



Whanganui High School

NEWSLETTER FOR AUGUST 2017 FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Tēnā koutou katoa,

On the 8th July, our Social Prefects organised a superb school Ball focusing on the theme 'Into the Woods' – information and photographs are included on this page. As I mentioned to Year 13 students at the first available assembly after the Ball, I was incredibly proud of their stunning presentation and excellent behaviour during the evening. All students present at the Ball represented Whanganui High School and our community with great dignity and style.

During 21st to 25th August, we held Future Focus Week at Whanganui High School. Students received multiple opportunities to seek advice and ask questions regarding potential career pathways. Of particular success was the Future Focus/Career Displays Evening held in the School library on 22nd August. Heads of Faculties, Senior teachers and Senior Leadership Team members were available to meet with students and family members to discuss potential career pathways and give relevant advice regarding subject course selections for 2018.

Within the next few days we will be heading into Tournament Week for a large number of our students in various sporting codes. I wish all students the very best in their competitive matches and sincerely thank all parents, students, teachers and members of the community who have unselfishly supported our students as coaches or managers throughout the long months of winter.

If you have the opportunity to do so, feel very welcome to attend the Whanganui High School Performing Arts Concert (5pm, Saturday, 2nd September at the Whanganui Royal Opera House). Tickets are available for purchase from our Student Centre and at the Opera House; Students \$10 and Adults \$12. Students will be performing a range of outstanding cultural highlights from presentations throughout all of 2017.

From Thursday, 14th September to Friday, 22nd September our Senior students will be sitting their School examinations. Preparation and effective revision is well underway in all Senior classes. During assessment times, I believe it is helpful for student well-being that students try to keep as close as possible to their normal individual routine and balance of school work, exercise, eating and rest so that each student feels completely composed and focused upon entering the examinations. I wish all Senior students well for the School examinations.

Ngā mihi nui,

Martin McAllen
Principal

*MEd Leadership with First Class Honours,
PG Dip Ed Leadership, BA, Dip Teaching*

Important Dates Term 3

Sat 2 Sep	Performing Arts Concert
Mon 4 Sep	Tournament Week
Tues 12 Sep	Staff P5 Professional Development Students Released at 1.50pm
Thur 14 Sep	Senior Examinations Begin
Fri 22 Sep	Senior Examinations End
Fri 29 Sep	Term 3 Ends

INTO THE WOODS



On the 8th July the Year 13 senior students from Whanganui High School travelled 'Into the Woods' at the Whanganui Racecourse where it was transformed into a magical and theatrical setting for the highly anticipated annual formal function. Adorning the tables was 300 metres of fairy lights, along with handcrafted woodland tealights, moss and silvery willow branches. The invitations asked the attendants to "dress to impress" which they most certainly did. Flowing gowns in jewel colours competed with smooth suits. A top hat was even spotted amongst the glamorous crowd. This stunning evening was only achieved by the dedication and hours of preparation by the social prefects team to plan and then turning their hands to tasks such as spray painting, woodworking and electrical installations.

The evening was kicked off with live music by Josh Dominikovic followed by a band of Whanganui High School students; Jack McCoubrie, Hugo Collins, Caleb Thomson, Reuel McIntosh and Vin Almazan who provided great vibes for dancing. They were also supported by DJ Jazz who came all the way from Wellington to support the event.

The formal function would not be complete without recognising the most important people who make the planning and preparation come alive - the guests.



Prizes were awarded to the following students; 'Best Dressed Female' to Julia Van Niekerk, 'Best Dressed Male' to Solomone Tamaniyaga, 'Life of the Party' to Nusr Ghamri, 'Cutest Couple' to Mikaya Teki and Chase Pauro, 'Student Choice' to Sanchia O'Sullivan and Tom Healy, 'Prince of the Ball' to Liam Lace and 'Princess of the Ball' to Charlotte Wilsher. Finally, 'Queen and King of the Ball' was awarded to Olivia Caird and Boston Flanagan-Connors.



Along with the Social Prefects, we would like to thank everyone involved, your support helped make the night very successful.

Sam Conley & Meghan Price
Head of Social Prefects

International Department News

One of Whanganui High School's goals is to ensure that our students' learning is future focused. Our domestic students have the opportunity to meet students from different countries and cultures with many of our students becoming global citizens. Our domestic students form lifelong friendships with our International students and grow in confidence when they meet our short-term visitors. They act as ambassadors for Whanganui and New Zealand when they become "buddies" and develop their own pride and identity for where they come from.

This year we have had visits from our sister school and contacts in Xuzhou, China, and a visit from our sister school in Japan. We have made new friends with Indraprastha School in New Delhi, India, which is one of the first few Indian school groups to come to New Zealand. All the groups took part in after school activities, had jet boat rides and enjoyed their trips around the area; the beach is always a favourite.

We are always looking for homestays who would like to share their life and culture with our international visitors. Becoming a homestay can be a rewarding experience.

If you are interested in hosting a homestay student, please contact Whanganui High School on 06 349 0178 during school hours and ask for the International Department.

