



# NUA NEWS

## **Acting Principal:**

Sharon Moerkerk

## **Assistant Principal:**

James Los'e Ext 705

## **Assistant Principal:**

Daryl Warburton Ext 729

## **Executive Officer:**

Pauline Waite Ext 706

## **Year 13 Dean:**

Steve Tong Ext 716

## **Year 12 Dean:**

Melissa Signal Ext 724

## **Year 11 Dean:**

Deb Northern Ext 727

## **Year 10 Dean:**

Alastair Green Ext 726

## **Year 9 Dean:**

Areti Alexandrou Ext 728

## **Director of International Education:**

Robyn Keeling Ext 714

## **Careers Centre:**

Pani Kerehoma Ext 707

## **Maori Dean:**

Greg Cvitanovic Ext 722

## **Pacific Island Dean**

Lorraine Futter Ext 738

Tēnā koutou e ngā Mātua me ngā Whaea

September 2014

Dear Parents and Caregivers

September has been a busy month at college and in the rest of this newsletter you can read about the many activities that students have been involved in.

As Term 3 finishes and we begin Term 4 it is important to keep student focussed on their studies and on achieving to the best of their ability. Seniors sat their mock exams just before the end of Term 3 and should now have a good understanding of what they need to do to fill any gaps in their understanding before externals start on Monday 10 November. There are some important actions that you can take to support them in this:

- Discuss their progress with them.
- Talk to them about how many credits they already have and how many they need to complete their NCEA.
- Make yourself aware of how they plan to address areas where they have not performed to expected levels.
- Encourage them to take advantage of every revision class that is offered.
- Help them design a revision programme between now and the externals.
- Ensure that they have sufficient time in the evening to do their homework or revision.
- Reduce after school work hours if possible.

Year 10 core subject exams will also be held in Term 4 so Year 10 students should, like the seniors, be asking their teachers to explain the requirements for these exams.



## A Word From Our Principal

Course selection by students for their 2015 subjects is going well and I thank all the parents/caregivers who attended the parent conferences at the end of Term 3 and were able to support their students to make sensible, appropriate choices for next year.

Term 4 is extremely busy with a number of important events. The first of these is the pōwhiri for our new Principal. It will be held on Monday 13 October starting at 11.30am and all parents and caregivers are most welcome to attend.

On Wednesday 22 October we will be hosting a celebration of success for Pasifika students from a number of local schools. Our Sports Awards will be next on Thursday 23 October and our Cultural Awards ceremony will be held on Tuesday 4 November. Senior Prizegiving is on Wednesday 3 December and Junior Prizegiving on Friday 12 December. We look forward to seeing many of you at these events in our college hall to help us celebrate the successes of our students.

It has been a very busy two terms for me as Acting Principal but I now look forward to the arrival of our new Principal, Grant Congdon, and supporting him as the college moves forward.

Nga mihi  
Sharon Moerkerk  
Acting Principal

Below: The staff hard at work at the hangi pit on teacher only day





## A Word From The Board

2014. The Board of Trustees. Me. Yup.

The word I would use is surreal. As a prefect and student representative on the BOT in 2014 I have seen and done more than in any other year of my secondary school experience.

Being on the Board of Trustees has taught me of governance, education in New Zealand, and has shown me what it is like to contribute to a professional work environment. I have been involved in the running of committees and meetings throughout my final year of college, involvements which have been greatly aided by my time on the Board. Opportunities to further myself have never been as forthcoming as they have been during my term, to the point where I was sent on an all expenses paid trip to Auckland for a 5 day voyage on the Spirit of Adventure.

I could go on, but in the interest of brevity I shall say this only: my time on the Board of Trustees has been the single most valuable experience of my entire secondary school career. I wish my successor Rhianna Morar luck in her term as the new student representative and sincerely hope that she gets as much out of her term as I myself have.

Finn Madison  
Board Rep 2013-2014



Above: Finn Madison  
Below: Rhianna Morar



## Requests for Student Leave

Parents are requested to avoid taking their son/daughter out of school for trips. If, however, parents feel they have a compelling need to take their son/daughter away from school for reasons other than health, the correct procedure is to email or write to the Principal seeking permission before the absence takes place.

The college email address is:

**[office@horowhenua.school.nz](mailto:office@horowhenua.school.nz)**





## Pasifika PowerUP Programme

During Terms Three and Four this year Horowhenua College is hosting Pasifika PowerUP. This is a joint initiative from the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs and the Ministry of Education. PowerUP for NCEA is a programme that actively supports our Pacific Island parents and families to “power up” their children’s success. PowerUP is a positive and friendly environment where parents, students and families can learn about NCEA. It provides academic support for our secondary students by giving them an opportunity to receive tuition and expert support from subject teachers in a one to one or small group situation. In addition, it offers a venue for students to continue with their study and research using the resources of the school. So, it is very important that students who come to these sessions bring homework, research questions, assignments, in fact any school work or homework they need help with as there will always be teachers there to help them.

Each week students and families can expect:

- Workshops for parents and community trainers
- Examination and study tips
- Time management advice
- Expert tutoring on NCEA standards
- Assessment preparation (internal and external)
- Careers advice
- Inspirational success stories
- AND .... A light meal to keep up energy levels UP!

PowerUP has continued to grow in popularity as each week has passed, with large numbers of students and their parents gathering on Monday evenings from 5.30-8pm in the school library. This initiative runs successfully due to the amazing generosity of teachers from Horowhenua and Waiopahu Colleges who give up their time in the evenings to return to school to work with students. It will resume in week one of Term Four and finish four weeks later.





## Pasifika PowerUP Programme



This week we were very lucky to have two guests share their educational journeys with the students. Ardie Savea and Ambrose Curtis from the Wellington Lions rugby team were our surprise speakers and were very popular with the students.

They explained why motivation, focus and never giving up on our dreams is so important if we are to achieve our goals. Needless to say, at the end of the evening there were many 'selfies' taken with the two guests who happily obliged to have their photos taken over and over again!

We are looking forward to other inspirational speakers as the programme moves into Term Four.

Mrs Futter  
Dean of Pasifika Students







## Tournament Week

This year the NZ secondary schools tournament week was held in the first week of September. We had six teams involved covering a wide range of sports.

The boys hockey team went to Taupo for their tournament with high hopes after winning the top Manawatu grade in Palmerston North. Although they made it through to the semi finals, this was as far as they went and they ended the tournament in 4<sup>th</sup> place.



The girls hockey did even better making it through to the final in their tournament in Carterton. The score was locked at 1-1 when the final whistle was blown against Sacred Heart of New Plymouth meaning they had to go to a penalty shoot out. This they lost, so a runners up placing was as good as they could get.





## Tournament Week



The boys football went to Inglewood for their tournament and did well to finish 11<sup>th</sup> out of 24 teams. They started off well, hit a bad patch but came home strong, winning some crucial games. Mr O'Brien coached the team well and was ably assisted by Mr Warburton and Mr Pollock. Well done to the team who had a number of defections and injuries before tournament.

Two teams of rugby played during tournament. The U15 team went to Dannevirke to a quadrangular tournament featuring teams from the local high school, us, Hutt Valley High School and Wairarapa College. Although the team lost their first game they came back well to win their second one finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> overall. Mr Los'e and Mr Wilton took the boys and said they played extremely well.

The 1<sup>st</sup> XV played the same teams here in a quadrangular later in the week. Their first game against Hutt Valley High School was very close and Horowhenua did well to come away with the win 21 – 19. The next day they played a very good Wairarapa team losing by a fair margin. Second overall was a very good result and the boys put in a great effort. Well done to Mr Hart who did a great job coaching them.





## Tournament Week



Netball had their tournament in Hastings where the weather was atrocious. They played two games a day on average, ending up winning four and losing five which brought their placing to 16 out of 32. Their last game ironically was against local rivals Waiopehu which they lost. Well done to Tatum Kerehoma who made the tournament team and to the four Year 13 girls who have now finished playing netball for the school.







## Trevor Brooking Challenge

Congratulations to our First XI Boys, First XI Girls and the U15 Boys teams who played in the annual Trevor Brooking Challenge against Waiopahu

The First XI Boys won the Trevor Brooking Trophy 3-0.

The First XI Girls won the Eastern and Central Community Cup 4-0

The U15 Boys won the Tesh Gallagher Memorial Salver 1-0.

Well done to the teams and their coaches and a big thank you to the Palmerston North referees.







## Trevor Brooking



Above Girls First XI team.

Below Boys U15 team.







## Get2Go Challenge

The annual Wellington Get2Go challenge was held on the 9<sup>th</sup> September. Before 6am our team of intrepid Year Tens had hauled ourselves out from the comfort of their beds, bright eyed and ready to face a tireless day.

First up was mountain biking. Two bikes, eight people, 40 minutes of non-stop biking around a rugged course. It was only ever a short rest for each of us before the next bike came along and we were off again. Trying to make each interchange as slick as possible required teamwork and communication analogous to the pit crews of car racing and it certainly felt that way. With few realistic opportunities to overtake, the importance of these changeovers can't be overstated.

After 40 minutes of hard racing we headed off to the next event: kayaking, and we were right back into it again. Paddling for 45 minutes around a circuit in the frigid waters of Frank Kitts lagoon, being awarded points for different activities such as paddling standing up or two people in one kayak. After a few hairy moments and only one capsized kayak, we finished this event cold and wet but happy. Two events down, two to go.

Off we went again, barely time enough to devour a snack as we walked around the waterfront to rockclimbing at Ferg's Kayaks. The massive walls appeared daunting at first, looming over us like mountain peaks. However, once we had each conquered a wall they seemed to shrink in size substantially. After pulling our tired bodies up the walls we were ready for a break but still one more challenge beckoned us: orienteering.

Orienteering (aka 45 minutes of nonstop running) took place around Wellington and along the waterfront. Once we had our bearings and located the first point we were on a roll. Using a combination of fitness, our limited map reading skills and the help of some friendly locals, we managed to make it back to the starting point just under the deadline reaching all but three of the stations.

After a quick dip in the ocean to cool off we set off back to Levin tired and ready for a long night's sleep. This fun-filled, action-packed day is a great way to push yourself and to try sports and activities which are not usually offered.

Jotham Harris  
Year 10





## Roadshow 2014



The 2014 Horowhenua College Roadshow happened on Thursday the 28<sup>th</sup> of August.

This was an amazing day where local primary school students aged from 5 to 12 were able to come and watch the talented students from our school perform musical items and skits.

Items included the extremely funny Pacific Island skit called 'Jonah and the Bullies', the Rock Quest band Concrete Pills, the Kapa Haka group and more.

Everyone who came to see it was blown away by the burst of energy that our students gave.

Thank you Mr Wright and Ms Perry for pulling off such an amazing show.

Hannah McMillan  
Arts Prefect





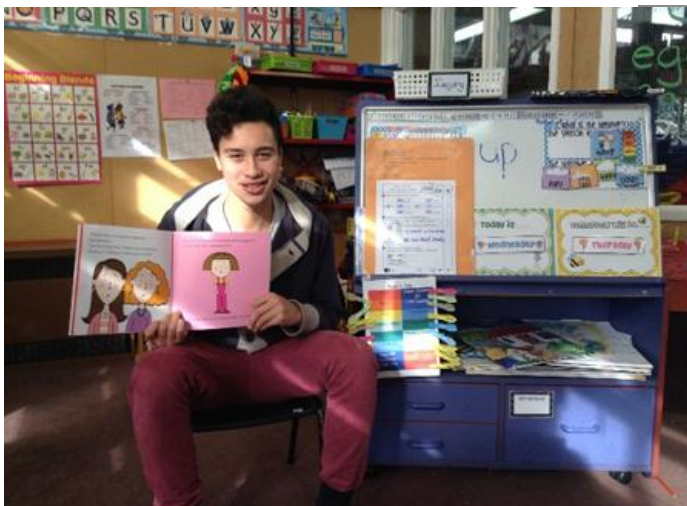


## Year 10 Work Week

Y10 Work Week 2014 was delivered differently from in the past years. This year each core class was timetabled one period per week to come to the Careers Centre to engage in Careers Education with Whaea Pani. During this 10 week period each core class played 'The Real Game' which introduces students to the world of work and helps them develop an understanding of the options and opportunities available to them and implications and importance of their choices. Playing 'The Real Game' helped prepare our Y10's for work week by getting them to think about themselves and their own futures.

2014 saw 90% of our Y10's take up the challenge, finding their own employment for the week and completing the workbook worth 5 L1 NCEA credits. The types of work our Y10's found were vast; these are evident in the photo's we received from the various workplaces. The work experiences shared by students when they returned to school were inspiring and for most a big reality check about the world of work and more importantly what subjects to choose for senior school that will lead them to the career they want to pursue when they leave school at the end of Y13.

For staff visiting workplaces is always a highlight, as is hearing reports about students' work performances and what they had been required to do. Employers were impressed with their students most of whom showed a keenness to work which resulted in some students gaining holiday employment.







## Year 10 Work Week



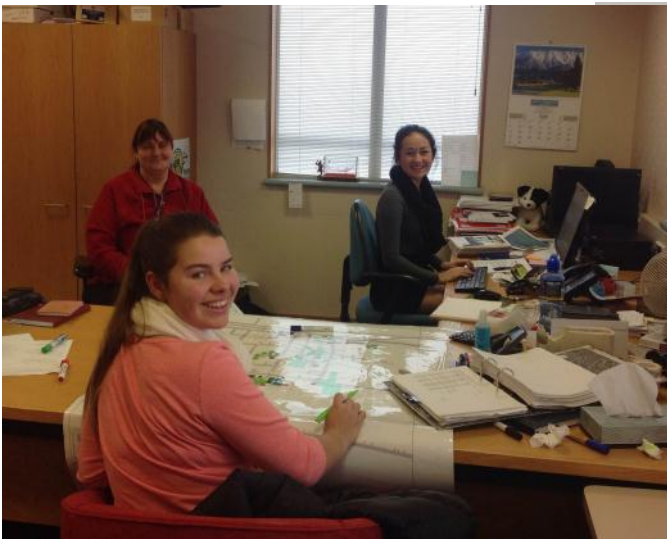
A big heartfelt 'thank you' to all of the employers and workplaces who took a chance on our Y10's and gave them the opportunity to gain a week's work experience. Without your support Y10 Work Week at NUA wouldn't happen, Kia Ora Koutou!

Lastly I also want to thank all of the 2014 Y10's who took Careers Education seriously and made the most of the opportunities that were given to them, exploring work options and completing the workbook to achieve 5 L1 NCEA credits.

Well done and go hard in senior school.

Whaea Pani

Careers Advisor







## Gem-In-Eye



Left to Right: Roha Taiapa, Skye Waarea, Debra Salu, Jamie Lynn, Tatum Kerehoma and Emily Mose Tuialii

Congratulations to the Gem-In-Eye dance crew who have in September competed in both the Regional and National Dance NZ Made Inter School Competitions.

For their regional competition they won: Open Champions (Y9-13), Choreography Award and Overall Champions. The judges complimented them for great makeup and timing, effective costuming, tight formation changes and their fierce, well executed dance.

They came home from the Nationals at the Regent in Palmerston North as the Open Champions (Y9-13).

Well done.





## Year 9 Speech Finals

Nine contestants lined up in the hall during period three on the final day of Term 3 to try to win the Year 9 Speech final. The winner was Sina Crichton whose topic was Drugs and Their Dangers. Second place went to Kelly Carline who talked about Vision. Two speakers were adjudged third equal: Fusi Vehikite speaking about Pacific Island Education, and Oakley Kidd whose topic was Bullying.

An innovation this year was Ezalea Hazel whose speech was beamed into the hall courtesy of Youtube, as she was away on a class trip.

The three judges, Mr Tong, Mr Smith and Mrs McCormick, were all impressed by the exceptionally high standard of all the finalists.

Mr Smith

Head of Faculty Languages



Left to Right: Oakley Kidd 3rd, Kelly Carline 2nd, Sina Crichton 1st, Fusi Vehikite 3rd





## Nga Manu Trip

On 12 September the new international students who started in July visited Nga Manu Bird Sanctuary. This is always a lovely visit. The students enjoyed seeing the kiwi and other native wild life and enjoyed the scenic walk on the Nga Manu property. The weather was very warm on that day so a trip to the nearby beach to see Kapiti Island was also very much enjoyed.



This term we have established an international committee made up of 20 of our local students. This committee will organise events outside of school for our international and exchange students. This is a great initiative and will be another way of helping our international students to integrate into our school community. An international lunch for Term 3 was held on 24 September and was enjoyed by all.





## Umpires Certificates

Long hours at the netball courts for Frances Bacon and Toni Baker every Saturday have recently been recognised. After playing their own games at 9am they then umpired games for other teams, usually doing two games each Saturday. Toni has umpired mostly in the Intermediate grades so far and has just passed her Centre Practical Award. Recently she travelled with Levin Intermediate to umpire at the NZAIMS Games. Frances, who earned her Centre Practical last year, also umpired Intermediate games and has gradually moved into Collegiate and Premiere grade games. She recently passed her Zone Theory Exam which is the next step along the Umpires development pathway. Earlier in the season, Frances travelled with Horowhenua Age Group Representative Teams as an umpire. Towards the end of the season she was being appointed to umpire Premiere 1 Grade



**Above: Toni Baker and Frances Bacon**

games. Both girls show real promise as umpires (as well as players) and intend to continue next season.

## Aims Games 2014

On the 8th of September Levin Intermediate took two teams away to compete in the annual Aims Games competition. Aims Games is a week long sporting tournament held every year for Year 7 & 8 students, and hosts almost every sport from bowls and multisport to netball and rugby. This year there were over 7000 participants which includes coaches managers and players.

The Levin Intermediate took a netball and rugby team away and they both did very well. I was fortunate enough to be asked to go with the netball team to umpire. It was a very full on week and I was assigned to two or three games a day. Overall it was an amazing experience and I was very lucky to be able to go.

Toni Baker  
Year 10





## Year 11 Spanish Embassy Trip

On 25th of September Miss Jones and four students from the Year 11 Spanish class travelled to Wellington.

We went to the Embassy of Spain and were hosted by the Spanish Education Advisor, Mr Pablo Mateu Garcia. The students had a chance to practise their Spanish with him before His Excellence the Spanish Ambassador Mr Manuel Viturro De La Torre



walked in and introduced himself. He showed us into his office and talked about his previous diplomatic posts and showed us photos of him with kings and presidents. We were then shown around the rest of the embassy and met all the other Spanish members of the team. The students were even introduced to a man named Jesus which was a thrill for some of them.

The second official part of the trip was a visit to the Embassy of Brazil. The official language of Brazil is Portuguese; however the languages are closely related and we wanted to learn more about Brazil because it borders with so many Spanish speaking countries. We were lucky enough to meet their Ambassador too, His Excellency Mr Eduardo Gradilone, who received us in his office which had a 13th floor corner view of the Wellington Harbour. He spoke to us in fluent Spanish, which, being a Brazilian diplomat, he had learnt. Following that his assistants treated us to a presentation about Brazil and its history.

As well as the embassy visits we also met with a Senior Advisor from the NZ Ministry of Primary Industries who told the students about the opportunities for working in the Public Service and how knowing a second language like Spanish could make them extremely valuable employees.



All in all we had a wonderful day. The students practised their Spanish and learnt more about how New Zealand interacts with the rest of the world on an official level.

We thank the Embassies of Spain and Brazil for their time.

Senora Jones TIC Spanish



## Education Perfect Science

The Education Perfect Science world championships was an online event that ran from the 18-26th August. It involved answering a variety of science based questions and receiving points for correct answers. Forty of our students competed with the following 12 scoring high enough to receive certificates.

Laura Wedlock	Gold Award	Alysha Gibbard	Gold Award
Nikki Su	Gold Award	Kata Ruschhaupt	Gold Award
Jhea Dela Cruz	Silver Award	Bailey Mitchell	Bronze Award
Matt Hollows	Bronze Award	Georgia Crandall	Credit Award
Nakita O'Sullivan	Credit Award	Trinity Bailey	Credit Award
Mya Mataka	Credit Award	Michael Li	Credit Award

Total questions answered globally: 7,389,633. Total questions answered at Horowhenua College: 53,084

### School Achievements

- 6th overall globally (out of 787 schools)
- 17th overall in New Zealand (out of 209 schools)
- 5th overall in the 101-250 students category (out of 227 schools)
- 4th in New Zealand for the 101-250 student category (out of 61 schools)

Mr Cadle

Assistant Head of Faculty

## Wellington Schools Cycling Champs



Amy Horn and Sophie Bloxham represented Horowhenua College at the Wellington Schools Cycling Champs. They competed in all three events: a hill climb, individual time trial and a criterium.

Both achieved fantastic results:

### Hill Climb

Sophie 1st in 4 minutes 51.

Amy 2nd 4 minutes 55

### Time Trial

Sophie 1st with a time of 15.36

Amy 2nd with a time of 15.37

### Criterium

Sophie 1st and Amy 2nd.

Well done to both of them wearing the NUA colours with pride.





## Trade Aid Essay



Congratulations to Jotham Harris with his success as the national winner of the Trade Aid Essay Competition. Jotham submitted an essay in response to the topic that asked students to reflect on how people could use international trade to help reduce global poverty rather than contributing to it.

Trade Aid said the judges were delighted with Jotham's essay. They felt that his essay "clearly stood out" amongst the other submissions and were delighted to award him the top prize in the junior section of the competition.

If you would like to read Jotham's essay please go to the Trade Aid website below.

Mr Pile  
Geography Teacher

<http://www.tradeaid.org.nz/National%20Winner%20Year%209-10%20Harris%20Jotham%20Horowhenua%20College.pdf>

## Tongan Language Day



Sina Moala, Roselyn Vehikite, Fifita Tupe, Vikatolia Finau, Luana Moala



## Past Pupils

**GOLD & World Record.**  
**Steven Kent, NZ Black Fins**  
**17.09.2014 // 200m obstacles in a**  
**time of 1:53.33, World & NZ record**



Above Right:

Steven Kent who recently competed in the Lifesaving World Championships in France.



Left:

Kelly Mackie is currently undertaking an internship with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) at the United Nations in New York.





## Book Drive



Tessa Bartholomew (Chairperson), Faith Courtney (Secretary) and Rhianna Morar (Communications) from Horowhenua College Social Action Group (NSA) handing donated library books over to Paraparaumu School. The NSA decided to run a book drive for the school after some classes and the library burnt down in a recent fire. The librarian said that the school had been overwhelmed by the generosity of the community. NSA would like to thank the members of the public and students who kindly donated reading material for this drive.

## School Contact Information

**Telephone:** 06 3686159 or 0800467694  
Dial 1 to report a student absence  
Dial 2 for the Executive Officer  
Dial 3 for the Principal's Secretary  
Dial 4 for property matters  
Dial 5 for reception

**Website:** [www.horowhenua.school.nz](http://www.horowhenua.school.nz)  
**Email:** [office@horowhenua.school.nz](mailto:office@horowhenua.school.nz)

**Parent Portal access is via the college website.**



## School Information

### Dates For Your Calendar

Dates are added to our school calendar throughout the term. Please refer to our website [www.horowhenua.school.nz](http://www.horowhenua.school.nz) for updates.

#### Term 4

##### October

Monday	13	First day of Term 4 Powhiri for Mr Congdon 11.30am Pasifika PowerUP in the Library 5.30pm
Tue-Wed	14-15	Y13 Biology and Science Club Zoo Visit
Wednesday	15	Level 1 Art Folio Day
Thursday	16	Full Assembly Prefect Nominations close
Friday	17	Prefect Leadership Day for nominees
Monday	20	Prefect Candidate Interviews Pasifika PowerUP in the Library 5.30pm
Wednesday	22	Pasifika Success Talanoa Cultural Awards
Thursday	23	Sports Awards Level 2 Art, Design & Photography Folio Day
Monday	27	Labour Day - School closed for tuition Pasifika PowerUp in the Library 5.30pm
Tuesday	28	Prefect shortlisting letters
Wednesday	29	Manawatu Sports Awards
Thursday	30	Prefect Speech Assembly Board Meeting 5.30pm Staffroom

##### November

Monday	3	Y13 Art, Design & Photography Folio Day Pasifika PowerUP in the Library 5.30pm
Tuesday	4	Cultural Awards
Thursday	6	Final Full Assembly
Monday	10	NCEA Exams start
Thursday	20	Board Meeting 5.30pm Staffroom

##### December

Tuesday	2	NCEA Exams finish
Wednesday	3	Senior sign out Senior Prizegiving
Thursday	4	Leavers Dinner
Thur-Fri	4-5	Peer Support Training (Y12)
Monday	8	Y8 Information Evening
Mon-Thur	8-11	Activities Week
Friday	12	Junior Prizegiving