wider school community more effectively.

- Our new Upper Hutt College website provides information on the school that's particularly relevant for parents and caregivers, and for those who are interested in what the school has to offer. It can be found [here](#).
- The new Facebook page for Upper Hutt College can be found [here](#), and is the Official College FB page for the school. We will use this to showcase what's happening at the College – student activities, achievements and events.



- The Upper Hutt College App is now available and allows quick and up-to-date notifications about activities at school. It allows parents/caregivers to notify absences and with a link to the Kamar portal, parents/caregivers and students can track NCEA credits. We have already started to use it for sports notifications and reminders of events at school. Download it at your Apple or Google App store or click [here](#) for quick access.

Reports and Interviews

Senior Interviews will be held on August 9 from 2:15pm -7:45pm. These are a great opportunity to discuss academic progress as well as 2018 subject selection with both subject teachers and Form teachers.

Bookings may be made via the website www.schoolinterviews.co.nz with the unique code: **q7uwe**.

Please note that school will conclude at 12:25pm on this day to accommodate the interviews. Buses, however, will run at the usual times so students are encouraged to make alternative arrangements home this day. If this is not possible, the Library will remain open and supervised until 3:15pm. **Junior Reports will be emailed home from August 15**

Student Achievement



Emma Ravens (Year 10) has reached the Semi-Final stage of the New Zealand Spelling Bee. She is in the top third of the finalists, with only 200 students from around the country making it to this point.



Philip Kananghinis (Year 10) has been selected in the New Zealand Black Stacks (the national sport stacking team). Philip will travel to the USA in April next year to compete in the World Champs. This is the sixth year in a row that Philip has been selected into the NZ Black Stacks.



Kieran Edwards (Year 11) has been selected for the National Secondary Schools Orienteering Team for the Australian Champs and Australian Secondary School Champs.



Anna Smart (Year 13) has been selected as a World Vision Youth Ambassador, one of only 15 in New Zealand. Anna will vie for the opportunity to complete a cadetship overseas at the end of this year visiting areas where World Vision operates.



Brad Carson (Year 13) is a member of the NZ Junior Black Sox (Softball) team that recently competed in the U23 Friendship Tournament in Australia



Amber Clifton (Year 9) competed at the National Artistic Rollerskating competition and gained 1st place in the Solo Dance, and 2nd place in Creative Solo Dance in her respective divisions.



Abigail Evans (Year 13) has been selected to represent New Zealand as part of the World Roller Skating Team. She will compete at the World Roller Games in China in September. Abigail will be part of the Artistic discipline which includes dance events, figure skating and freeskating.



Jordan Vailini (Year 12) captained the Wellington U17 Netball side that played in the National Champs in Auckland during the holidays. With Irene Van Dyke (ex-Silver Fern) as their Assistant Coach, the team was successful in retaining their National title.



Liam Kerr (Year 12) and **Tere-Hei Tamariki** (Year 12) have been selected to play for different New Zealand Academy Basketball teams to compete in Las Vegas, USA, from 17 July – 2 August.

Kapa Haka Group

The Upper Hutt College kapa haka group – Nga Mokopuna o te korowai tipuna – recently competed in the Hutt Valley Regional kapa haka competition. After months of training during lunchtimes, afterschool, evenings and weekends, under the watchful eye of Matua Jackie Awa and tutors Ruby and Jamie, the group were nervously excited about the opportunity to perform in public. Although they didn't place in the competition, they performed with passion and skill and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Later that evening, a smaller number of the group performed at the Hutt Valley Polyfest 2017. Along with the combined Upper Hutt College-Heretaunga College Poly Group, they performed to a packed auditorium at Walter Nash Stadium.



NCEA Fees

Reminder that NCEA fees for Year 11 – 13 are due by THURSDAY 31 AUGUST 2017.

DOMESTIC STUDENTS

NZQA Standard fee for Domestic candidates \$76.70 per candidate. Each Scholarship subject \$30.00 per subject.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FEES – Domestic Students only. Includes Scholarship entries.

One child who is eligible as a candidate \$20.00. Two or more children who are eligible per family \$30.00

For further information on paying the NCEA fees, please contact the school office.



Upper Hutt College is raising funds. Here's how you can help...

If you haven't already purchased your NEW 2017 / 2018 Entertainment Membership this year, this is your change to support us and be rewarded with over \$20,000 worth of valuable offers!



[CLICK HERE TO BUY NOW!](#)

TOP 5 reasons to love your Entertainment Membership:

1. You will be supporting Upper Hutt College fundraising! We receive 20% of the purchase price for every Entertainment Membership sold.
2. You can enjoy hundreds of up to 50% OFF and 2-for-1 offers from some of the best fine dining restaurants, popular cafés and family restaurants in your area.
3. You'll be 'entertained' all year long with valuable cinema, activities and theme park offers.
4. Discover the exclusive offers from Virgin Australia for amazing value when you fly.
5. Discover new places with more than 2,000 hotels and resorts, with exclusive accommodation offers.

"Love visiting new places and eating at different places that I wouldn't normally go to. But with the amazing savings why wouldn't I! Thanks entertainment book!" - Esther



For more information, contact [Phil Carver](#), UHC Manager: Business & Infrastructure 527 8749

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!