



Newsletter 8 – December 2018

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PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

Kia ora koutou katoa

The 2018 school year is coming to a close and it has been another busy and vibrant year. We have completed our celebrations for our Senior students' achievements. Thanks to all the parents, whanau, and guests who came to support our students and celebrate Senior Prizegiving with us. Prizegivings are important occasions. They allow us to celebrate successes and acknowledge all those who have supported our young women throughout the year and reflect on the past five years. Schools are in partnership with parents, whanau, teachers, staff and community supporters who have all contributed to the achievements of all our students. Special congratulations to Anahita Piri (*see photo – right*) for achieving Dux Literati (Academic Dux), Tessa Keenan for achieving Proxime Accessit (runner up to Dux Literati), Hannah Baker for Dux Ludorum (Excellence in Sport) and Maya Dickson for Runner up to Dux Ludorum. In total, our Year 13 students received over \$900,000 in University Scholarships.



Enrolments continue and we currently have a number of orientation visits organised this week and last and we have Orientation Afternoon on Friday 7 December, when we welcome next year's Year 9 students and their families to the school. We also have Hostel Orientation on Friday morning, 7 December, at the Hostel. Please contact Marina Walsh, Hostel Manager, if you require further information.



Congratulations to our Head Girls for 2019! Ella Wood – Head Girl, Georgia Bricknall, Deputy Head Girl, and Brianna See, Deputy Head Girl. Congratulations to all our students who have been awarded leadership positions for 2019. You will be a fantastic team and we look forward to working with you in 2019. To all those who put their names forward for a leadership position, you have our gratitude.

The Junior Outdoor Education programme is a significant end of year event over 10 - 12 December. A considerable amount of time and effort has gone into planning a range of exciting activities. The school-based activities do not incur a cost. Students are expected to attend.

The school year will end with the Junior Prize Giving on Friday 14 December at **11.00am**.

Congratulations to the following students for their sporting achievements: the Junior A Volleyball team who won the NZ North Island Junior Volleyball Championship;

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NPGHS Junior Badminton team who came 2nd in NZ at the NZSS championships in Christchurch last week; our Senior and Junior Rugby 7s Teams made the New Zealand Secondary Schools' Condor Tournament and played last week.

Congratulations to the following old girls! Michaela Blyde – who won the Silks Audit Sportsperson of the Year Award at the Taranaki Sports Awards. She was recently named the World Rugby Women's Sevens Player of the Year 2018 and has had an amazing year winning gold at the Commonwealth Games and taking out the World Cup for the Women's Rugby Sevens. Olivia Eaton successfully retained her World Surf Life Saving Championships Title in Adelaide, winning Gold, and helped her team to a Bronze in the beach relay race and earned Silver in the beach flag.

Congratulations to Kim De Vantier who has gained her Performance Diploma (ATCL) in Flute. This makes her an Associate of the Trinity College of London and is equivalent in standard to the first year of an undergraduate degree. She is now entitled to have the letters ATCL after her name. Holding a Trinity Associate diploma also entitles her to wear an academic gown. This is a brilliant achievement for a Year 12 student.

Staffing News

In staffing news, we are farewelling a number of staff this year. Firstly, Jeff Cleaver retires as full-time teacher of PE at the end of the year. He has been at the school for over twenty-seven years in one capacity or another. Prior to his appointment as a teacher, Jeff was a sports coach for the school. He had been the coach of the NZ Junior Men's and Women's Basketball teams and during his time at NPGHS he has coached our Basketball and Cricket teams to national titles. Jeff was initially engaged as a part-time teacher in 1993. He was then appointed to a permanent full-time position in 1995. Students and teachers will miss his humour, collegiality and commitment. We do, however, hope he continues his connection with the school. We wish him well in his retirement.

Suzee Freeman, Teacher in Charge of Dance, is also leaving us at the end of the year. Suzee joined the school part-time in 2006 and has become an integral part of the school. Her dedication and commitment to dance and school productions is immeasurable and the students and staff will miss her vitality, humour and passion. We wish her well in her retirement and know that she will continue her passion for dance.

Suzanne Blackwell, Teacher in Charge of ESOL and teacher of English, is also leaving at the end of the year to pursue new endeavours away from teaching. Suzanne joined NPGHS in 2004 and has worked with our International team and English Department to provide appropriate learning experiences for her students. Staff and students will miss her enthusiasm, creativity and commitment. We wish Suzanne all the best with her new endeavours.

Nicola Isbister has resigned as she wishes to spend more time with her growing family. Nicola was appointed in 2013 as part-time teacher of Drama. Nicola has also taught English at the school. Nicola's passion and drive will be missed. We wish her well and look forward to her keeping her connection with the school.

Lorraine Collier, Hostel Manager, left us at the end of Term 2. Lorraine had worked at the Hostel for twenty-three years, firstly as a Matron, and since 2015 as Hostel Manager. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours. She will be much missed by her friends and colleagues. I am pleased to announce that Marina Walsh has accepted the position of Hostel Manager. Marina has a wealth of knowledge and experience at the Hostel and is looking forward to developing the Hostel environment further.

Finally, we bid farewell to Karen Morine, Head of Business Studies, Year 13 Dean and Professional Development Co-ordinator. Karen first started at NPGHS in 1987 as Head of Economics. After taking time out to raise a family, Karen returned to NPGHS and has had a number of middle leadership roles throughout her 31 years here. Those who have had the pleasure of her teaching know that she sets high standards, is an excellent practitioner, and brings the best out in her students. Many of her students have achieved scholarships and gone on to have successful careers in business and economics. Karen will be spending more time with her family and exploring new avenues. We wish her well in her future adventures.

Powhiri 2019 – Please note change of date and time

The 2019 school year will begin at 9.00am for Year 12 on Tuesday 29 January. A Powhiri for new students and Year 13 will be on **Thursday 31 January** not Tuesday 28 January as previously advertised. This is because Transit are not running buses until Thursday 31 January. Families and whanau are invited to attend. Other year levels will begin on the following days: Year 12 and Year 13 Peer Supporters – Tuesday 29 January, Year 11 and all Year 13 – Wednesday 30 January, and Year 10 – Friday 1 February. Details will be published on our website, in the Daily News and Midweek. Monday 28 January is a Teacher Only Day and students are not required to attend.

Thank you to the many parents, organisations and businesses that have supported us throughout the year. Your contribution to the life of the school is invaluable. We would not be able to offer the wealth of sporting, cultural and arts opportunities without your support and input.

I wish all the best to our leavers and a restful break for all those students who are returning to us.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Victoria Kerr
Principal

STUDENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

Host Families Wanted

We are looking for families to host our international students, who come here looking to sample the New Zealand way of life by attending New Plymouth Girls' High School and living with a kiwi family in 2019. Our current host families state how this is such a rewarding experience for their family as they get to learn about new cultures and make a difference to another child's life. You will receive payment towards the costs of hosting and all that is expected from you is a warm and welcoming home experience for our international student during their stay.

If you are interested in taking part in this very rewarding experience, please contact Cimone Wright at cwright@npghs.school.nz



World Challenge

In December 2019, a group of 14 students will head to India for three weeks with World Challenge. The girls have to plan their own itinerary, manage their own budget as well as sort out all the accommodation, transport and food. They will trek through the Himalayas staying in villages along the way, complete a community engagement project and ensure that they fully immerse themselves in the culture (and food) of India. The girls have started our fundraising efforts and are regularly doing some practice tramping to get themselves fit (*see photo*). If you see the girls selling sausages at Mitre 10 or are asked if you would like to join the quiz night, please do support them where you can.

Junior Speech Competitions

The School's Junior Speech Competitions were held on 29 October. The adjudicator, Taryn Utiger, was most impressed with the high standard of presentation and the choice of topics.

Congratulations to all the contestants, and to their teachers, for encouraging their students to participate and develop the skill of public speaking.

The results are as follows:

Year 9

1 st	Sukena Shah	9ACH
2 nd =	Billie Parker	9MPU
2 nd =	Tessa Georgeson	9MBE
3 rd	Grace Brough	9EBR

Year 10

1 st	Brooke Hyland 1	10MMU
2 nd	Tanya Bagga	10GMC
3 rd	Vamika Satrasala	10GMC

Toastmasters Competition

Congratulations to our three students who entered the Toastmasters' 125 Years of Women's Suffrage in New Zealand speech competition, held on 5 October. It was encouraging that our young women took up the opportunity to express their views on such a significant event.

The results are as follows:	Melanie Bishop	1st
	Vamika Satrasala	2nd
	Adriana Che Ismail	3rd

Returning Hired Musical Instruments

If your daughter has hired a trumpet, trombone, clarinet, saxophone, cello, violin, viola, or flute from the school, please return these to the Music Block before Friday 7 December.

Your daughter must also let Mrs Woller know via email (jwoller@npghs.school.nz) when she returned her instrument and what code it was. For example, Alto Saxophone NPGHS B.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD @ NPGHS) Information Evening

On Tuesday 20 November, we held a very successful BYOD @ NPGHS Information evening for students and parents. Mr Byrne gave a short presentation the text of which is below. Thank you to Harvey Norman, Cyclone, Noel Leeming and OfficeMax for supporting the event and have devices to show students and discuss them. See our website for details of the various offers.



Why Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)?

Our Learning Vision @ NPGHS is to empower our girls to connect with a wide range of knowledge to become safe, confident, adaptable, and connected global citizens. Learning will be meaningful, authentic and creative.

To be connected and to learn in our current world requires digital devices.

Examples of current use by students:

- *Creating* - presentations, assignments, videos
- *Connecting with* - teachers, students, others outside school
- *Using MS Office365* - OneNote, Teams, Outlook, Word, Excel,
- *Accessing* resources

What BYOD?

Wherever possible students should bring a device to school to use to support their learning.

It is recommended that the device has at least:

A 10" screen, Wi-Fi and day long battery life.

Devices with a touch screen and digital pen allow for a wide range of input e.g. digital ink writing and diagrams.

The school has devices for use at school if a student is unable to bring a device.

Use and security of devices: is incorporated into our Building Positive Relationships (BPR) programme based on school values of:

Whanaungatanga - Positive Relationships Haepapa - Responsibility Whakamana – Respect

Points to note:

Have an existing device? *Don't buy a new one until device no longer meets your needs.*

Life expectancy of device? *Three good years and then reducing efficiency.*



We are a Netsafe School which means that we have practices in place that show our commitment to planning for online safety and that our practices are supported by New Zealand's online safety organisation Netsafe. www.netsafe.org.nz There is a lot of information for students and parents including the link to Report Online Incidents.

Instagram and Facebook

The Visual Art and Art History Department are on both Instagram and Facebook. Follow them to see examples of our student's work, hear about events and other opportunities relating to art at NPGHS.



Peacemakers' Concert

Below are some photos from the Peacemakers' Concert, an Armistice Day commemorative concert held on Sunday 11 November at the Theatre Royal. Jubilate Singers combined with Ars Nova Choir and Ars Antiqua Chamber Orchestra performing a NZ premier of a 17 movement choral and orchestral work by English composer Karl Jenkins called *The Peacemakers*. The girls sang beautifully and conducted themselves in an exemplary manner.



Unwanted Uniform Items

Attention Year 12 or 13 students leaving school: Please consider donating your uniform if it is no longer required. Likewise, **Year 11 students changing to the Senior navy skirt in Year 12**, your Junior tartan skirts can be utilised. **Red jerseys are no longer a uniform item.**

There is a need for all uniform items, including sandals and shoes, raincoats and jackets, e.g. plain black or navy, white and navy school jacket and PE shorts. Shirts are also in demand. All donations are gratefully received for students who have difficulty purchasing uniforms.

Unwanted Books and Equipment

Revision books, write on workbooks for any subject, homework books, course notes etc. are invaluable for girls who cannot afford to buy them. Even if they are partly filled in, they are better than nothing! Exercise books that are not used up are also needed, along with **scientific calculators**, art equipment and design and visual communication gear. Clearfiles, rulers and Manilla folders are also in demand. **All donations are very much appreciated.** Please hand all donated items in to the School Office.

Mrs Barbara Bennett oversees the distribution of donated items.



Junior A Volleyball Team

The Junior Girls' A Team won the North Island Div 1 Championship last Friday. They won their semi and went on to win the Division 1 title after an exciting 2-0 victory 25-20 25-18 over Trident A (last year's champions). The team trained for three terms as a team for that particular competition which is the pinnacle event for the top volleyball schools in the North Island and a Taranaki school last won that competition 27 years ago. They were then entered in a one-day beach competition in Mairangi and gained a silver and 4th result in the Junior North Island Champs in testing gale like conditions

The team were outstanding in behaviour, effort and dedication.

Eva Dickson, Brooke Puletaha and Cassidy Pringle were named in the Tournament team and Eva was named the Tournament MVP. Boys' High Junior A coached by Tracey Murray (our ex-Sports Co-ordinator) won a Gold as well in the Div 2 Final (place 33 to 64).

Surfing

Congratulations to Ariana Shewry who finished 22nd in the Under-16 Girls' division of the 2018 VISSLA ISA World Junior Surfing Championship held in Huntington Beach, California.

This was Ariana's first year surfing for New Zealand in the Under-16 division and she will be stronger next year.

National Gymnastics

Congratulations to Abigene Martin (10MMU) who recently competed at the National Gymnastics Championships in Tauranga. She achieved three bronze medals.



Hockey 2019

Early registrations for the 2019 season now open. Click on the link: <https://bit.ly/2S1klNt> to register for 2019. The season starts with the Lightning 5 Competition in February 2019. Details are on: <http://www.taranakihockey.org.nz/>

Cricket

Congratulations to the following students who have made teams for Taranaki:

Taranaki U15 Girls

Jessie Hollard (Captain)
Grace Foreman

Taranaki U18 Girls

Jessie Hollard
Aimee Wisniewski (Captain)
Azaria Lander
Ella Smith
Kahli Mackle
Lydia Proffit

Taranaki Womens

Jessie Hollard
Aimee Wisniewski
Lydia Proffit

Badminton

Below are the two photos of the NPGHS Junior Badminton team who came 2nd in NZ at the championships in Christchurch last week, with their silver medals. Thank you to Greymouth Petroleum and Tag Oil for the generous sponsorship to the students.



PTA NEWS

Are you interested in joining the PTA? The New Plymouth Girls' High School PTA are looking for interested parent/family members/whanau to join the PTA Management Group. If you would like to know more then please contact Melissa Cumberledge on (06) 757 3888 or mcumberledge@npghs.school.nz.

TERM DATES

2018	
Term 1	30 January - 13 April
Term 2	30 April - 6 July
Term 3	23 July - 28 September
Term 4	15 October - 14 December

2019	
Term 1	29 January - 12 April
Term 2	29 April - 5 July
Term 3	22 July - 27 September
Term 4	14 October - 10 December

CALENDAR



DECEMBER		
Monday	3	Board Meeting, 5pm
Friday	7	Orientation Afternoon
Monday-Thursday	10-13	Junior Outdoor Ed
Friday	14	Junior Prizegiving End of Term 4 Junior Reports Sent

