



Nua News

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Assistant Principal:

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Year 12 Dean:

Colin Taylor

Ext 118

Year 11 Dean:

Kerry Pile

Ext 220

Year 10 Dean:

Aleisha Grey

Ext 219

Year 9 Dean:

Margaret Knight

Ext 129

International Dean:

Robyn Keeling

Ext 215

Careers Centre:

Pani Kerehoma

Anthea Hale

Ext 126

Maori Dean:

Greg Cvitanovic

Ext 224 - Whare

Tēnā koutou e ngā Mātua me ngā Whaea

October 2010

It is hard to believe that the end of the year is approaching, it has certainly been an action packed 2009.

Term 4 is full of celebrations and we have already had the Cultural Awards Evening which was a huge success. It is always an excellent opportunity to see so many students excel in their Arts and Cultural Performances. I congratulate each and every one of them and of course the staff who are always there to advise, guide and share their expertise.

The dates for the other celebrations are:

Sports Awards	Wednesday 4 November	6.30pm	Coaches	Staffroom
		7.30pm	Awards	Hall
Senior Prizegiving	Thursday 3 December	7.30pm		Hall
Junior Prizegiving	Friday 11 December	11am		Hall
Academy March Out	Wednesday 2 December	TBA		College

We have now collected the option choice forms from the students and are beginning to prepare the timetable for 2010. If you have a Year 8 student to enrol it would help us if you could complete the enrolment form and return it as soon as possible so that we can begin gathering information from previous schools to help us organise classes.

Recently we have registered our interest in maintaining as much community based education as we can for 2010. The government priorities and requirements have meant that only certain courses are funded. Aspects of literacy, numeracy, ESOL, sign language, Maori and basic computing are able to receive some support funding. We would love to continue with some of the other interest classes but it would mean an increase in fees and guaranteed numbers for classes to run. We will keep you informed as developments occur.

We have also learnt that the Academy will continue for 2010 and recruitment is underway for our first intake. If you would like more information please contact the college.

The appointment process for 2010 Prefects is underway. I have received some excellent CV's. Leadership training occurred on Friday and interviews have been held. The speeches of the short listed candidates will be delivered at the next full school assembly

on 4th November after which the school will vote. I must congratulate all the students who submitted a CV. They are a fabulous group of young men and women.

On 27th November we will be inviting all Year 10 parents to a parent teacher conference. You will be sent a letter with the appointment time and we ask that you arrange to attend. The 15-20 minute interview will be conducted on this occasion by the Tutor Teacher or one of your son/daughter's teachers who will have all the information concerning your child's progress to share with you. I hope this will provide an opportunity for us to work together to improve your son/daughter's education and be a really positive experience.

We would like to email newsletters to you but need email addresses to do this. Please email the college office: horowhenuacollege@horowhenua.school.nz with your current address, phone numbers and your child's name so we can update email address and check details.

Brenda Burns
Principal



1st in Year 9 Public Speaking – Angela Kahotea



Speech Finalists – Kirsty Robinson, Angela Kahotea, Matt Duff, Emma Wilson, Annalise Higgins

How To Make The Most Of Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences are an important part of a school's reporting system. It is one of the few opportunities parents and teachers have to discuss student progress in a structured setting. Experienced teachers and parents know how to make the most of the short time allowed for a conference. Here are some tips:

- Try to be relaxed. Teachers don't want to put you on the spot or make you feel you are being judged. They want a useful discussion that will help them teach better and your child learn better.
- All children learn in slightly different ways but the elements of good education remain pretty much the same. Of course your child is special and unique to you and all good teachers want to see each student as an individual. But most children will do well at school if they master the basics, pay attention and try to co-operate.
- When you and the teacher are united, that's a powerful message from the most important adult team in your child's education. Children will happily play one adult off against another if they can get away with it. When they know you and their teacher respect each other and communicate regularly, children soon accept they just have to settle down to their schoolwork.
- Try to be on time and keep to the allotted time. If you cannot make the appointment, arrange one at a time that suits you better. If you know you need longer than the allotted time, arrange to meet the teacher outside the conference timetable.
- Ask your child if there are any matters that you should raise at the conference.
- If your child is not making progress, ask teachers for specific suggestions about how you can help your child do better.
- Stay in regular touch with the teacher to discuss the progress your child is making. Meeting with your child's teachers helps build the strong parent-teacher partnerships that are needed if you and your child's teachers are to reach your common goal of helping your child get the best education possible.

Some good questions to ask:

- How well does my child get along with others?
- What are my child's best and worst subjects?
- Is my child working up to his or her ability?
- Does my child participate in class discussions and activities?
- Has my child missed any classes other than ones I contacted the school about?
- Have you noticed any sudden changes in the way my child acts? For example, have you noticed any signs of physical or other problems?
- What kinds of tests are being done? What do the tests tell about my child's progress?
- How does my child handle taking tests?

Try asking your most important questions first, just in case time runs out before you and the teacher have a chance to discuss them all.

Cultural Awards Evening



Pacific Island Cultural Group performing

The first of our four awards ceremonies was held in the hall on the evening of 21 October, with Mr Smith acting as host/comper. The hall was full of enthusiastic parents and supporters of the college's cultural life. Live musical performances included solo acts and groups who had gained placings in the Term 3 Talent Quest. Live oral performances included the winning junior speech and senior drama groups. Performances on DVD included excerpts from the Kapa Haka contest and the extremely successful Stage Challenge performance. The second half started with our Samoan group who performed in memory of the casualties of the recent Samoan/Tongan tsunami. Three new trophies were awarded, and for the first time the Language (Spanish, Japanese and Maori) Olympics were marked with special certificates. This was an extremely entertaining evening, well set off in the surroundings provided by the redecoration of the hall. The list of award winners is to be published in the school magazine in December.

Teacher Award

Mr Smith (Head of English and Languages) has gained a term's sabbatical leave in 2010 to study schools and their curricula in Germany and Britain. The Ministry of Education distributes only 20 of these awards each year to teachers across the country who have long service of over 20 years un-interrupted teaching. Mr Smith is both surprised and excited at the award which means that he will be on leave during Term 2 next year.



Horowhenua Rock Band "Lisha"

Sport at Nua

Horowhenua College students competing at National Swimming Competition

From the 27th - 30th of September the NZ Springs Short Course Swimming Championships (25-metre pool) were held at the QE2 facility in Christchurch. A group of Levin Swimming Club members had made the qualifying times to compete at this event where they would be able to gauge their performances against the best swimmers in the country and the Australian competitors who were able to attend. Also, these swimmers would be in the company of previous and current Olympic swimmers.

The Horowhenua College students that made the qualifying times were Michael Whiley (14), Tarina Rose (14) and Courtney Evans (13) all swimming in the 13 to 14 year age group.

This was a tough competition which resulted in the 3 students posting 12 personal best times between them. Tarina Rose gained a NZ 8th placing in the 200 medley relay while Michael Whiley and Courtney Evans qualified for places in two individual finals each. Michael gained NZ 6th in the 100 metre Butterfly with a time of 1.03.87 and NZ 8th in the 100 metre freestyle with a time of 57.53. Courtney gained NZ 6th in the 100 metre backstroke with a time of 1.07.32 and the NZ silver medal for the 50 metre backstroke final with a time of 30.73 and also broke the Manawatu record for 13 year old girls.



Top left to right: Ashleigh Turner, Melissa Richardson, Crimson Whakatihi, Michael Whiley
Front left to right: Tarina Rose, Moss Burmester (NZ Olympic swimmer), Courtney Evans

Boys Cricket Tour of Australia



On the 4th October and after 8 months of intense fundraising, 25 students made up of our First Eleven and our Year 9 and 10 team, as well as two teachers and 5 parents, left for a 10 day trip to the Gold Coast of Australia.

While away, games of cricket were played against College and State Representative sides. Our First XI played four games, lost the first against Palm Beach Currumbin High School by three wickets and the second game against The Southport School we went down in the last over. The third game against a Gold Coast Rep side was rained out after we had batted first and scored 270 runs. The final game also against The Southport School was a thriller and Horowhenua won by 6 runs. Players to shine were Dion Sanson and Matt Bacon with the bat, and Matt Bacon, Elisha Masoe and Michael O'Brien with the ball.

The junior side played four games – won two, lost two. Players to shine from the games were Kyle Campbell, Sean Finlayson, Keegan MacLachlan and Ivan McIntyre with the bat and Josh McLean, James Harrison and Liam Forward with the ball.

Other than cricket the boys spent their time shopping, swimming, more shopping and sight seeing. A day was also spent at the Wet n Wild and Dream World theme parks. The boys were an absolute pleasure to be with. They did themselves, their families and the school proud both on and off the field. A great time was had by all. Good things are expected of our cricket teams this year.

Gary O'Brien

Team Organiser



Junior Cricket Team



Senior Cricket Team

Student Achievements

Kapa Haka:

Kahika Taiapa was judged as the third best male leader of the culture groups that took the stage in the regional kapa haka competitions in Palmerston North earlier in the year. He was only three points from the best in the region, Hato Paora!



Kahika Taiapa



In the female section our young stars, especially Missie Riwaka who is only year 9, scored well. They were only 8 points out of two hundred away from the third placed team in the poi, for example.

Operation Christmas Child

This term 9cB Social Studies decided to help with Operation Christmas Child. Organized by Samaritan's Purse, the project sends shoeboxes of gifts to children in need overseas. Students from 9cB have held car washes and competitions to raise money for this project. They have collected gifts from family and friends and approached local businesses for their support. We would like to say a big thank you to RD1, Farmlands, Rabobank, New World, Paperplus and The Warehouse. Thanks must also go to the staff and parents for their support, donations and patience! We have now packed all of our boxes and are looking forward to them being sent overseas.

Maths News

Congratulations to Jake Meads, Allyssa Carle, Regan Pickering, Jamie Searle, Brent Staples and Alexander Heyes who received Credit in the Australian Maths competition and Andrew Berry and Andrew Lankshear who received Distinction.

Year 13 Biology Zoo Trip

On October 13th, 20 keen biologists travelled to Wellington Zoo. We travelled four million years back in time and covered a vast history of primates. During this lecture, we also observed different skulls and their evolution to *Homo sapiens* in the space of a single hour. We were even able to pat a possum! Following our exciting journey into history, we were taken on a tour of the Zoo's different primate exhibits including the Gibbons, Baboons, Lemurs, Tamarins and Chimpanzees. The trip allowed us enthusiastic biologists to further explore the mysteries of human evolution and extend our knowledge for our upcoming NCEA exams.



Prefect Leadership Training Day

On October 23rd, 18 Year 12 students who have applied to be prefects in 2010, spent a day exploring various aspects of leadership, including principles of leadership, time management and personal development. The students were put through a variety of exercises that challenged them both physically and psychologically. The day also gave the students an opportunity to question our Principal, Mrs Burns, about her expectations of prefects. Questions covering areas such as commitment to meetings, being an effective role model, support, leadership qualities and involvement in outside activities were covered.



The highlight of the day for most was a blindfold trust exercise at the adventure park. This put a lot of students out of their comfort zone. What it did highlight however was the importance of using good, clear communication, a vital ingredient for any future leader.



School Information

Activities Week 16-20 November

It is that time of the year when the Year 9 and 10's have their annual activities week. This week provides valuable learning experiences outside the general classroom. Students travel to many geographical locations and experience a wide range of activities. This year trips will be going to Rotorua, Mount Maunganui, Taranaki, Wanganui, Palmerston North and various location within the Horowhenua. The students will be involved in activities such as surfing, caving, white water rafting, kart racing, swimming, golfing, tramping, photography, mosaics and many more. By now parents should know what activity their child has been placed on, information sheets should have been distributed and deposits paid to the Cashiers office. Students not doing activities will be required at school for the week where normal classes will be run. If you have any queries about activities week please contact Mr Friedel for assistance.

Order and pay for your 2009 Nua Magazine/Yearbook NOW!

This publication includes Tutor photos, student work, sports photos and team write-ups, prize-givings, photos from events during the year eg. The Ball, Athletics ... The cost is \$15 if you have paid the school activity fee (school donation) or \$20 if you haven't

www.studyit.org.nz - A great site to prepare students for externals, it has preview exam papers available.

www.studyedge.co.nz - a free e-book for parents to assist their students to succeed at school, worth a look

Dates for your Calendar

TERM 4 Dates - 12 OCTOBER TO 13 DECEMBER

Week 4

- 2/11 Indonesian Students Visit**
- 3/11 School finishes at 2.10pm for Staff PD on Restorative Practices 2.30-5pm**
- 4/11 Sports Awards**
- 5/11 BOT Meeting**
- 5/11 Foodbank Mufti Day**

Week 5

- 9/11 Year 13 Art, Design, Photo Folio Day**
- 11/11-13/11 Year 10 Exams**
- 11/11 9cA and 9cK Social Studies Trip**
- 12/11 Gateway Graduation 6.30-8.30pm**
- 13/11 Last day for seniors**

Week 6

- 14/11 NCEA Exams start**
- 16/11-20/11 Year 9 and 10 Activities Week**

Parentline Manawatu Inc. -What's On?

Parents looking for some encouragement & support? Parentline offers confidential counselling. Whether it is support with a particular problem parents/caregivers are facing or whether they just need a place to sound things out, personal or child related - a counsellor can help them to get perspective and reach solutions.

Contact Parentline for an appointment 3551655

Teenagers & Parents- are you communicating well?

The **GAIN** programme will show you both the skills to successfully communicate and improve your relationship! A programme for parents/caregivers and teens/youth to attend together! 6 sessions. To register phone 3551655. Start date to be confirmed.

Blended Families

Creating Powerful Possibilities within your new family Looking at:

What makes up a Blended Family

What are the Myths & Fallacies?

Knowing the Challenges

Solutions & Strategies - Roles,

Discipline, Relationships,

Power, Grief

A one day workshop 9.30-4pm on Saturday 14th November, with a follow up meeting as agreed by participants.

To register call Phone Parentline to register 3551655

Parenting support available on our 0800 number

- 0800 4 FAMILY - 0800 432 6459

Levin Athletics Club: Club nights will be Thursdays, 6 - 7.30pm at Waiopahu College. Registrations will begin on Thursday, 15th October.

The club is open to athletes of all abilities from tots to teenagers, with extra training and coaching available to competitive athletes.

Enquiries can be made to Robyn Wills 367 9242 or Rosemary McKay 368 6977

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AQUAFUNK

Water Fitness For Youth

Just \$2.50 every Wednesday 5.30-6.30pm, 12-18 years

Levin Aquatic Centre



Boys Cricket Team in action in Australia



Mr Malcolm Bignall Dean of Pacific Island students presenting awards