



Whanganui High School

NEWSLETTER FOR FEBRUARY 2017 FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Introducing our Head Prefects 2017



Jack Southee
Head Boy

Jackie Hazelhurst
Head Girl

Jack Southee - Head Boy

Studying: Biology, Calculus, Chemistry, English, Physics, Probability & Statistics
At Whanganui High School a lot of our curriculum is incorporated around our school's LIFE values. The values of Learning, Integrity, Fellowship and Excellence summarise some of the most important attributes we can develop over the five year secondary school period. Growth of these LIFE values, as well as character, maturity and independence in my eyes supersede the academic studies taught in the school. This should be further celebrated, as well as embracing the various cultural identities including Māori and Pasifika, right through to our many International students. Even in a crowd of over 1500, every single student should feel safe, included and happy within our school whanau. Whanganui High School is dependent upon support from the community. I want to see the prefects be more involved in giving back to the Whanganui community. This year is already shaping into a remarkable year for our school.

Jackie Hazelhurst - Head Girl

Studying: Biology, Calculus, Cambridge Mathematics, Economics, English Literature, History, Statistics
The years I have been fortunate to spend at Whanganui High School have been unforgettable - both challenging and rewarding in equal measure. This year, in the position of Head Girl, I hope to encourage all students to push themselves to excel in the same capacity, yet equally, to embody the school values - of Learning, Integrity, Fellowship and Excellence - that we hold dear. It is with these beliefs in mind that I set my goal for the 2017 prefect year - to give back to the community that has continued to support, shape and guide us, and justify the trust placed on our shoulders. We recognise the immense contribution of the people who have allowed us to reach this point and therefore we hope to give back to local efforts, environmentally and socially. Whanganui is a small town, but the education we receive and accomplishments we accumulate show we are undoubtedly competitive on a national level and beyond, which is something to be very proud of.



Nusr Ghamri
Deputy Head Boy

Mikaya Teki
Deputy Head Girl

Nusr Ghamri - Deputy Head Boy

Studying: Biology, Calculus, Chemistry, English, Physics, Statistics
As the Deputy Head Boy for 2017, I aim to assist the prefect team as well as the student body in captivating what the school has to offer. One of my biggest aspirations is to elevate student culture, and motivate students to pursue their personal goals. Being co-chairman of the Student Council gives me the privilege to lead an enthusiastic team and create long lasting initiatives that will promote our schools LIFE values. The team have hit the ground running with multiple events and initiatives already planned. Ultimately, the class of 2017 will undoubtedly, leave a legacy at our school. We will place Whanganui High School on the greatest of stages not only 2017 but the years to come.

Mikaya Teki - Deputy Head Girl

Studying: Algebra, Biology, Calculus, Chemistry, English, Physics, Trigonometry
As Deputy Head Girl this year I would like to ensure every student is offered the same opportunities I was fortunate enough to be offered over the past four years. As part of my role, Nusr and I will be co-chairing the Student Council. Through the council, I am hoping to bring in new initiatives that are positive and long lasting. I feel honoured and privileged as a Māori student to represent my school as a Head Prefect. I hope to teach my teina about being resilient and be the best role model I can.



Alister Hughes
Head of Academia

Taliah Su'a
Head of Academia

Alister Hughes - Head of Academia

Studying: Biology, Calculus, Cambridge Mathematics, Economics, English Literature, History, Probability & Statistics
It does not seem very long since I was just starting at Whanganui High School with sandals giving me blisters and t-shirts that were too big, it is hard to believe there is less than a year left. The key thing that I want to achieve in my role as Head of Academia is to let everyone know that there is no single, right way to get through Whanganui High School. We all start in the same place in Year 9, and we all aim to get through where we are heading, but how we get there is up to us. I would like to create a positive outlook to learning for everyone at Whanganui High School. After the dust settles on assessments, examinations and eventually on school, I would like us all to be able to look back at what we can do, what we did to achieve and accomplish, rather than what we cannot or did not do.

Taliah Su'a - Head of Academia

Studying: Biology, Calculus, Chemistry, English, Probability & Statistics, Physics
As Head of Academia I hope to build on the successful achievements of the previous Academia heads. Encouraging and promoting academic excellence, supporting students to reach their potential are ideals that require in my view a holistic approach which starts with balanced health - good nutrition, sufficient sleep and exercise. I would like to mobilise the academically able, to provide tailored mentoring for those who are academically less confident, as a practical way of encouraging academic success as well as building a sense of community.



Angus James
Head of Community

Emilia Schmidt
Head of Community

Angus James - Head of Community

Studying: Cambridge Mathematics, Classics, Economics, English Literature, History, Probability & Statistics
As Head of Community, I would like to raise spirit and pride within the Whanganui High School community, by including all year groups to help give back. My goal is to raise awareness regarding local and national organisations, including the Cancer Society, Food Drive and Starship Hospital. The community prefect team wants to continue the notable work last year's Community Prefects did surrounding the Anti-Bullying Campaign, which promotes positive behaviour at Whanganui High School. Also, I aim to continue recycling and in return, receive new plants to grow around the school, improving the environment. Furthermore, we want all students to remember the New Zealand soldiers that fought for us through ANZAC Day commemoration. This year, we have a fantastic team who are willing to improve the Whanganui High School community, and who are wanting to do their best for all students at Whanganui High School.

Emilia Schmidt - Head of Community

Studying: Drama, English, French, German, Physics, Probability and Statistics, Trigonometry and Algebra
This year, as my role of Head of Community, my main focus is to bring Whanganui High School together to fundraise for our local community. In 2017 Angus and I are organising events like the Relay for Life, Anzac Day and the Anti Bullying Campaign and other smaller events throughout the year such as mufti days. Also we wish to continue recycling and in return receive new trees to plant around school. Raising our school spirit and pride within the Whanganui High School community is a big goal for us too, as well as fundraising to support both local and national causes. In our three main events this year I would like to get the entire school involved especially the Juniors to create more of a community feeling within our school. I hope to give back and help those struggling in Whanganui.



Vincent Collins
Head of Culture

Brenna Hadley
Head of Culture

Vincent Collins - Head of Culture

Studying: Calculus & Algebra, Chemistry, Classics, English Literature, Physics, Probability & Statistics
My main goal is to encourage more people to get involved in the arts. I strongly believe that the arts have fantastic opportunities which allow people to explore their passion. Whether it be singing or acting, when people find their passion it allows them to grow as a person, but also allows them to meet and connect with people who they would not have otherwise spoken to. This is one of the most important things that I have taken away from my high school experience, and is something that I want to pass down onto younger students. Therefore as Head Culture I will be aiming to create many opportunities for involvement. This will be through a variety of events, such as Open Mic, Movie night and the revival of other events, such as Dancing with the Staff and a fashion show. I highly encourage anyone to take part and to get involved with the best of what the school has to offer.

Brenna Hadley - Head of Culture

Studying: Calculus & Algebra, Cambridge Mathematics, French External Studies, Geography, Music, Statistics & Probability, Physics
I want to encourage more students to try something new within the performing and visual arts departments. Throughout the year, Whanganui High School has a variety of cultural events planned, including Open Mic, Chamber Music, Rockquest, and our main feature of 2017 - Rock of Ages production, that our team of cultural prefects will be supporting, organising and participating in. We are hoping to bring back some events that have worked well in the past few years as well, such as speed painting, movie nights, talent quest and Dancing with the Staff. As Head of Culture, I would like students at Whanganui High School to feel comfortable participating in our performing arts department, as I know it can be a daunting experience at first. The passion that unfolds as students become more confident in their chosen area, whether it be dance, drama, music, music technology, visual arts, or a mixture of areas, is amazing. It is a passion that is contagious, it spreads to their peers, family and community, and I would love to see this year's Cultural Team encouraging involvement and passion in cultural events at Whanganui High School.



Tazman Rei
Head of E-Life

Caitlyn Friedel
Head of E-Life

Tazman Rei - Head of E-Life

Studying: Calculus, Chemistry, English Literature, Digital Technology, Physics, Science, Trigonometry & Algebra
I want to establish the basis for all E-Life prefect teams to follow. We provide a new opportunity for leadership in this new-age of digital media. Our role in the school consists of helping the new B.Y.O.T (Bring Your Own Technology) system which has slowly been implemented since 2016, to also provide assistance for any technological or google based problems. We also provide assistance in teaching Digital Citizenship, encouraging and promoting good safe use of social media such as Facebook, Twitter or Instagram. Further plans in the works consist of a school YouTube channel with videos such as 'How to tie a tie', and even a possible WHS Electronic sports team. I believe this role will help me personally reinforce what I believe to be the key ideas of leadership such as aspiration, innovation and motivation. This role is brand new and what I believe to be a key one in the advancement of Whanganui High School's academic and technological success.

Caitlyn Friedel - Head of E-Life

Studying: Biology, Calculus & Algebra, Chemistry, Geography, Physics, Statistics
As one of the first Head of E-Life leaders at Whanganui High School I would like to be able to set up a solid foundation for future E-Life Prefects. I am looking forward to seeing what our E-Life prefect team plan for this year. As E-Life Prefects our job is about promoting E-Learning within our school. We look at things such as digital citizenship, the 'Bring your Own Technology' system, safe internet use and digital help. During this year I wish to improve my knowledge about devices as well as other students.



Xaviera Manley-Green
Head of Māori

Xaviera Manley-Green - Head of Māori

Studying: English, French, Health, Mathematics, Sport Smart
Ko Xaviera tōku ingoa, ko au te kaiārahi māori mō te kura Tuarua o Whanganui. As Head of Māori, I want to encourage our school to engage in Māori and take every chance to participate in Māori life at Whanganui High School. I want to show the same support that my predecessors created at Whanganui High School. I also want to encourage our Māori students to achieve their best and to put themselves out there and to be proud to be Māori students at Whanganui High School.



Solomone Tamaniyaga
Head of Pasifika

Daina Pa'a
Head of Pasifika

Solomone Tamaniyaga - Head of Pasifika

Studying: Chemistry, Dance, English, Food & Nutrition, Mathematics, Performing Arts Academy
As Head of Pasifika I would like to see all of the Whanganui High School students from their different Pacific nationalities step up to show the rest of the school and our community what their roots are and what they are capable of doing to embrace their cultural diversity. Daina Pa'a and I have a vision for 2017 to build strong relationships between the Pacific Island students and to encourage others to participate in the Pasifika group so that they will know who we are as Pacific Islanders. Being Head of Pasifika gives me the opportunity to get more involved with Pasifika competitions, groups and performances so that I can bring our school's LIFE values back to the Pasifika culture at Whanganui High School. I am looking forward to see 2017 be the greatest year for all Pasifika students to remember. I am hoping to build strong leaders for the near future and impart into the lives of the Pasifika community of WHS.

Daina Pa'a - Head of Pasifika

Studying: Accounting, Automotive, Dance, English, Mathematics, Physical Education
Talofa lava o lou igoa o Daina Pa'a, faafetai ile Atua inau mafai ona ave au ma taitai o le Pasefika i totonu o le aoga. As a leader I would like to create opportunities for our young Pacific youth that enable them to express themselves and grow. Through various art forms, extra-curricular activities, sports and cultural awareness students will succeed. I aim to build relationships within my Pasifika peers that will continue to grow stronger throughout the year. I will do my best to encourage and support my peers to strive for excellence in everything we do. I aim to be a positive influence and to help make positive change in the Whanganui High School Pasifika community. I am very grateful to be a part of this leadership team and I look forward to the challenges and opportunities this year has to offer us all. Faamanuia le Atua.



Sam Conley
Head of Social

Meghan Price
Head of Social

Sam Conley - Head of Social

Studying: Calculus, Economics, English, Physics, Probability & Statistics, Social Studies
As Head of Social for this year I want to achieve a school mindset that we are more than just five different year groups. I want each year group to connect with each other this year. The events we have planned to organise do operate mainly within the Senior school but we really want to change this and look for events that Junior students are passionate about. I have never taken on a role so big so I want to push myself and my team to achieve even more. The Social Prefect team last year set a very high standard. I hope to live up to their standard and give memorable times to my school in 2017.

Meghan Price - Head of Social

Studying: Biology, English, Geography, History, Photography, Psychology
As Head of Social for 2017, I aim to lead a team of talented prefects that are able to positively effect fellow students, creating a community that encourages success and our core LIFE values. Although the Social Prefects have an extremely busy year ahead, I have no doubt that the prefect team and myself will be able to make a difference within the school and organise some fantastic events. I hope to encourage, inspire and become a role model for younger students, and push myself out of my comfort zone. I am thoroughly excited for my final year at WHS and I look forward to seeing what the 2017 leadership team is able to achieve.



Ryan Gray
Head of Sport

Emma Rainey
Head of Sport

Ryan Gray - Head of Sport

Studying: Calculus, Chemistry, Drama, Physics, Sport Science, Sport Smart
This year I plan on continuing the work that the 2016 Sport Prefects began last year. We will grow the sporting culture around Whanganui High School by introducing our Junior Students to new and unique sports and allowing them to test and try them out. We also plan to allow more school spirit back into our school wide events such as Swimming and Athletics Day allowing all students to enjoy the day. In general, we are just trying to increase the popularity of sports and sporting days amongst students at Whanganui High School in 2017.

Emma Rainey - Head of Sport

Studying: Biology, Economics, English, Health Sport Smart, Physical Education, Trigonometry & Algebra
As Head of Sport for 2017 I want to promote the sporting culture within WHS. I believe sport is important to maintain a healthy balanced life. My responsibility in this role is to be a positive role model and encourage all students to get involved in sports and have a go, whether this is at a social or competitive level. I will especially encourage the younger students to take all sporting opportunities given, as I believe they are our future for maintaining sporting success at Whanganui High School. I will do this by providing opportunities to become active, as sport is a great way to get involved, have fun and make new friends.



Eddie Zheng
Head of International

Joy Hou
Head of International

Eddie Zheng - Head of International

Studying: Accounting, Calculus & Algebra, Cambridge Mathematics, Economics, International English, Physics, Probability & Statistics
I am proud to be elected Head of International students. In my role I look forward to helping the other International prefects participate in events we will be planning, such as the Homestay BBQ and the Cultural Festival. I would like all students no matter what their nationality to feel at home and get involved. I will encourage International students to push their boundaries and involve themselves with all the opportunities that Whanganui High School has to offer.

Joy Hou - Head of International

Studying: Accounting, Economics, Calculus, Cambridge Mathematics, International English, Physics, Probability & Statistics
As Head of International I aim to be a positive role model, and help all students as well my fellow International Students. This year I will take great responsibility to create a great International Prefect team and build a bridge between International students and Whanganui High School to promote good communication. I will try my best to make sure all International students have a wonderful experience at WHS. I am looking forward to making this year memorable.