



Upper Hutt College Newsletter

MARCH 2017

Dear Parents / Caregivers

The first weeks of the year have flown past and it's been a busy time for everyone, and especially for our new Year 9 students settling into the routines of college life. I've very pleased with the positive and focussed start that has been made. There have been a large number of activities for students to get involved in, from the traditional Athletics Day, to Pink Shirt Day, to the various class trips and events.

New Staff 2017

We have had a number of changes in our staffing, and we welcome the following teachers new to the school:

Amy Perkins	Assistant Principal
Alix Bushnell	English / Social Studies
Joanne Drake	Maths
Kirsten Eichler	Science / Maths
Christina Lindsay	Commerce
David McVay	Science / Physics
Louise Tie	Foods

In other areas of the school, some old and new faces:

Chris Beitcher	Technology – Metal
Christine Blunden	Staffroom Attendant
Rick Everson	Teacher Aide
Eve Watkins	Teacher Aide
John Lee	Data Administrator
Jenny Merritt	Teacher Aide

We have had some problems resulting from staff resignations at the very end of 2016, and consequently have had problems finding replacement teachers, despite extensive advertising. However, we have been able to ensure that all areas are covered and continue to offer the range of subjects.

Judith Taylor
Principal

Upcoming Events

Monday 27 March

SCI102 Trip

Tuesday 28 March

Boys Softball Tournament

Wednesday 29 March

Learning Conferences for Year 9 & 11 students

GEO101 Trip

Thursday 30 March

HPV vaccination Day

OED201 Class 3 Tramp

Friday 31 March

Duke of Edinburgh Tramp 2

Wednesday 5 April

Board of Trustees Meeting (March)

Thursday 6 April

Parent-Teacher Meetings for Year 10, 12-13 students

Thursday 13 April

End of Term 1

Monday 1 May

Start of Term 2

Thursday 4 May

Board of Trustees Meeting (April)

Monday 5 June

Queen's Birthday

Tuesday 6 June

Open Day (for Intermediate students)

Wednesday 14 June

Open Evening

NCEA Results - 2016

The NCEA results for 2016 continued the overall pattern of improvement that has been evident for the last few years. Most pleasing were the results for NCEA Level 1, where the pass rate of 84% was the highest it has ever been. At Level 1, our Numeracy and Literacy pass rates were also very pleasing, with at least 93% of students achieving these. At NCEA Level 2, 84% of students seeking this qualification achieved it, and 65% of students who were eligible for NCEA Level 3 achieved it.

We were very pleased with the numbers of students who gained Excellence and Merit Endorsements in NCEA Level 1, 2 or 3.

NCEA Level 1 with Merit:

Louise Afele, Charlotte Anderson, Michaela Badenhorst, Sharntay Baxendale, Kelsi Bevan, Joel Browne, Alexis Burgess, Hayley Cooper, Samuel Crowther, Sophie Dawson, Emma Dawson, Kimberley Deans, Riley Dick, Finnlay Fraser, Hollie Goldstone, Ronan Graham, Ruby Grenfell, Jenna Hadley, Haylee Hailwood-Maddock, Montana Harding, Alyssa Hawkins, Blessie Hernandez, Max Higham, Kelly Hoong, Jessica Hurren, Philip Joplin, Kendal Leitch, Jacob Marshall, Samantha McCracken, Claire McCrum, Pravin Modotholi, Hannah Morgan, Ameesha Patel, Hayley Patten, Coral Peachey-Smith, Theodore Puglia, Nikita Quinn, Madison Robinson-Unuia, Kate Sommers, Joseph Swainsbury, Caitlin Teague, Dylan Thomas, Phoebe Turner, Cassidy Venter, Alexandra Votyakova, Ella Wagstaff, Darcy Walker, Sophie Webby, Alan Wheatley, Laura Wills.

NCEA Level 1 with Excellence

Sidney Bitossi, Regan Braun, Jennifer Cooley, Ryan Cox, Anthony Delaney, Nicholas Elzenaar, Katilena Giles, Ryan Goldsworthy, Christie Grocott, Shannyn Harris, Reuben Johnson, Dayna Lindsay, Caleb Madgwick, Sasha McClure, Duart McPhail, Piper Morrison, Lochlan Noble, Amy Reynecke, Shayla Ritchie, Thomas Rowley, Ryan Thomson, Devin Tonkin, Wan Iqbal Wan Ismail, Dana MacDonald, Naomi Tong.

NCEA Level 2 with Merit

Emma Amitrano, McKenzie Anderson, Emma Browne, Olivia Cullen, Morgan Delaney, Travis du Peres, Joshua Duff, Elleke Fabian, Taylor Jamieson, Vincent Janse van Rensburg, Claudia Jordan, Joshua Kirk, Ambah Lintern, Alexandra Nicol, Fletcher Poole, Chantelle Rickerby, Timothy Roblett, Matthew Rothwell, Stefan Strydom, Meng Taing, Rebecca Thompson, XueYan Yu, Camila Cabezas Osorio.

NCEA Level 2 with Excellence

Sarah Cooley, Harry Cosslett, Abigail Crozier-Evans, Jessica Dillon, Jamie Harvey, Stephanie Hawkins, Caiden Jacobson, Minnie Kim, Lauren May, Larissa Posthuma, Anna Smart, Rebecca Stewart, Ethan Wolland, Caroline Young.

NCEA Level 3 with Merit

Jayde Aiono, Tayla Andrew, Sarah Andrews, Patrick Bryan, Vibhuti Chhotalal, Sam Harvey, Danielle Henderson, Timothy Horton, Hayden Leete, Hazel Lockwood, Kate McCrum, Joseph McMahon, Rebekah Olesen, Annaleah Poston, Ciara Ritchie-Woods, Rozalyn Stone-Clark, Brienn Van Handel, Isabella Vekony, Shania Woollett.

NCEA Level 3 with Excellence

Alexander Elzenaar, Connor Hughes-Love, Manisha Johnstone, Emma Lewis, Niccola Mendoza, Genevieve Rickard, Ellie Subritzky, Callum Tokorangi, Georgiarose Wells.

Scholarship Winners



Several Year 13 students also sat Scholarship exams and we congratulate the following students for gaining subject Scholarships:

- Hayden Leete, Scholarship in Physics
- Connor Hughes-Love, Scholarship in Biology

An exceptional result was achieved by Alex Elzenaar, who gained Scholarships in Chemistry, Physics, Calculus, and Geography and gained an Outstanding Scholarship in Classical Studies. Because of these excellent results, Alex gained an *Outstanding Scholar Award*, one of only 10 awarded in the Wellington region and limited to the top 40-60 Scholarship students in the whole country.

NCEA Fees Information

Fees for Domestic students:

NCEA entry = \$76.70 per candidate
Each NZ Scholarship subject = \$30 per subject

Fees for International students:

NCEA entry - \$383.30 per candidate
Each NZ Scholarship subject = \$102.20 per subject

NCEA fees are not collected until June onwards but before 1st September.

Student Leaders 2017

Our student leaders for 2017 are:



Minnie Kim
Head Girl



Caiden Jacobsen
Head Boy



Tara Ririnui
Student Rep on BOT

Blake

Harry Cosslett, Emma Dawson, Taylor Jamieson, Josh Kirk, Craig Moke, Cassidy Venter, AJ Wheatley

Year 11 – Ryan Hooper-Smith, Kishan Modi, Trinita Sampurno; Year 10 – Nathan Bennett, Hayden Bryant, Emoni Falepapalangi, Jaime Watson

Hillary

Christie Grocott, Shannyn Harris, Tim Millington, Ethan Morris, Gabriel Newman, Tara Ririnui, Darcy Walker

Year 11 – Ruby Bartlett, Caleb Twist, Indy Van der Mespel, Mya Johnstone, Alexander Maitland; Year 10 – Nicholas Estreich, Danica Patterson

Jackson

Libby Cullen, Hailey Gray, Piper Morrison, Josh O'Keefe, Dionne Scott, Tamatoa Te Wano, Phoebe Turner

Year 11 – Tiana Fisk, Daniel Rickerby, Dakota Scott, Israel Sua-Tauleilei, Jovan Jefferys; Year 10 – Jordyn Hammond, Ben McEvoy

Te Kanawa

Emma Amitrano, Stephanie Hawkins, Dallas Nukunuku, Boston Oliver, Sarahcen Oliver, Kate Sommers, Ryan Thomson

Year 11 – Callie McGregor, Aimee Strawbridge, Zyan Gillies; Year 10 – Mia Davies, Ahurei Taramai, Philip Kananghinis, Isaiah Mansell

The student leaders gathered for the 2017 SALT (Service and Leadership Training) Day at the beginning of February, where they participated in different workshops as they started to think about their leadership and service as school leaders, and how they could develop, plan and implement different projects around the school. This was a very successful day, and the start of a year-long programme aimed at developing their leadership skills.

Property Works in the School

Memorial Garden

Work has started on the development of the Memorial Garden, a joint project between the Board and the Student Council. Situated between the end of E Block and the Library, earthworks have been completed and laying out the features and planting will commence shortly. The Garden has long been a part of the School's Development Plan, and it will commemorate students who passed away while still at school, or shortly after leaving.

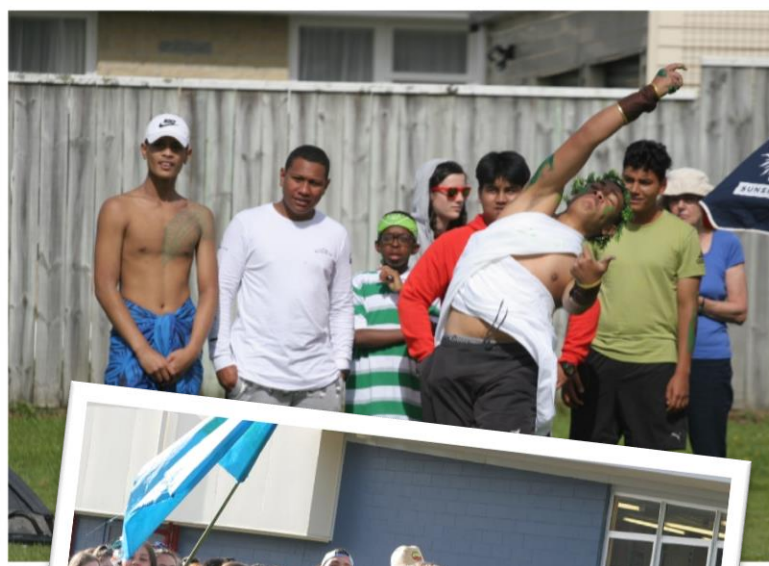
Marae

Work continues on the restoration of the carvings from Parirau and hopefully before the end of Term 1 they will be installed. Work will then start on developing the inside of the Marae, including the bathroom facilities. A whanau hui is planned. Our first Mufti Day raised funds to assist with costs to marae facilities and further fundraising activities are planned. e.g hangi, movie nights.

Athletics Day 2017

A successful and colourful Athletics Day was enjoyed by students and staff on Thursday March 16. As usual, competition was fierce between the four Houses for House points and bragging rights: for instance, over 500 students lined up to compete for the 100 metres races! After all points were tallied for results and participation, Blake House came out the winners on the day.

Top performers were chosen to represent the college at the Regional Athletics Meet, held on March 10.



PB4L (Positive Behaviour for Learning)

Positive Behaviour for Learning Schoolwide (PB4L) was launched at Upper Hutt College this year. This exciting programme focusses on the promotion and celebration of our four key values of Respect, Resilience, Manaakitanga, and Responsibility. One crucial element to the programme is the recognition of students through a stamp and card system. It would be great if you could speak to your child and ask them to explain this. At the end of the first week of the programme a number of students had their superb efforts recognised through a voucher distributed by their Head of House. Feel free to discuss this programme with any staff member.

This system not only teaches and promotes the values important to Upper Hutt College, but it also allows recognition of the wonderful things that go on in the UHC community. We envisage the system having a really positive impact on the culture here at UHC.

Art Trip to the City Gallery

Three of our senior classes have visited Wellington to view the Cindy Sherman photography exhibition. Cindy is one of the most renowned women portrait photographers in the USA. At the gallery, the Year 11 and 12 students were able to participate in an activity where they dressed up and became characters, or else directed a photoshoot or were the photographer for the activity.



Our Year 11 Visual Art class, and both Year 12 and Year 13 Photography classes were involved. The students are following up their visit by taking their own photographs relating to identity, which will become part of their presentations for our two internal standards



HPV Vaccine Coming to Upper Hutt College

The 5 local Medical Centres in Upper Hutt have come together in collaboration to offer HPV vaccinations on-site to Upper Hutt Secondary Schools. HPV is a common virus and in some cases can cause warts infection and HPV related cancers that can affect various parts of the body, particularly the genital area, throat or mouth. The Gardasil vaccine provides protection from the HPV virus (Human Papillomavirus), and is now FREE to both males and females aged between 14 - 26 years.

HPV vaccine has an excellent safety record. More than 100 million doses of HPV vaccine have been given over the past 11 years, and the best evidence to date shows no increase in reactions over any other childhood vaccine. Consent forms and more information will be sent home with your child in the coming weeks. For more information visit: www.immune.org.nz/diseases/human-papillomavirus

New Zealand Blood Service (NZBS) - Important information for Parents, Guardians and whanau

A mobile blood drive will be held at the college on Monday 3 April 2017 from 9.00am-2.00pm

It is important that we encourage students into a lifetime habit of donating blood and making a worthwhile contribution to their community. The Care of Children Act 2004 allows people 16 years and over to make their own decisions about whether or not they wish to give blood. Students may choose to donate blood at this session although NZBS recommends students discuss becoming a blood donor with their family. If families have a particular objection to the student choosing to donate blood please make this known to the student and to the school before the blood drive date stated above. More information about blood donation will be available on the day of the blood drive.

Parents are also welcome to come to the school to donate blood at this blood drive. If you require any further information please call 0800 GIVEBLOOD (0800 448 325) or visit www.nzblood.co.nz.

Geography Field Trip to Tongariro Volcanic Zone

This year our largest contingent of intrepid Year 12 Geographers headed off to stay at National Park and investigate the varying landscapes of the Tongariro Volcanic Zone and Central Plateau. The weather was absolutely stunning each day with warm temperatures and plenty of sunshine - better than Wellington's weather. On Thursday we were fortunate to be able to miss the "subway queue" of tourists doing the Tongariro Crossing and walk all the way into Soda Springs. The views of Mt Doom (Ngauruhoe) were breath-taking. We also managed to ride the Whakapapa Ski field chairlifts up to the highest cafe in New Zealand at Knolls' Ridge. On Friday we drove right round the mountain including going up to Turoa Ski field and harassing freedom campers in the Rangipo Desert.

Memories: Ms Andrews 'driving' the carrot, the "leg fell off" story, the rice incident, being able to see the mountains up so close, tramping the first 1½ hours of the greatest walk in NZ, the table tennis and pool competitions.

Thank you to Mr Beckett, Mrs Scott, Mrs Andrews and Ms Maiava for making it all possible.



Pink Shirt Day

This term Upper Hutt College celebrated Pink Shirt Day. This day has been a worldwide event throughout colleges since 2007, and was inspired by a group of students who stood up for someone. In America, a ninth grader boy wore a pink shirt on the first day of school, and was bullied and ridiculed for it. Two seniors found out about it and decided to take action. The next day a large group of students wore pink shirts to support him. Since then UHC and other schools have celebrated this day every year to support a bully-free environment.



On Pink Shirt Day our Year 13's came dressed up in pink and each brought some food, inviting our Year 9's to a shared lunch. It was great to see the Year 13's acknowledging this day and what it meant, as well as getting to know the Year 9's and making them feel a part of our community.



Sporting

Congratulations to the following students for their sporting successes over the summer holidays:

- Liam Kerr (Year 12) Wellington U17 Achievements Basketball team, Wellington U17 Maori Boys Basketball team, NZ Basketball Academy U17 team
- Tere-Hei Tamariki (Year 11) NZ Basketball Academy U14 team
- Lilli Pohe-Cartmell (Year 10) – NZ Indoor Netball U15 team, Wellington Touch U18 team
- Tyra-Shay Kareko (Year 13), Papaioea U21 Mixed Touch team, Wellington U18 Girls Touch team, Wellington Open Mixed Touch team
- Adrian Whakaara (Year 10), Hutt Valley U15 and U17 Softball teams, U15 National Tournament team
- Ahurei Taramai (Year 10) Hutt Valley U15 Softball team
- Rakkahn Chalmers-Miller (Year 11) Hutt Valley U15 Softball team, NZ Junior Black Sox U15 team

Parent Parking

We would like to remind parents not to use the main school driveway or staff car parks when uplifting students after school. It is important that buses are able to load students safely without extra traffic and that Special Education students entering taxis are also unhindered. Ample parking is available on Moonshine Road or Hikurangi Street.

Thank you for your assistance.

Upper Hutt College Board of Trustees

Changes in the Board

The Board recently farewelled Graeme Smith, who had been a member of the Board for 15 years, and its Chairperson since the beginning of 2016. Graeme brought considerable business and financial experience to the Board as well as his sense of humour, and he is leaving to take up an exciting position in the South Island. The Board thanks him for his service to the school and students. Amanda Ralston was elected to the position of Chairperson, and her experience in business and her knowledge of the Board and school will be a huge asset.

The Board recently extended an invitation to members of Orongomai Marae to join the Board, and welcomed two co-opted members – Amanda Pahi and Ross Tukukino.

Revocation of LSM appointment

The Board is pleased to announce that in December 2016, the Ministry of Education revoked the appointment of the Limited Statutory Manager, who was appointed in September 2015. The Ministry reviewed the intervention and considered that good progress had been made and the intervention was no longer required. The school has been working with a Specialist Financial Advisor since 2014, and the Ministry also considers that this Advisor is no longer necessary.

The Board has worked hard with school management to review and strengthen its systems and processes and is pleased with the results and with the school's current financial position, which is the strongest it has been for many years.

Upper Hutt College Strategic Plan 2017-2019

After much discussion and consultation, the Board is pleased to present the school's Strategic Plan which is now available on the school website.

www.upperhutt.school.nz/Site/BOARD_OF_TRUSTEES.ashx



Year 9 Powhiri

General Information

Supporting your student

To ensure that a strong start is made to the beginning of the year, there are several things that parents can do.

- Make sure that your son/daughter is at school, on time, every day, in their correct uniform and with the books and equipment they need for learning that day. Our own results show that students who have even 10% of time away from the classroom are unlikely to be successful with NCEA.
- Encourage and show an interest in what they are doing – talk about how things are going at school, check their homework diaries, make sure that homework is completed and that due dates for assessments are noted and worked towards. Come along to events at school – Parent-Teacher Evenings, Learning Conferences, NCEA Information Evening
- Discuss and encourage them to get involved in sports and cultural activities and come along to support and cheer them along. Doing things with other students and representing the college in activities encourages engagement and helps promote learning
- If you have any concerns or queries about your son/daughter's progress, please don't hesitate to contact the college. The first point of contact is usually the form teacher - please ensure that you know their name. All teachers can be contacted by email, in the form: surname.initial@upperhutt.school.nz eg taylorj@upperhutt.school.nz

School Emergency Procedures

The school has procedures in place in the event of emergencies such as fires, lock-downs, and earthquakes. We regularly practice for these various scenarios.

If such an emergency were to occur:

- students and staff will assemble on the tennis courts by Moonshine Road either during or after, depending on the type of emergency.
- the school is able to provide short term shelter, water, food, and toileting facilities from the tennis courts location
- if students are still at school in the evening, all remaining students and staff will relocate to Trentham School, 400 metres down Moonshine Road, as this is a Civil Defence Centre.
- The Principal and Senior Leadership team will remain until all students are collected.
- Information will be made available on the school website if possible, or by 'push notification' through the Upper Hutt College App (under development).

All parents of Year 9 or new students sign a Civil Defence form upon enrolment, either granting permission for their child to be released or requiring them to stay at school until they are collected. If you would like to update your preference, please contact the school for a new form.

Please talk with your children about what they are to do in an emergency – your Family Emergency Plan. As family circumstances change and your children get older, the Plan will also change. Make sure everyone knows what to do if a major event occurs during the school day.

Reader / Writers

We are currently seeking volunteers to act as reader/writers, who will work with students to enable them to overcome their learning difficulties. Your role as a reader/writer is to ensure that these students have the opportunity to show their understanding of a topic they have learnt to the same level as a student without learning difficulties. It would involve you reading to and/or writing down that understanding in conjunction with the student, who may be a Year 9 – 11 student.

The work is infrequent – depending on when assessments occur during the year, but all assessments take place during school hours and last approximately 1 hour. Training will be provided.

If you are interested in supporting our students in this way or would like further information, please contact Karla Lister, HOD Learning Support, listerk@upperhutt.school.nz

Contacting the School

Ph 527 8749

www.upperhutt.school.nz

The school has installed a new phone system to make it easier for you to make contact with the right people or provide information for the school. There is now a dedicated line for absences, and some teachers and staff members will have direct voicemail for messages.

Email is sometimes the best way to make contact with a teacher, and all teachers can be contacted by email, in the form:

surname.initial@upperhutt.school.nz eg taylorj@upperhutt.school.nz