



Whanganui High School

NEWSLETTER FOR JUNE 2016 FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of the School,

For those parents/caregivers of students currently in Year 8 who are considering which secondary school to enrol their child in for the 2017 academic year, perhaps the following information might assist you in making this decision.

The community knows that Whanganui High School (WHS) provides the best education for students at a state, co-educational secondary school in Whanganui. We have the results to substantiate this claim but everyone understands that providing an excellent education is a complex collection of factors. An excellent education is to do with nurturing and developing a young person so that they become the very best they can be across a whole range of activities - where their academic, social, sporting and creative potential is developed. Because of our all-round success, the commitment of our staff and the support of our school community, we are able to provide the environment where this nurturing and development can readily take place so that students achieve personal excellence.

I know that making a choice of school for your youngster is a vitally important one and one that is best when it is an informed decision. The following three main themes ought to be part of your consideration process so that you can be confident of making the right choice for your child's future schooling.

The first is opportunity.

WHS provides an outstanding range of subjects and co-curricular activities that see almost any interest a student may have catered for, either in the classroom or through extra-curricular activities. There is a huge range of curriculum choices that provide a superb general education with the facility for specialisation in an extensive range of areas. Every subject area in the School can support students to develop specialist learning through their programmes. We provide a rich and diverse learning environment and, as a result of this, students are both motivated and engaged in their learning. Alongside the formal classroom experience there are interest groups that focus on extra-curricular opportunities for an array of activities, covering the areas of sport, performing arts, culture, creativity and recreation.

Life at WHS is as rich as any youngster wants to make it.

The second theme is support.

It has been said that WHS is a big school that feels like a small school. This is because we work hard to make the transition from primary or intermediate school to the high school environment as smooth as we can. We work to personalise relationships within the School so that each

individual is treated in accordance with their needs. We have in place a highly effective pastoral care structure with the form teacher being the focus point of each student, supported by highly experienced year level deans and deputy principals.

I can reassure you that your youngster will not be lost in the crowd but will be supported and encouraged as a valued individual.

The third theme is achievement.

In terms of academic achievement WHS is a high performing school. Statistical comparisons provided by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) show that WHS is the highest performing school of its type in the country. Our students achieve as well as or better than students attending the most prestigious schools in New Zealand. Our Dux last year, Amaan Merchant, was the 4th highest achieving student in the whole of NZ. Our academic success rates are valid reason for the pride we all share in the achievements of our students.

Schools are about learning, and this learning is measured by achievement. Just attending WHS is not necessarily a guarantee of success but students who come eager and ready to work with our staff to meet academic goals are guaranteed success. They are then ready to take the next step into their future with confidence, skill and the knowledge that they have been well prepared for a rewarding and fulfilling adult life.

Thus I encourage you to consider what WHS has to offer your child. The rich curriculum and extra-curricular opportunities offered here are exceptional. The support provided by our pastoral and guidance teams ensure that your youngster is valued and nurtured while being encouraged to perform to the highest possible level. Together these factors provide the environment for your child to attain personal excellence, equipped for adult life with the qualifications and values that will provide them with real choice about their future.

We look forward to receiving your child's application to enrol at our great School.

Please note that enrolment applications for next year are due by 8 July 2016.

Best wishes,

Garry Olver
Principal

Performing Arts Update 2016

Whanganui High School Performing Arts students continue to feature heavily in the media with reports of their on-going successes on stage. It has been an incredibly busy half a year and in summary, it might be fair to say, 'what has WHS NOT taken part in over the last 5 months?'. We hit the year running and 44 Junior students captured the magic of Shakespeare on stage delivering 'Midsummer Night's Dream', complete with Taylor Swift songs! Of particular note, the band, lighting, sound, set and stage management were all taken care of by Senior students. We are incredibly proud of what the cast and crew achieved, it is such a positive experience and prepares the Juniors well for our school-wide productions.

Drama students put their Shakespearean talents to the test entering the Otago University Sheilah Winn Regional Shakespeare Festival in April. A Junior entry of a scene from 'Midsummer Night's Dream' won Best Delivery of Music and Emelye Brown (Year 10) won Best Delivery of Text, competing against all other junior and senior students! Congratulations go to Caitlyn Friedel and Vincent Collins who won the festival and were selected to perform at The National Festival in June. Vincent won best actor at this festival and will perform with 41 others in the National Shakespeare School Production in Otago later on in the year. From there, they will select 21 to travel to The Globe Theatre in London. Break a leg Vince!

During the recent Rockquest competitions, WHS proved that we definitely do rock on stage and we took away a massive 6 prizes. 1st place 'Why Vibrations' Te Paerata Tichbon and Michael Petersen. 2nd place and The Dominate Style Award 'Fusion 5' Bayley Blythe, Sam Austin, Sam Dixon, Jordan Coveny and Darren Teriyaki-Osborne. 3rd place 'Super Ensemble' Ethan Mancer, Jack McCoubrie, Lane Madams, Ben Fantham and Brody Casey. The first two groups are busy working on a recording to be sent away to be considered for the National finals. The Best Song of the night went to Jack Southee and Kaleb Lama-Love and The MAINZ Musicianship Award to Bayley Blythe.



From Rock to Chamber Music, 9 groups entered the NZCT Chamber Music Regional Contest that was held on Friday 10th June. We took away 5 awards: Highly Commended: Turneresque Trio Shaila-Anne Hawkins (with 2 other Collegiate students) and they have since been chosen to represent Whanganui at the Central Districts finals in Napier. The KBB Award for groups featuring wind/brass or percussion went to 'Seriously Brass' - Isaac Paterson, Abby Squire and Ethan Mancer and also 'Turnersque'. The SOUNZ award for best performance of a NZ work (composed by tutor Michael Franklin-Brown) 'The Ruffs' - Stephanie Lockwood, Hugo Collins, Michael Petersen, James Lee. Award for Best performance of an original composition 'The Classical Modes' Ben Power, Virginia Thomson, Danielle Sewell. Composed by Ben Power, Year 10.

And if that's not enough... we WON The Regional Stage Challenge Competition making us a national finalist!! Our entry this year depicted the Pike River Mine disaster and audience members were reduced to tears. We hope it will tear of joy when they announce the National winners in September!

The International Cultural Concert was again a huge success with all international students providing national food, dance and music. This event is highly enjoyed by the school wide community.

Last but by no means least, the city had a chance to witness first hand many of the above talented students on the Royal Whanganui Opera House stage at our Annual Performing Arts Concert. 'Live From The Opera House' featured kapa haka to pasifika, chamber to rock musicians, dancers, actors and comedians, talent quest winners and Shakespeare. Once again WHS impressed the audience with these high-level performances.

Our academic success profile is enviable throughout the country and this success is certainly enriched by the extracurricular experiences in the Performing Arts Department that make connection with Whanganui High School so fulfilling for our students.

ACHIEVERS LIST 2016

(Updates up to 27 June)

Thomas Adams	12	Robotics - Vex Robotics EDR Kiwi Challenge Regionals - 7th in Qualification Rounds
Bolu Adesanya	13	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Tom Adkins	13	Head of Community, Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners (Crew)
Tyler Adlam	10	Softball - Whanganui U15 Team
Kara Adrole	9	Netball - Whanganui Under 15 White Rep Team, Swimming - WHS Junior A Girls 50m Backstroke 2nd, 50m Breaststroke 2nd, 50m Freestyle 2nd, Basketball - PNBA U15 Reps
Leah Aiono	9	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Taylah Aki	12	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Javontae Alabaster-Wroe	11	Basketball - Whanganui Under 17 Boys Rep Team
Cameron Allardice	12	Life Saving - Royal Life Saving Award - Bronze Medallion, Swimming - WHS Senior A Boys 100m Freestyle 2nd, 200m Freestyle 1st, Life Saving - Award of Merit, Senior Model United Nations Merit - Best Delegation (Team Award)
Amber Andrews	10	Cross Country - WHS U15 Girls 2nd
Sophie Andrews	9	Netball - Whanganui Under 15 White Rep Team, Basketball - PNBA U15 Reps, Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners (Crew)
Riley Astudillo	9	Basketball - Whanganui Under 15 Boys Rep Team
Samuel Austin	11	Rockquest - 'Fusion 5' 2nd, The Dominate Style Award
Rebecca Baker	10	Swimming - WHS Junior A Girls 100m Freestyle 2nd, 50m Freestyle 3rd, Cross Country - WHS U15 Girls 1st
Brendon Bamford Short	12	Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award - Silver
Jemma Barnes	10	Ministock Racing - North Is Rep Youth Ministock Champs, Swimming - WHS Junior A Girls 50m Backstroke 3rd, Life Saving - Bronze Medallion
Deven Baun	13	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Travis Bayler	10	Cross Country - WHS U15 Boys 1st
Bernie Be	13	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners (Crew)
Joanna Bell	12	Swimming - WHS Intermediate A Girls 50m Backstroke 3rd, Hockey - Central U18 Girls Rep (Reserve)
Ally Bennett	12	Rowing - NISS Champs U17 Single Sculls 2nd, Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Ayzak Bennett	13	Basketball - Whanganui Under 19 Boys Rep Team
Kai Bennett	10	Swimming - WHS Intermediate A Boys 50m Freestyle 2nd
Keira Bennett	9	Life Saving - Bronze Star
Amie Bishop	12	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Josh Bleakley	10	Basketball - Whanganui Under 17 Boys Rep Team
Bayley Blythe	11	Rockquest - 'Fusion 5' 2nd, Musicianship Award, The Dominate Style Award
Chloe Boniface	12	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Jeanne-Marie Bonnet	13	Debating - Russell McVeagh Central North Island Comp 1st, Selected for Central North Island Development Squad, National Comp - Highly Commended, Cambridge Mathematics AS Exam - Grade A, Head Girl, Alliance Francaise - Diploma in French Language Efficiency - B1 Level, Language Perfect - World Championship - Gold Award
Maddison-Brie Boosey	13	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Josiah Booth-Richards	10	Robotics - Vex Robotics EDR Kiwi Challenge Regionals - 7th in Qualification Rounds
Hollie Brasting	13	Cross Country - WHS U19 Girls 3rd
Jaimee Bridger	10	Swimming - WHS Intermediate A Girls 200m Freestyle 2nd
Oisin Broadhead	10	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Emelye Brown	10	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners, Sheilah Winn Regional Shakespeare Festival - Best Delivery of Text
Jack Brown	11	Swimming - WHS Intermediate A Boys 4 X Medley Relay 3rd, 100m Freestyle 1st, Life Saving - Bronze Medallion
Abigail Buchan	12	Selected for 'Aotearoa Youth Declaration Civics Education' Conference
Chelsea Buckeridge	13	Language Perfect - World Championship - Bronze Award
Paris Butters	13	Tennis - Whanganui Senior Rep Tennis Team - Christie Cup, Zonal Qualifier 1st, Qualified for NZSS National Champs, Tennis - NZSS National Champs Mixed Team 5th
Olivia Caird	12	Swimming - WHS Senior A Girls 50m Backstroke 1st, UCOL Omlette Comp 1st, NZ Chefs Assoc Taranaki Hospitality Comp 'Fruit Flan' 2nd, NSS Culinary Challenge 2nd, Selected for National Comp, Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Olivia Cairncross	12	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners (Crew)
Max Campbell	9	Swimming - WHS Intermediate A Boys 50m Freestyle 1st, Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Brody Casey	11	Rockquest - Super Ensemble 3rd
Rebekah Chamberlain-Butters	12	Cross Country - WHS U16 Girls 3rd
Monique Cleeve	12	Cross Country - WHS U16 Girls 2nd, Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Jack Clifton	10	Swimming - WHS Intermediate A Boys 100m Freestyle 2nd
Louise Clifton	12	Swimming - WHS Intermediate A Girls 50m Breaststroke 2nd, 50m Freestyle 3rd
Jordan Cohen	11	Hockey - Central U18 Rep Team
Hugo Collins	12	Cambridge Mathematics IGCSE Exam - Grade B, Chamber Music - 'The Ruffs' SOUNZ Award for Best Performance of a NZ Work
Vincent Collins	12	Cambridge Mathematics IGCSE Exam - Grade A*, Senior Model United Nations Merit - Best Delegation (Team Award), Sheilah Winn Regional Shakespeare Festival 1st, Selected for National Festival, Best Actor
Leila Collinson	11	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Zara Collinson	13	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Sam Conley	12	Senior Model United Nations - Best Table (Team Award), Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Maddison Cooke	13	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Jordan Coveny	11	Life Saving - Royal Life Saving Award - Bronze Medallion, Life Saving - Bronze Cross, Rockquest - 'Fusion 5' 2nd, The Dominate Style Award
Ella Cox	13	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Tegan Cox	13	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Rachel Cranch	11	Basketball - Whanganui Under 17 Girls Rep Team
Belinda Crawford	12	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Connor Cresswell	13	Head Boy, Debating - Russell McVeagh Central North Island Comp 1st, Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Amelia Cronin	9	Swimming - WHS Junior A Girls; 50m Breaststroke 1st, 100m Freestyle 1st, 50m Freestyle 1st, 200m Freestyle 1st, Intermediate A Girls; 4 x Medley Relay 2nd, 50m Backstroke 2nd
Clare Cvitanovich	12	Life Saving - Bronze Medallion
Chrystal Darbyshire	13	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners (Crew)
Regan Davey	13	Cambridge Mathematics AS Exam - Grade B, Head of Academia
Emily Dempsey	13	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Sophie Dennison	13	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Kayla Devine	12	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Sam Dixon	11	Rockquest - 'Fusion 5' 2nd, The Dominate Style Award
Kaya Dobbie	11	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Abigail Dohere	13	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners (Crew)
Lucy Dowman	10	Sailing - Whanganui Schools Regatta Starling Class 2nd
Rylee Dudley	13	Head of Social, Rowing - Top 10 Badge Award
Imogen Eastgate	10	Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award - Bronze
Dennihe Edwards	9	Robotics - Vex IQ Kiwi Challenge Regional Champs - Joint Winners
Elena Egorov	11	Life Saving - Royal Life Saving Award - Bronze Star, Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Lilly Egorov	11	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Stephanie Elliot	13	Language Perfect - World Championship - Elite Award
Eva Falloon	11	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Ben Fantham	11	Rockquest - Super Ensemble 3rd
Gabby Fantham	13	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Leticia Farrier	10	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Nathan Filer	11	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Boston Flanagan-Connors	12	Cambridge Mathematics IGCSE Exam - Grade A, Senior Model United Nations Merit - Best Delegation (Team Award)
Imogen Flower	10	Netball - Whanganui Under 15 Blue Rep Team
Niamh Flower	12	Netball - Whanganui Under 17 Rep Team
Alex Forlong	11	Swimming - WHS Intermediate A Girls 4x Medley Relay 3rd, 50m Butterfly 3rd, Swimming - WHS Intermediate A Girls 4x Medley Relay 3rd, 50m Butterfly 3rd, 100m Freestyle 3rd
Elena Forlong	13	Swimming - WHS, Swimming - WHS Intermediate A Girls 50m Butterfly 1st (School Record 00.31.24), Swimming - National Age Group Champs Girls 17-18yo 200m Butterfly 4th, 100m Butterfly 5th, Swimming - NISS 50m Butterfly 3rd, 100m Butterfly 2nd
Caitlyn Friedel	12	Cambridge Mathematics IGCSE Exam - Grade A, Life Saving - Bronze Medallion, Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners, Sheilah Winn Regional Shakespeare Festival 1st, Selected for National Festival
Josiah Gammeter	13	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Tegan Gaskin	13	Cambridge Mathematics AS Exam - Grade C, Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Marcello Gazale	13	Basketball - Whanganui Under 19 Boys Rep Team
Nusr Ghamri	12	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners, Cambridge Mathematics IGCSE Exam - Grade A
Nicole Gill	13	Stage Challenge - '29 Below' Regional Winners
Ana Gilligan	12	Language Perfect - World Championship - Gold Award

2017 Enrolment

Applications must be received by the school no later than 3.30pm on Friday 8th July, 2016

Important Dates

Friday 1 July	Senior Reports Issued
Thursday 7 July	Parent-Teacher Interviews
Friday 8 July	End of Term 2
Monday 25 July	Term 3 Begins