



Whanganui High School

Introducing our Head Prefects 2018



Josiah Kirk
Head Boy

Saskia Knight
Head Girl

Josiah Kirk - Head Boy (Maunga House)

Studying: Calculus & Algebra, Chemistry, English Literature, Physics, Probability & Statistics
Since the year has started, we have seen many positive changes within Whanganui High School including the introduction of the house system (Maunga, Moana, Awa and Whenua) and the new vertical form classes (where form classes consist of students from each year level). As a result, I have already felt an amazing change in the atmosphere of the school. I am able to walk around and see Year 9 students freely talking to Year 13 students and participation levels have risen greatly in events such as sports days. The school spirit has never been stronger and I feel so privileged to be a part of such a significant change in the school's history. I am aware that we are very new to this system so my goal for this year is to grow and develop on the changes occurring and support them in every way possible because I truly believe they are a huge leap forward for our school. As well as this, I hope to motivate all students to strive to reach their goals and unlock the amazing potential that I know each and everyone of them has. If we can do this, as well as continue to embrace and embody our school's LIFE values of Learning Integrity, Fellowship and Excellence, 2018 will be an unforgettable year for Whanganui High School.

Saskia Knight - Head Girl (Whenua House)

Studying: Calculus, Chemistry, Drama, English Literature, Probability & Statistics, Study
Here at Whanganui High School, we include our LIFE values in all aspects of our behaviour to ensure success. In the position of Head Girl, I aim to encourage and promote Fellowship. Our new house system will embody all of our school values, especially providing students a whanau away from home that will always be there for support and encouragement. I believe if a student feels comfortable in the environment they are surrounded by, personal excellence will soon follow. I hope to show students, that here at Whanganui High School our fellowship and whanau provides a safe and friendly environment that encourages people to step out of their comfort zones and put everything into what they set their minds to. I aim to be that example of personal excellence, to do your best and not compare your achievements to those with different talents. Not only should we be striving to achieve our potential, but we should be supporting others to make the most of the opportunities offered throughout our five years. I believe that this year, our team of prefects will work hard to encourage greater numbers of participation, to have more pride and spirit when supporting our whanau. I am honoured to be Whanganui High School's Head Girl for 2018 and I have faith that this year, as a whanau, we will successfully encourage more student participation & pride in all aspects of our school careers.



Jonathan Maples
Deputy Head Boy

Josephine Verhaaren
Deputy Head Girl

Jonathan Maples - Deputy Head Boy (Awa House)

Studying: Algebra, Calculus, Chemistry, Drama, Physics, Sports Smart
Some of my ambitions for this year have already been achieved for example, bringing back school houses. I think this is a massive promotion for the school as now 1500 students can all be a part of the house spirit, which will produce a new atmosphere at our school events. What I intend to do as Deputy Head Boy is to motivate the students to go out of their comfort zones and try new things and to be a part of something different. One of our LIFE values is 'Learning' and to grow on this, our leadership team at Whanganui High School are driven to influence students to not be followers, but to discover their own paths, as individuals. My hopes for my time being a leader at Whanganui High School are solidified and I look forward to what I can achieve this year.

Josephine Verhaaren - Deputy Head Girl (Moana House)

Studying: Calculus, Cambridge Mathematics, English Literature, French, Physics, Probability & Statistics
Whanganui High School provides a platform for students to thrive in all areas, teaching us valuable life lessons and ensuring that we leave with a plethora of rewarding experiences. It is for that reason that I am thankful for this opportunity to give back to the school that has been my home for the past four years. I am also thankful for the opportunity to encourage, inspire and guide the students at Whanganui High School through one of the most exciting times of their lives. This year, as Deputy Head Girl, I am looking forward to running a new House focused model of the Student Council, one in which all students voices will be heard, supported and acted upon. I also hope to promote more awareness around environmental issues and encourage everyone to do their part in making our school, and the beautiful city we live in, a cleaner and more environmentally friendly community for all. Above all, I aspire to be a friendly face to look up to and aim to make a positive difference just like the incredible school leaders have done before me.



Raoul Sarup
Head of Academia

Rhea Colaabavala
Head of Academia

Raoul Sarup - Head of Academia (Maunga House)

Studying: Calculus & Algebra, Chemistry, English Literature, History, Statistics
As Head of Academia for 2018, I want to ensure that every single student feels as though they have a place at our school. I feel extremely privileged to be in a position to create a difference, along with ten dedicated and talented Academic Prefects who all have the ambition of creating a positive learning environment for everyone, regardless of academic capability. It is extremely important that we all realise that it is not always about the result, but the learning we take with us on the way, and although it may seem difficult at first, most of us get there in the end. This year is all about the students, and I am looking forward to seeing what we can achieve.

Rhea Colaabavala - Head of Academia (Whenua House)

Studying: Calculus & Algebra, English, Physics, Spanish, Statistics
I still remember my first day at Whanganui High School like it was yesterday. It is hard to believe that now, I am in my fifth and final year. This prefect year I am extremely passionate about ensuring that each and every student at our school feels encouraged and supported academically to achieve their full potential. School should be a place in which all pupils feel safe and included, knowing that we are part of network where we all have the same goal - education. In order for this to happen there must be good communication between the student body and the faculty, as well as appropriate help with all aspects of school life. I am looking forward to what the year will bring and have no doubt that it will be incredible.



Evan Ross
Head of Community

Portia Sharp
Head of Community

Evan Ross - Head of Community (Moana House)

Studying: Biology, Cambridge Mathematics, English Literature, Probability & Statistics
In 2018, the Whanganui High School community is undergoing big changes. The new vertical form classes and house system allow students to interact in new ways, and the Community Prefect team is excited to work with the new system and encourage greater fellowship between the different year groups. We will be heading the school's fundraising efforts, working with local and national organisations such as the R.S.A., Cancer Society and 40 Hour Famine to raise awareness for their causes. We have a great opportunity this year to further the

achievements of previous year's Community Prefects and to expand new ideas, raising school spirit and making sure that every student feels included. I feel blessed to work with the Community team this year as they are all amazing, driven individuals and I know that together we can make a real difference.

Portia Sharp - Head of Community (Maunga House)

Studying: Drama, Calculus, Chemistry, English Literature, Geography, Sports Science
As Head of Community for 2018 my main focus is to be the bridge between our School and the wider community. Our goal is to not only connect but to give back to the community that has continued to support and guide us over our past four years at high school. Evan and I, along with our amazing team of prefects are planning these events to give back to the community. Events include: ANZAC Day, 40 hr Famine, anti-bullying campaigns, car drives, Relay for Life, along with many more. A major role we are working hard to achieve is to introduce a gala; the aim of this is to raise support and interaction, building strong relationships from the wider community along with a recently introduced house system in our school. The Community Prefects this year are a strong knit team who a planning to raise both school pride and spirit. We take privilege in carrying on the high standards set by the previous community teams. The year 2018 is the year to give back. Let Whanganui High School leave a mark for years to come and get involved!



Leila Collinson
Head of Culture

Cypress Kani-Hurini
Head of Culture

Leila Collinson - Head of Culture (Moana House)

Studying: Biology, Classics, English, Geography, Performing Arts Combined, Probability & Statistics
I am proud to be selected as Head of Culture at Whanganui High School this year. Cultural life within our school is so important and the talents within our many students should be recognised, encouraged and showcased to everyone in our community. I am very passionate about dance, music and all performing arts. I wish to motivate and inspire others to do what they love and pursue their passions at school. Throughout this year, the Cultural Prefects have many events planned, such as open mics, talent quest, the cultural festival, a 'cultural week' and dance performances and workshops. We want to build on the many successful events from previous years. One of my main goals is to build confidence and encourage our students to get involved in the performing arts, whether it be dance, drama, music or the visual arts. I am looking forward to working with my Cultural Prefect team to do the best we can this year to make the cultural LIFE within the school even more AMAZING!

Cypress Kani-Hurini - Head of Culture (Moana House)

Studying: Drama, Music, Performing Arts Technology, English, Biology
My intention for this year as a Head of Culture is to ensure all students have opportunities to achieve excellence throughout the Visual and Performing Arts Department. During my time at Whanganui High School, I have had the chance to overcome my self-consciousness and stretch my comfort zone to the limit. I want to provide students with the same opportunities to push themselves and achieve something they never thought possible. The Arts Department provides a positive, comfortable, fun atmosphere for students, therefore I want to encourage all involvement and interest, no matter what the art form.



Wiremu Rogan
Head of Māori

Leighton Kotuhi-Brown
Head of Māori

Wiremu Rogan - Head of Māori (Whenua House)

Studying: Drama, Music, Māori, Sports Smart
As Head of Māori what I hope to achieve this year is to form a strong bond with the Senior and Junior students within the house system, so that the younger students can see their seniors as good role models of our school. I want to encourage other students and teachers to learn a little bit more about our culture. My main goal for the year is to keep our culture alive within our school. I also believe by re-teaching the basics of our culture to our younger students, our culture will never be lost.

Leighton Kotuhi-Brown - Head of Māori (Maunga House)

Studying: English, Health, Māori, Mathematics, Physical Education, Study
Ko Leighton tōku ingoa. Ko au te kaiārahi māori mō te kura tuarua o Whanganui. As Head of Māori I would like to create an environment where all students can be proud of their culture and to embrace every part of it. I would also like to build relationships between the Senior and Junior school students to help uplift and serve a stronger Māori community within the school. I wish to encourage our young teina to get involved with all types of activities within the school, be it sports, arts, performing or academic activities. I would also like to promote more things about the Maori life at Whanganui High School so all students are able to participate in the Maori culture.



Judah Tamaniyaga
Head of Pasifika

Maioha Sadlier
Head of Pasifika

Judah Tamaniyaga - Head of Pasifika (Whenua House)

Studying: English, Health, Performing Arts, Sport & Exercise, Sport Smart, Study
This year in Pasifika is about being part of another family, feeling comfortable with our cultures, building up a bigger relationship and connecting with each other and having fun. We are planning to make all our own music as we have a lot of strong voices within the Pasifika group. This year we have a wide range of different Pacific Island cultures and lots of students taking part in our Pasifika group. We are planning to participate in Pasifika Fusion in Palmerston North in July. We are also performing at the Cultural Festival, Diwali and at the WHS Māori and Pasifika Awards. We also plan on having BBQs for our group and we will work together with the Māori prefect group to build healthier and closer relationships with each other.

Maioha Sadlier - Head of Pasifika (Maunga House)

Studying: Art Printing, English, Mathematics, Photography, Study
Malo e lelei ko hoku ingoa ko Maioha Sadlier. Koe tapuaki 'eku kau he' apiako. As Head of Pasifika I am committed to encourage all students of Whanganui High School to be a part of an amazing, vibrant cultural group. This year I would like to create opportunities where students feel proud to express their culture and identity. Throughout this year I will try my hardest to support my peers and help them strive for Excellence. I aim to be a positive influence to my peers by showing fellowship towards them, I am very honoured to have been chosen as a Head Prefect at Whanganui High School. I will wear my badge with pride. I am very excited for all challenges and opportunities that this year has to bring.



Kaveh Safaei Torogh
Head of Social

Ella Towers
Head of Social

Kaveh Safaei Torogh - Head of Social (Awa House)

Studying: Calculus & Algebra, Chemistry, Physics, Probability & Statistics, Spanish
As Head of Social for 2018 I want to achieve many things. My main goal is to deliver the best school ball possible. This year we have the new house system. I am excited and feel very fortunate to be a part of it. With the new house system comes along house activities and competitions. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to start new events. This will be a hard job, for these events to become annual events and to be part of our school spirit, we prefects must set an excellent example for next year's prefects. After all, we are the founding house members.

Ella Towers - Head of Social (Moana House)

Studying: Biology, Chemistry, Drama, English, Physics, Statistics
As Head of Social for 2018 I want to continue building on the achievements made by the past prefect team. It is so important to create a positive, lively and enjoyable environment where individuals from across all year levels feel as though they belong. I look forward to organising some fantastic events which I know my amazing team will pour their energies into, ensuring that 2018 is a great year. I am extremely thankful for this opportunity and hope to inspire not only myself but also my peers to achieve a high standard of excellence.



Julian Brennan
Head of E-Life

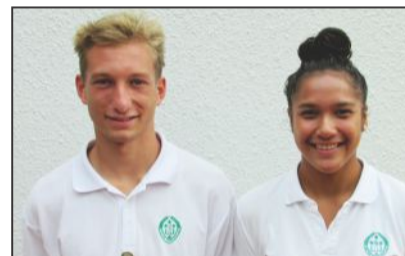
Alex Forlong
Head of E-Life

Julian Brennan - Head of E-Life (Maunga House)

Studying: English, Digital Media, Drama, Geometry & Calculus, Physics
I am honoured to be chosen as the Head of E-Life. As a Head Prefect I will work hard as a role model for students as it is important that I ensure the future for prefects to come. I want to create an image that follows the school's beliefs and my own. Through school events and activities, we can enlighten students on safe and effective use of technology. I want to leave this school with the knowledge that I made a difference and with the help of my team, this dream will become a reality.

Alex Forlong - Head of E-Life (Awa House)

Studying: Biology, Calculus & Algebra, Chemistry, English Literature, Probability & Statistics
As one of the Heads of E-Life for 2018, alongside my team, I hope to build on the foundations set by the inaugural E-Life team last year. Digital media is becoming more prevalent as the years go by and with 60% of the school involved in the BYOT initiative, safe and easy electronic use is increasingly important. This year what I hope to achieve is to help the E-Life team to become more widely recognised within the school and establish a platform for future teams to build off. I am looking forward to working alongside my team for 2018 and I am excited about what we will achieve.



Jordan Cohen
Head of Sport

Kerwyn Morgan
Head of Sport

Jordan Cohen - Head of Sport (Moana House)

Studying: Economics, English, Physical Education, Probability & Statistics, Sports Smart, Trigonometry & Algebra
This year I plan to continue the work that the 2017 Sport prefects had begun planning last year. With the introduction of houses this year the school spirit and culture will be greater than ever before with Athletics Day becoming a whole school activity. With this, we will be able to show off the potential that our school has whilst getting everyone involved in a physical activity. I want to be able to encourage students to get involved in a sport whether it be socially or competitively. I believe that sport is such an important part of our lives, as it keeps us fit and healthy whilst also having a great social aspect to it. I hope to encourage all Whanganui High School students to get involved in sporting opportunities throughout the 2018 school year and the future.

Kerwyn Morgan - Head of Sport (Awa House)

Studying: English, Health, Mathematics, Performing Arts, Physical Education, Sports Smart
As Head of Sport for 2018, I am really excited and looking forward to leading and working with a team of talented Sports Prefects that are capable of encouraging and promoting our sporting culture offered here at Whanganui High School. We have the opportunity this year with our new housing system to bring back our school spirit we have lost over the past few years. With events such as Swimming Sports which was a success and Athletics Day having the whole school down at Cook's Gardens cheering and chanting for their houses. Our prefect team plan on getting all students involved with not only competitive events but also fun events.



Oscar Zhang
Head of International

Kristina Baass
Head of International

Oscar Zhang - Head of International (Moana House)

Studying: Accounting, Economics, Geometry & Calculus, International English, Physics, Trigonometry & Algebra
As Head of International in 2018, the first job I am going to do is to continue the work we did in 2017. Such as the Homestay BBQ, Cultural Festival, tutoring and so on. The purpose of these activities is to promote good relationships at school with other students especially International students who are from different countries and have different cultures. For this year, we also have some new activities, for example, New Year celebrations. The main issue of the language barrier can cause isolation between kiwi students and International Students. The most important goal I want to achieve this year is that everyone in our International group communicates with everyone at school. Not just students in their own 'Language Bubble', but I want to encourage them to talk with people from other countries. Improvement with speaking English is one of the most important things International students have to overcome. To accomplish this goal would also help the International students who are wanting to do their best at school and for their NCEA examinations.

Kristina Baass - Head of International (Maunga House)

Studying: English, Art Printing, French, Biology, Textiles and Fashion Design, Mathematics
As Head of International I want to show the International students that speaking to 'kiwis' helps you to learn the language and integrate yourself. Within my role, I will be responsible, patient and have a good sense of humour. I am open minded to try every idea and opportunity that will help make every International student have an unforgettable experience at Whanganui High School. I am also happy to answer any questions about an exchange and travelling abroad. Teamwork is important to implement plans, ideas and events like the annual Homestay BBQ. I am looking forward to great team work with the International prefect team. I will try my best to make this year sensational for everyone at Whanganui High School.

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