

we're all in the waka, without exception



Our inter-iwi arts challenge this year was to create a painted mural for our local marae. These are now down at the marae and have been erected in the new playground that is being developed there. Each iwi chose their story based around the legends of Maui and from there a massive creative process began.

Congratulations to those students who contributed to and participated in the process of making these murals so successful. The results of the challenge saw Whatua take

out the win. Each of the four Murals have been mounted on the new playground down at the Otamatea Marae.

Mrs Clist





Ngapuhi painted Maui me tana ika Maui fishes up the North Island.



Whatua painted Maui me te rā Maui slows down the sun.



Arawa painted
Maui me te kurī
a Irawaru
Maui turns Irawaru
into a dog.



Maniapoto painted
Maui me te kauwae o
Murirangawhenua
Maui &
Murirangawhenua's
jawbone.

Not only can you see these beautiful murals on the cover of this very Yearbook, they can also be found down at the Otamatea Marae. They are featured in the amazing new playground in memory of Tahu Potiki Taituha to be enjoyed by many generations to come.



2017 started at Otamatea High School with the knowledge that our students had excelled themselves in NCEA. Students, staff and parents alike expressed pride in these achievements. Later in the year when the results were confirmed the New Zealand Herald commented that our school had seen the biggest gains at NCEA Level 2 of all decile 4 schools in the country. With over 90% of our students achieving NCEA Levels 1 and 2 and 88.5% achieving Level 3 we now have an impressive benchmark. The hard work and dedication was paying off.

This year students have benefitted from this strong foundation. It has been awesome to see so many students set ambitious goals for themselves and strive to achieve them. The school has also set ambitious goals around student achievement such as increasing the number of students gaining Merit and Excellence endorsements. We have been committed to providing every opportunity for students to reach their potential.

This year's highlights have included sporting successes; retaining the Reporoa Shield, re launching of the first fifteen rugby team and then winning this league and many students gaining representative honours in their various codes. The Duke of Edinburgh programme has continued to thrive with approximately a quarter of the school involved; a record number of nine students gained their Gold Award this year.

Culture and the arts have been strong; from the stunning school production where each of the characters were simply outstanding, to students showcasing their talents in the ever popular Olla Podriga. We have also built upon our partnership with Otamatea Marae through the arts. Each iwi painted a mural, and the students in our new whakairo programme constructed a mini waharoa for the new marae playground. In the middle of the year we hosted the regional Nga Manu Korero speech competition which was a huge success. Staff and students raised over \$10,000 for the Cancer Society through our Relay for Life efforts.

As you know our community has also had some really low points this year with a number of sudden and unexpected deaths. This has been incredibly tough but the school community have really pulled together on these occasions and continue to do so. Such events have a profound effect. The school whakatauki 'He waka eke noa; we're all in the waka without exception' has certainly been put to the test this year.

We had a full review this year from ERO, the Education Review Office. They were very complimentary about the school's direction and performance and made the following comment:

"The school's processes and actions effectively help to achieve excellence and equity for learners. This is mostly attributable to:

- a very positive and respectful school culture and tone
- powerful connections, relationships and partnerships with parents, whānau, iwi and hapū
- effective school leadership
- · sound governance and stewardship.

Students benefit from systems that are strongly focussed on ensuring their wellbeing. A holistic, wrap around approach to pastoral care sits at the heart of the school's curriculum, setting the conditions for student wellbeing and achievement."

It was great to get this endorsement of the direction of the school. This really is the result of a shared commitment that we all have to deliver for our young people – we all want them to be the best that they can be, to have big dreams, make plans and take action to accomplish those dreams. As we farewell the year 13s and encourage the next group of school leaders to take their place we challenge each of them to move beyond their comfort zones, and to believe in themselves as we certainly believe in them. Kia kaha.

Tena koutou, tena koutou katoa.



My journey through school has come to an end. Thirteen years seem to have flown by and 2017 is no exception. This year had its challenges but also had its reward as head girl. Becoming head girl was a dream I had held for some time and really appreciated being awarded the role. The year was full of great events such as Relay for Life, Olla Podriga with my gumboots, the beautiful ball and much more. We had our downs as well with the loss of Travis, and other loved members of our community. But if one good thing came from these tragedies is that the school, and our year group became closer because of it and we have formed friendships for a lifetime. For me school is a time full of memories that I will never forget. It has provided me with great opportunities that have taken me overseas to tramp in the valley with Mount Everest, take part in competitions at Auckland University, and take part in Lions Youth Ambassador competitions. School has been my nursery and given me direction as I grow into a young adult. I am grateful for everything Otamatea has provided me with. Now I am set to move on to the next chapter of my life, leaving School behind but not without all of the memories, knowledge, and friends I made along the way.

Samantha Allen



It has been a very full yet good year, with many ups and downs. I was very privileged to be the head boy for 2017 and with that title came a lot of responsibility but also a lot of opportunities to get involved with the school. I found myself very busy at the start of the year, helping to organise and play for the school's first ever first thirteen rugby league team, playing for the schools combined first fifteen with Rodney, while getting to play against the teachers in netball, cricket and football. Along with sports I also got involved with the social and fundraising events such as 40hour famine and Relay for life. These events were great ways to give back to the community and were also a lot of fun. Overall, I have very much enjoyed this year at Otamatea High School, even though there it has been some very tough times. I have seen the school and the community grow and learn from these times. Watching the students comfort and look out for each other while displaying the school motto proudly this year, He waka eke noa. Indeed, we are all in this waka together without exception.

Tamati Abel



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## Prefects



Back Row: David Hames, Jayson Gilpin, Ozariah Ingham, Blake Sims, Shuntel Rika, Travis Flannagan, Max Daniels Front Row: Lee Holst, Miriana Littlejohn, Sophia Smith, Tamati Obel, Mrs R Clothier-Simmonds, Samantha Ollen, Holly Onderson, Natalie Birt, Lenhy Massey

Areas of Responsibility
Head Girl Samantha Allen

Head Girl Samantha Allen
Head Boy Tamati Abel
Deputy Head Girl Azariah Ingham
Deputy Head Boy Blake Sims
BOT Student Rep Holly Anderson
Arts Miriana Littlejohn
Environment Lee Holst
Student Learning Max Daniels
Senior Events Lenhy Massey
Manukura Jader Fairburn
Community Services Natalie Birt
Sports Travis Flannagan
Iwi Captain Arawa Shuntel Rika
Iwi Captain Ngapuhi Jayson Gilpin
Iwi Captain Whatua Sophia Smith
Iwi Captain Maniapoto David Hames



Congrats to the
Student Leaders for 2018

Head Girl Annmarie Holst

Head Boy Claude Smyth

Deputy Head Girl Molly Curnow

Deputy Head Boy Mathias Damstead

## 2017 Otamatea Staff



Back Row: Dave Clayton, Samid Buksh, Chris Gill, James Heke-Rika, Bruce Olison, Huia Coll, Steve Davie-Martin, Fionn Murphy, Catherine Pilkington, Ladene Hunter, Cath Lewis, Graeme Skipper

3rd Row: Klasina Sewell, Keresoma Lloyd, Ondre van den Berg, Dave Burnell, Kay Robinson, Traci Moring, Nikola Kemp, Yvonne Gee, Fiona Kemp, Susan Plaisted, Sandra Sears

2nd Row: Deborah Comhill-Davies, Anna Liddington, Tracey Christie, Alex Cowie, Nikki Donaldson, Arina Bosch, Elizabeth van den Berg, Thomaseena Paul, Ellen Snelling, Ona Ofamo'oni, Nyree Alcock

Front Row: Lana Parkinson, Wayne Maclennan, Martin North, Rebecca Clist, Dirk Smyth, Rachel Clothier-Simmonds, Kendra Greenwood, Paul Chambers, Nicky Cotching, Philippa Randell, Macolm Crisp, Oreti Olexandrou

Obsent: Teresa Brown, Miriam Crosby, Sonia Dickson, Lauriean Getz, Vicky Gamett, Tina Holst, Christine Laue, Sam Phillips, Richard Reed, Jenny Reid, Jay Simmonds, Donna Squires, Marco Troost, Robyn Weir



## Responsibilities

## Senior Leadership Team Principal Rachel Clothier-Simmonds BSc QTS (Hons)

Deputy Principal (Teaching and Learning) Dirk Smyth MEdLd (Hons), BA (Hons), Dip Tchg

Assistant Principal (Pastoral Care) Paul Chambers B Ed (Hons)

Assistant Principal (Administration) Kendra Greenwood PGCE, BSc (Hons)

Heads of Essential Learning areas
Arts and Languages Rebecca Clist Dip CA, Dip Tohg

English Malcolm Crisp BA, Dip of Educ, CELTA

Mathematics Areti Alexandrou MBA, BTech (Hons), PG Dip Tchg (sec), CertRS (TCI)

Physical Education and Health Lana Parkinson BPHED, BTchg (Secondary)

Science Nicky Cotching BSc (tech), Dip Tchg

Social Sciences Wayne Maclennan BA, Dip Tchg

Technology Martin North B.Eng, PGCE

Year 7 & 8 Syndicate Philippa Randell BA, Dip Tchg Primary, Post Grad. Dip Gifted Education

Positions of Responsibility
Careers Advisor, Gifted and Talented, Correspondence, ICAS Elizabeth van den Berg B Ed, Higher Dip Ed (Pathways, Textile Technology)

Counsellor Jocelyn McKenzie BA (Hons), (Arts, Post Grad Diploma Counselling)

Specialist Classroom Teacher Arina Bosch MA (Hons), BA (Hons), Dip Tchg (English, History)

Special Education Co-ordinator Huia Coll

Teacher in Charge of Maori **Thomaseena Paul** BA, Dip Tchg

Arawa Dean Chris Gill BSc B Tchg Sec

Maniapoto Dean **Yvonne Gee** Dip Hosp, Grad Dip Tchg (Hospitality, Food Tech)

Ngapuhi Dean Steve Davie-Martin BA Resource Studies, Dip Tchq (Geography, Science, Social Science)

Whatua Dean Bruce Alison B Sport & Ed (HPE), Dip Tchg (Physical Education, Sports Leadership)

#### Assistant Teachers

Junior Syndicate Nyree Alcock BCom, Dip Tchg Primary

Mathematics Samid Buksh BSc, Dip Tertiary Tchg, Post Grad Dip (Physics)

Construction, Engineering, Hard Materials, Technology Dave Burnell T.T.C

Graphics, English, Food Technology, Digital Technology Tracey Christie BA Design (Hons), Grad Dip Tchg

Junior Syndicate Alex Cowie BEd

Biology, Science Lauriean Getz BSc (Hons) TTD, FDE, ABET

Health, Physical Education Anna Liddington BPhed, Dip Tchg

Mathematics Keresoma Lloyd BCom Grad Dip Tchg

Digital Technology, Music, ORRs Fionn Murphy BMus (Hons), Grad Dip Tchg

Drama, English Ona 'Ofamo'oni BPA (Prof Theatre), Grad Dip Arts, Grad Dip Tchg (Secondary) Pathways, English, Social Science, Textile Technology Klasina Sewell B Ed, Cert Tesol

Whakairo Tutor Jay Simmonds Dip Maori visual Arts, Whakairo

Science, Physics Graeme Skipper BE Mech, Grad Dip Tchg

Junior Syndicate Ellen Snelling BA, Grad Dip Education

Social Science, Tourism, Primary Industries Marco Troost BA Geography, Dip Tchg

Pathways, ORRs, Mathematics Robyn Weir BA(Hons) Economics, Post Grad Dip EdLd

Support Staff
Executive Officer Deborah Cornhill-Davies

Principal's PA Nikki Donaldson

Office Manager Kay Robinson

Student Support Secretary Jenny Reid

Gateway Co-ordinator, Kaiawhina Fiona Kemp BA, Dip Adult Ed

Cafe Assistant Nikola Kemp

Sports Co-ordinator Tina Holst

Senior Librarian Catherine Pilkington TTC

Librarian Vicky Garnett Dental Therapist (RET)

Canteen Miriam Crosby

Technology Support/Cafe Nikola Kemp

Primary Industries Stella Clyde

Property Maintenance Manager Richard Reed

Grounds Person James Heke-Rika

Cleaners Adam Campbell, Sandra Sears, Moana Phillips, Susan Plaisted

Alternative Education Tutor Sam Phillips

Teacher Aides Ladene Hunter, Donna Squires, Christine Laue, Teresa Hallissey, Teresa Brown

Student Support - RTLB Fiona Heiwari B Tchg & Lrning, P/Grad Spec Needs Resource Tchg, Dip Tchg

Student Support - RTLB Eric Hansen BA, PGdip SPEC tchg, SchMgt, Dip Tchg



E nga iwi I huihui nei. Nau mai haere mai te kura tuarua o Otamatea.

Tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa.

It has been a hell of a year this year, with some great highs but also some devastating lows. I was extremely proud of how our school and community dealt with these incidents. There is no text book on how to deal with loss and tragedy. The student body showed real maturity and empathy in their support for one another. The staff showed exceptional professionalism and leadership during these times. I would personally like to thank Dirk and Paul for their leadership who stepped in to act on Rachel's behalf during these stressful times, when Rachel was unwell.

2017 has also been a hugely successful year with awesome achievements in academics, sports, cultural performances, arts, performing arts, DOE and leadership. Our students have represented us locally, provincially, nationally, and internationally. For a school our size we repeatedly punch above our weight.

This year the school has had a number of external reviews of its processes, policies and procedures – how well we run our school and how we are doing it. These have included educational reviews with ERO and NZQA, and an external principal review conducted by Sue Poyner on behalf of the BOT. All these reviews have been extremely positive, and have praised the direction and achievements of the school. These results have been backed up by our own internal reviews conducted through staff and student surveys.

I would like to thank the PTCA for their efforts in fundraising and supporting the school, and the garden is looking great.

To the board - thank you for all your time and effort during this busy year. I would like to welcome to the Board Nicole Peele and Roger Bull, and Alex Parr as the student Rep. Thanks to Holly Anderson, the outgoing student rep for her support and opinions. You represented your peers well.

To the staff and students leaving Otamatea good luck in whatever you undertake next year.

Llew Smart

## Student Council



Back Row: Isaac Sheppard, Alex Parr, Mr P Chambers, Quintin Brown Front Row: Gareth Ferguson, Kieran Fergus, Azariah Ingham, Holly Anderson, Samantha Allen, Brenda Ferguson, Poppy Scott

## Year 7 & 13 Camp

On the 2nd and 3rd of February the Year 7s went on camp (actually a night at the school)

"On both days everyone walked to the Country Club. The year 13s had set up the activities and ran them. O lot of the activities had to do with team-work and trust. On the second day there were two of the coolest activities- archery and air rifles. Even though this could be dangerous, the Year 13s, along with Shane from Blue light and Senior Constable Llew Smart, helped us learn how to use them properly.

I want to thank everyone who helped with the camp, the year 13s, parents, teachers and everyone who came along."

Terehia Taua

"I was personally challenged but I loved how the activities really got the whole team thinking and helping each other out.

My favourite event was the archery (and eating the ice cream sandwiches!) The lasagne for dinner was also delicious, (thanks Ms. Gee) and a huge thanks to Mrs Ferguson who worked away in the kitchen!

Thank you also to Miss Parkinson, Miss Olcock and Mrs Randell for organising an amazing camp for all of us year 7s."

Kate Cotching













Otamatea had two students in Multisport in the year 8 girls. The event started with a 2.4 km run then 3.8 km mountain bike and finishing with a 1 km kayak. There were 49 finishers on the day Poppy Scott placed 24th overall with her best discipline being the kayak where she had the 6th fastest time overall and Billie Le Mesurier-Cowbourne placed 35th over all.

Gymnastics (floor, vault and mat) Gareth Ferguson a year 7 student started his first day with great results coming 6th overall from the combined results of each event. He was placed 2nd for his floor event. With a second day of the same events Gareth could not quite hold this level of results with him coming out with a result of 21st overall. Still a really great result and I am sure he will be back next year to compete again.

It was the fifth consecutive year that Otamatea High School has participated in sending a netball team of Yr 7 and Yr 8 students down to the annual Aims Games event hosted in Tauranga and Mount Maunganui. This was the first year however that we sent a mixed netball team, made up of three boys and seven girls. It was an asset to have the boys involved, and will be encouraged for future teams. The trip went well and all players enjoyed the experience.

The team improved their ranking on last year moving up two places in B grade. It was one of those school trips that will be talked about for years to come.



# First Year Faves









































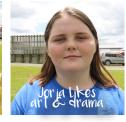




































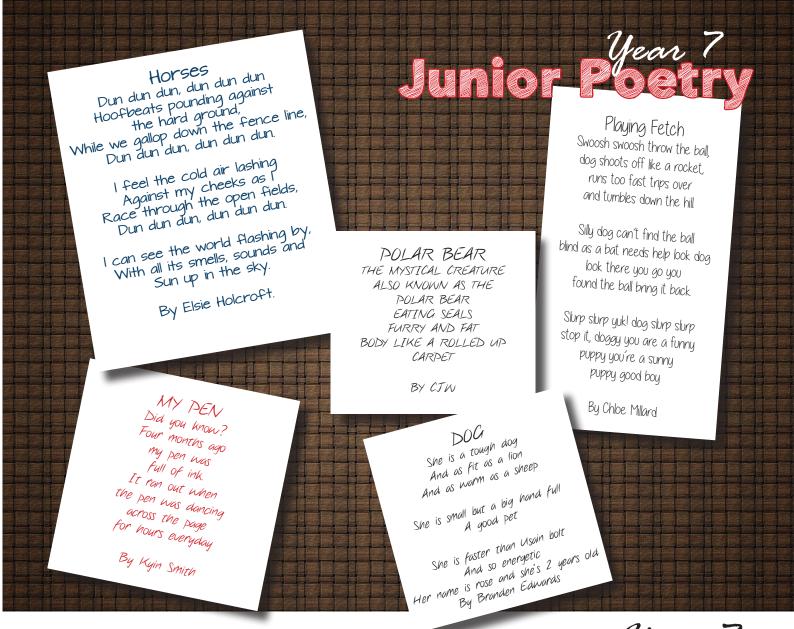












## Juniors Explore W

All the year 7 students went into Maungaturoto town on Monday 13 March to visit some workplaces. They were divided into two groups who each visited a service centre and a business. One group was hosted by the Vet Centre while the other group went to the Ambulance station. Then they went to the butchery and Fergus Electrical respectively. The information students gathered on the trip is part of their Social Studies unit on Communities and it also builds their Career Management Competencies. They prepared specific questions to ask about the jobs people in these workplaces do and the skills and training they had.

The year 8's had a similar experience visiting the Police Station, the Fire Station, Four Square and Carters.

The year 7 and 8 Syndicate and Careers Advisor are very grateful to the people who gave up their time to answer the students questions so thoroughly and gave them a look into the adult world of work.



Anaying

















































































Otamatea High School 2017 Northland Secondary School Othletic Reps Back Row: Tyrone De Ordenne, Josh Nishitani-Hart, Shuntel Rika, Zack Hamlin, Brett Ollen Front Row: Sophie Gribble, Omyee Sheppard, Denzal Peeni, Cassidy Ollen, Cheylysse Flannagan, Hayley Linton, Trista Comer



















Otamatea High School 2017 Northland Secondary School Swimming Reps Grace Kemp, Ocean Shadbolt, Meg Paton





## What a massive result for Otamatea High School's involvement in this year's Relay For Life.

This is a chance for us to not only raise funds for a cause that affects many families but also gives us a chance to walk alongside people of all ages. It also gives the staff and students a common cause that they can not only fundraise for but also walk alongside each other during the event. The staff always come away from the event feeling very proud of the students who attend, not only for their efforts but also for their behaviour. This year we were also privileged to see them perform the school haka several times for the survivors who completed the opening lap.

With the students raising in excess of \$7,000 and the staff raising just over \$3,000, our school has contributed approximately 10% of the final total of \$105,000 for 2017. This brings the total fundraising for OHS since 2012 to \$37,000.



On Sunday the 17th September the Level 2 Physical Education students competed in the Sport Northland ACC 9km run in Whangarei. This was part of their 2.4 practical assessment worth 4 credits. The school won two trophies. The 'Top School' and the 'Fastest School' trophy. The students performed well and had a great day. Thank you to the following staff members for their support and help on the day; Alex Cowie, Tina Holst, Areti Alexandrou and Yvonne Gee.



Miss Liddington

## IRB Long Haul Race



Otamatea High School students Quintin Brown, Bailey Hudson and Tyler Flannagan participated in the Bay of Plenty IRB Long Haul Race on the weekend of 6-7 May.

The 95km race starts at Ohope and finished at Mount Maunganui. The competitors stop at 4 beaches (Matata, Pukehina, Papamoa, Omanu). The boys, the youngest crew competing, finished 2nd in the U21's and 7th overall from the 13 teams.

This is the first time the Waipu Cove Club has sent a team down to the event. Great effort boys.

#### **ASB Northland Sport Awards**

Congratulations to the following students who were nominated for these awards

Ocean Shadbolt – Swimming Trista Comer – Athletics Tyler Porteous - Equestrian Josh Nishitani-Hart - Football Annmarie Holst – Squash Shuntel Rika – Netball Tamati Abel – Rugby Holly Brunt - Equestrian Simon Parker - Rugby

Otamatea had 5 finalists who were invited to attend the awards on Thursday 26th October which is a huge achievement.

Trista Comer – Athletics Josh Nishitani-Hart – Football Annmarie Holst – Squash Simon Parker – Rugby Holly Brunt – Equestrian

Otamatea then had two students who won their codes – being the best in Northland!

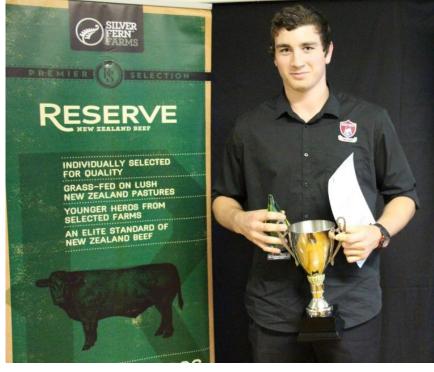


Selected for the Blues under 18 development squad and made the second fifteen who played the Chiefs under 18 Second Fifteen.

Selected for the Northland under 18 rep squad. Selected and played for the New Zealand Secondary Schools' First Fifteen Barbarians team.



First in the Open Novice Pure Bred Arabian First in Youth High Points National Arabian Show First Youth High Achievement AGM show





#### **Kaipara Sports Awards**

The annual Kaipara Sports Awards were held on Friday 3rd November at the Maungaturoto Country Club. Otamatea High School can be very proud to have 20 students nominated. From these twenty students the following students won their respective codes – either at an open level (competing against adults) or at a junior level (competing against other school age finalists)

#### **Open Code winner's**

Josh Nishitani-Hart - Football Shuntel Rika - Netball Annmarie Holst - Squash Ocean Shadbolt - swimming Tyler Porteous – Equestrian

#### **Junior Code winners**

Trista Comer - Athletics Holly Brunt - Equestrian Simon Parker - Rugby Matt Hamilton - Football

The huge achievement for the Top Award for **Junior Sports Person of the Year** went to Simon Parker for his success in rugby

**Service to Sport** - Robyn Bruce was recognised for all her hard work over the last 28 years for hockey.



2017. English

Shadows In The Halls By Abigail Mason

Worn, scarred marble tiles angle the vicious light into my delicate eyes, blinding me with the intense white light as I take careful silent steps down the hall. Students work away like well oiled machines, no one daring to do something out of place in fear of being replaced. Lowering my head, I allow my hair to fall in my face as if to erase my existence from the world, my arms burn as my cotton jumper scrapes against angry scars in various stages of healing; the pain was not physical, it was the mental memory of what it should feel like. Skin hollows in areas from the starving and extensive exercise that I force my body to endure. No emotion exists within me; all I am is a lifeless shell.

Rounding a sharp corner I enter the only corridor that has no lights; this is where the shadows take advantage, stalking you like a wild animal. My arms begin to itch under the skin as I hear the three demons approach, their smirks are engraved into their faces as their eyes stal into the final fragments of my soul. Two rough hands goal my wrists, their heat scorches my dead cold skin, their grips tightening allowing the healing scars to rupture and ooze with the red liquid I have become so used to seeing stain my clothes. Ramming me into the lockers the lock holders inflict their damage upon my back leaving cuts and deep muscle bruises. The puppets master then steps forward twisting his new swiss army knife blade point on his finger, taunting me with the years that this has gone on weekly.

There was a strict schedule we follow. Today was Sunday so Azir, the master of all the puppers and Picasso of misery, would bring his new knives and test them out on the canvas called my wrists. The way he did it was almost artful; the way he would angle the silver paintbrush a certain way to reopen as many wounds as he could. Finally deciding where he was going to paint his new line, he slices through my flesh reopening three old carvings as well as adding a new one to the gallery, the metallic smell of blood invades my senses as I am reminded what it was like to feel pain. But the bliss is short lived as I am dropped suddenly, bones covered by a thin layer of skin crash onto the freezing marble. Streams of red trickle down my arm like a stream through a mountain-side. Pulling down the long sleeves of my dark jumper I remain on the floor unable to see the point of getting up. No one cares, I am a figment of their imagination, the person they remember is long dead; I died when my parents gave up.

Bones graunch as I force them to support me again, taking shaky steps I make my way to my locker. Rust covered the metal combinations as I systematically enter the code, a dull click catches my attention as the metal gives way and the lock slips off. Most the lock holders in this area are bent from the impact of me hitting them from beatings and cuttings. I pick up the folder I neat need for English; the last subject of the day. The matte black folder turns anything bright into a dull lifeless objects. I take my place in the far back corner of the classroom. My arms seer whenever my jumper rubs against my arm, slowly turning the article of clothing black as it soaks up the blood that abandons my deteriorating body. The professional teacher strolls in. Her high heels clicking along the lifeless marble. Turning to a fresh new page I leave my left arm on my lap keeping the darkening jumper out of sight. The puppets and their artistic master two rows ahead turn around the same evil smirks dominating their faces as they gaze upon their masterpiece of misery. The hour long lesson seems to go on forever, the seconds hand on the clock taunting me as it crawls around the clock, forcing me to stay longer in this hell hole, finally the bell goes symbolizing my freedom and like a race horse out the gate I am out the classroom but not from the demons. Three. Three blue eyed demons stand by my locker, I cautiously enter the code and open my locker, nothing is meant to happen I have already had my beating for the day. My bag is now packed so I head to the four flights of stairs, I take a fragile step down one step and as I bring my other leg forward something kicks it to the side.

Thirty marble stairs stab and bash me as I fall down them, slamming side first at the base of the first flight of stairs. Three sets of cold eyes stare down at me as I force myself to get up. Most of my body screams at me to just sit back down. Climbing into my silver Toyota I turn the seat heater on to warm my freezing body. The thermometer on the screen reads 45 degrees, yet I am cold. Cold because my body does not have the energy to provide me heat, I rest my head on the window and sleep allowing my body to try and heal itself again.

The nights were never long enough, my body never fully healing or replenishing my energy. First lesson today is swimming, freezing water and trying to stay above the surface, joy to the world.

Silence surrounds me, everything in slow motion as my lungs scream for the air above the surface. I summon all the strength as I push off the tiled floor but the weight of the three demons slams me back down, chlorine burns my eyes and throat as I am forced to take a breath of the vile water. The water fills my lungs, I choke breathing in more. I can faintly hear yelling and a whistle. The chlorine makes me gag but my empty stomach cannot continue by making me throw the water up despite how much it tries. Shadows. The shadows from the hall have found me and begin to evade my blurry vision, I feel them such the energy from me; the burning in my lungs fades as I slowly feel my body crumble. After all this fighting the shadows in the hall had still won.

#### Be Careful What You Wish For By Erin Corble

They snuck through the foggy playground, ignoring the softly swaying swings.

The three vaulted over the fence. Two carried stacks of kindling. One clasped the sack tightly to her. The Autumn trees over the fence heard the leaves crackling as they moved, the argument that was resolved too quickly. The forest quickly swallowed the trio and not even a sliver of the rounded moon remained to light their path.

Then, in the deepest dark of the forest, there was a spark. One. Two. Three.

The fire flickered into life and as it grew illuminated the three who hastily encouraged it. A dark haired girl whose teeth glinted in the light. Her friend, whose green eyes glittered. The young girl who was still clinging to the sack as though it would fly away. Aside from them, the clearing was empty. The two jostled too loudly as they fed the fire and the girl shivered in spite of the heat. They had forced her to go with them, and she knew in her soul that it was a bad idea. The green eyed boy snatched the sack from her arms and she flinched. She seized her opportunity.

"Maybe this isn't such a good idea gu-"

"Oh, don't be a baby! Come on, it's nearly midnight."

Together they threw spices and small bright stones into the fire and as the clock began to toll midnight they each pulled a strand of hair from their heads and tossed it into the flames. Immediately it burnt a deep ruby red, and they could see figures dancing in the coals. The trio started. Part of them had really doubted it would work.

"Go on then." The girl whispered "let's finish what we've begun."

One at a time the group reached into the sack and threw their offerings into the fire. The boy hurled a steak in, and turned away as the conflagration consumed it. The elder girl followed suit. They made their wishes silently, too afraid to voice them. The little one reached into her pocket and hesitated. She thought she had seen a face in the shadows of the coal. It had been smiling. She brought the item out of her pocket and pressed it to her lips, the cool metal a welcome relief. Then she gave it over, watching as her grandmother's locket melted away into strips of silver. As it melted she wished with all her heart, with everything that she was.

As the last stroke of twelve rang the fire went out, leaving only glowing embers behind. They were awed. Silently, save for their harried breaths, the three made their way home.

Each of them dreamt of the flickering flames.

For the green eyed boy, a vision of gold danced before his eyes, all changing like quicksilver. He knew it would be But he didn't know the price would be so high.

The dark haired girl saw something similar, the ecstasy of popularity. People flocked to her, their outlines swaying like firelight. She too knew what she saw would be, remaining ignorant to the cost.

The little one glimpsed her own brother growing strong once again, newfound iridescence blazing in his eyes. She knew he would be well, no matter the price.

Over the next few weeks their dreams proved to be prophetic rather than fevered. The green eyed boy suddenly came into a large sum of money, from a distant relative. The dark haired girl found that people were irresistibly drawn to her, and rejoiced in the pleasantries of small talk. The doctors and parents of the little girl were amazed at the miraculous recovery of their eldest. The little girl stayed quiet, smiling to herself:

But all things change. And sometimes they turn for the worse.

The elder two of the trio that had lit the fire that night soon found their dreams plagued by an infermo, demanding payment, that what they had given wasn't enough. And slowly, the two began to see only hollow decay in what they had asked for. The gold dwindled rapidly for the young man, and soon he was deeply fettered by debt, with loan sharks beginning to circle, their toothy smiles sharp. All the compliments and casual conversation seemed puppeted to the young woman, and creeping tendrils of paranoia seethed into her heart.

The little girl however, felt only love Her dreams, though firey, were filled with the memories she held of her grandmother, and simmered warmly in her minds eye.

It wasn't long before the three met again.

It was the first snowfall of winter, and the little girl was playing snap with her brother by his bedside. There was a commotion outside, and the two children were shocked to see the green-eyed boy being wheeled past their room minus his hand. Not far behind was the dark-haired girl who had been badly beaten. The little girl excused herself, and went to see what had happened. She wasn't allowed in the boy's room, but from what she gathered he had been late with a payment and the shark had snapped.

The elder girl saw the little one and begged to speak to her. Both her eyes were bruised black. She explained that she'd gotten into a fight with another girl over a boy they both liked. Then she asked, voice barely a whisper —

"Why's this happened to us? We did everything the book said!"

The little one shook her head, and spoke in a voice beyond her years. "You didn't. You were so bedazzled with what you could get that you never read what it said at the end. You knew you had to give something, but you didn't understand that it had to be something precious. Or that doing something with love is better than something for greed."

She smiled with too-sharp teeth, and as she turned to leave the bedridden girl glimpsed the coals of that long ago fire in the girls eyes.

Maths Olympia

The final round of the Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads (APSMO) competition was held at school this month. The year 7s have been participating in the junior competition and the Year 8s and 9s in the senior competition. Cory Browne did very well in the senior competition in that final round gaining four points from a possible five, as did Morgan Bull in the junior competition, scoring three points. As a result, both these boys are the OTA champions for the year and will receive trophies next month from the APSMO organisers. Well done!

Top scores after the 5th and final round are: Junior Year 7s: Morgan Bull (11 points) followed by Kyin Smith (9 points)

Senior Year 8s: Michael Ferguson (6 points) Senior Year 9s: Cory Browne (17 points) followed by Amy Lawrence (10 points)

Well done also to all the other students who took part for their fantastic efforts over the past four months. You have challenged yourselves and learnt a great deal about using different mathematical strategies to solve problems.



## Self-Driven Pathways

The number of students in Self-driven Pathways shot up this year to over 50 students. This is possible because the room is staffed in all but one, of the option lines. The driving principle is the fact that students take responsibility for their own learning. They have some core standards which they finish according to their own planning. One of the core set of standards is around a career pathway. Once they have a clear idea where they are heading, they discuss the standards they want to do for the rest of the year with the teachers. Standards are sourced from outside suppliers who sometimes also do the marking.

This year we have had our first students using their time in Self-driven Pathways completing free university courses in preparation of their planned study. These course are available from a number of New Zealand, Australian and American universities. They include lectures and quizzes and a final online assessment. The ones used this year were mainly around biological sciences, but a wide range from astronomy to zoology are available.

Self-driven Pathways students do a team bonding and leadership course in the first term which also give them a headstart on credits for the year. Among the students this year, was the head boy, deputy head girl, four prefects and three house captains.

As soon as students are ready, they can do a Gateway placement which means that they could go to a workplace for as short as two days or as long as every week during the year, depending on the student's pathway and aspirations. Students and their parents often organise a work placement themselves and once the students have completed the booklet, they can gain credits on top of the experience and knowledge they accumulated. This year there were students out to the Maungaturoto Butchery, the Vet Centre, Garnett's Tyre Shop, the Maungaturoto Primary School, the Warkworth Motorbike Shop, the Kaiwaka Bike Shop, Cortex, Rural Design, Dream Planning, Kaipara Kids and Opus.

The Gateway program also offer self-driven pathways students the opportunity to go on courses aligned to their vocational pathways. Students often go during holidays. Two boys thoroughly enjoyed the computer programming, cyber safety and gaming programming courses at Techtorium in Auckland, while three girls went on an adventure tourism course and one on a flight attendant course at the International Tourism College. We would like to thank the Country Club for the use of their facilities for the First Aid and Quad bike courses which are also run by specialist trainers. For the first time this year a defensive driving course was offered at the school and 18 students benefitted from this.

At the end of the year when senior students go on study leave, the students who need more time to complete the NCEA level they are in, come back to school and into the self-driven pathways programme where they can complete basic life skill standards, such as filling in forms, timeliness as an employee and producing a CV; or finish off work for standard in other subjects that they have missed out on.

Overall a very successful year for self-driven pathways students gaining an average of 26 credits. This year the new signage were also installed to brand the room and add to the atmosphere that this is not so much a classroom but rather a workspace where each student has their individual goals.





We were given a generous book buying budget again this year. We spent the money on many wonderful books to boost our collection. We have added to all areas of the collection but mostly in the fiction areas. The graphics section is always a pleasure to buy for: some of these books are truly beautiful and just keep getting better each year with many popular series getting the graphics treatment. We have been sourcing books from a new supplier and have managed to purchase quite a few new horror titles, so our horror section is finally expanding. The non-fiction collection is being relabelled and we are simplifying the Dewey classification numbers to make it easier to find resources. We have swapped the fiction and non-

fiction areas around to allow more space for the fiction as this a much bigger collection than the non-fiction. This year's borrowing figures are what we have come to expect with the junior classes being more active borrowers that the senior classes. One major change this year has seen Year 9 featuring higher up the list of active borrowers than past years. Reading should be a part of all our lives, not just for academic or professional purposes but just because we love it. Books offer a window into all sorts of wondrous worlds, other people's lives and cultures and they give us thrills, chills and insights we never thought we would ever experience if we hadn't opened a book. It doesn't matter what we read we will always learn something new, think about something new and hopefully feel we need more. I wish to thank Vicky and the student librarians for their wonderful support and dedication to the library.

- Catherine Pilkington, Librarian







On Thursday March 23 Vicki and I took two teams of four students to Kerikeri to compete in the 2017 Northern Region Kids' Lit Quiz. There were seven year 8 students and one year 7 student. Six of the students competed last year, with only two new team members this year. We prepared well with pop quizzes at interval and extra reading of both new books and old favourites. The questions this year were a welcome change from last years very challenging offerings: the scores reflected the difference with the winning score being 94 out of a possible 100, which went to Kamo Intermediate 1 team who will be off to represent Northland at the National final in July.

The topics this year were varied and covered from cutlery to ghosts to princesses. There was a round of questions about Roald Dahl where our Team 1 scored a perfect ten and Team 2 scored 9 (it was their joker rounds so the score was doubled to 20 and 18 respectively). Otamatea Team 1, consisting of Alana Yardley (Captain), Coryn Yorke, Bo Osbourne and Lukas Rockell came in sixth place, our best ever placing, with 77 points. Otamatea Team 2, consisting of Billie Le Mesurier-Cowbourne (Captain), Poppy Scott, Michael Ferguson and Joshua Stephens came 15th equal with 64 points. Both teams were wonderful competitors and they tell me they had a great day.

- Catherine Pilkington, Librarian





The year 7 and 8 students spent many science lessons planning, carrying out and presenting science fair projects, on topics of their own choosing. Students worked in groups of 1-3 and explored a wide range of topics, from exploding lunch bags to floating eggs, best insulators to bottle rockets. They displayed their work in the hall and had many students, teachers and some parents come through to view the projects. Prizes were awarded to the students in the school assembly. Winners also received the Fonterra cup. The Year 7 judges were Steve Davie-Martin and Cath Lewis and the Year 8 judges were Nicky Cotching and Nyree Alcock. Thanks to our major sponsors, the Otamatea High School PTCA, who bought our brightly coloured display boards.







The Whakairo class was a new introduction for 2017 and is a part of the Construction Academy. The students that took on a new challenge have all developed their own understanding of the concepts carvers use in Whakairo. The skills involved to carve a creative piece opened their minds to some of the processes required to complete an art form.

The kaupapa for this class was to research, design and carve a series of pieces to connect together in the final construction of a mini waharoa. These carved pieces were also in line with four NZQA assessment outcomes, levels 2 & 3 and a total of 22 credits. The students gifted their work to a playground development at Otamatea Marae. The success of these students resulted in their achievement to gain their credits, along with a new understanding about a new subject.

#### **Kaiako statement**

Whakairo enables each of us to find the stories to connect us with our work. It helps us to organise our day to complete the work. Whakairo has the ability to build relationships and maintain those relationships. Whakairo is a vehicle for everyone to participate in or be a part of'. As the teacher I have incorporated some values because they are relevant and connect us to the Treaty of Waitangi. I am very proud of the commitment these students displayed throughout this year and I wish them all well in their futures and look forward to a new class for 2018.

# Olla Podriga







Another fabulous night of entertainment hit Otamatea High School with Olla Podriga 2017. Eight singing contestants battled it out amongst a wonderful collection of all sorts of fun performances. There was juggling with Jeff Smith, card tricks by Leo Cannon, drum solos by Patrick Butler, a ballet recital by Renee Allen and Paris Rika and even a whole lot of fun in gumboots by Sam Allen and Azariah Ingham. If this wasn't enough there was also the school Jazz band made up of Fionn Murphy, Tracey Christie, Jenny Reid, Heather Revell-Knighton, Teina Seagar, Meg Paton, Chloe Millard and Emma Browne. What amazing talent we have at Otamatea.

Our judges for the night were former Principal Haydn Hutching, Former student Dee Littlejohn and Itinerant Music Teacher Heather Revell-Knighton. After much deliberation they decided that the overall winner for 2017 was Molly Curnow for her stirring rendition of Winter Bird. In second place was Kate Cotching and third place was Katrina Poyner. Rounding out the winners for the night was Maddy Lemuelu, who won a special Entertainment award for her highly enjoyable version of We Know The Way.

Congratulations to the winners and all of those who participated in such a wonderful night of entertainment.









The Senior Technology courses require students to produce one piece of coursework, which must consist of a product that the student has manufactured in the workshop plus a folder including research and analysis about the problem being solved. The Year 12 students this year have been working on a designing and making musical instruments.

Bailey Hudson and Simon Parker designed and made two individual Ashkio drums for Maunu School. Other instruments included Electric Guitars and Xylophones.

## Construction Academy



The course offered at Otamatea High School is an innovative, practical programme for students, providing them with the skills and knowledge to springboard into any career in the construction industry.

Projects undertaken during the year include; Pirate Treasure Chest, Free Standing Cupboard, Garden Bench and Table





# Two Year 11 students, Cole Doyle and Braeden Yardley have been working on an exciting and noisy extension project in Level 1 Engineering, a pulse jet engine. This is the same jet engine that was used in the V1 flying bomb in WW2 and required the students to accurately calculate the sizes and shapes to be cut and shaped from mild steel plate. As the plans came from USA, all dimensions needed to be changed to the metric system first. A video of the working jet engine can be seen on the school facebook page.



## 12 Engineering

This year the Year 12 Engineering class made a mini motorbike as their project. The students were excited to receive the kits which include an engine, wheels, brakes and fairing. The rest is up to them to build using their engineering and fabrication skills. The students started to fabricate the frame and are tack welding it together, before engineering the headstock to fit the steering and forks. This is a challenging project, but the students have risen to this and have really enjoyed working on their bikes.

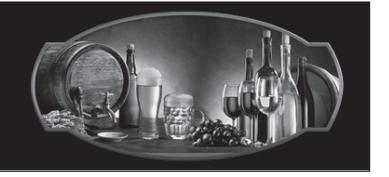
Throughout the year we have been eagerly watching as to whether we have any new Burt Munro's or John Britten's.

When the bikes are finished they look like the picture (right), or more likely, better!

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y7 Sara Anderson





of their young voices being heard, finding somewhere they belong, and how, as a society, we can love.

students, Orrs Unichem Maungaturoto Pharmacy for providing make-up products, Gabriella Seager for designing and operating the lighting, Sharlene Tornquist and Amber Corble for running front of house on both nights, Fionn Murphy for operating sound both nights, Tracey Christie for filming the show on opening, Jason Te Kare for working on the haka with Curtis and Callum, the PE department for the loan of ropes for the rope-

A huge thank-you to my wonderful drama

bridge, parents for dropping off and picking up actors for rehearsal, and teachers who let actors come in for rehearsals during their classes and all of those who supported the actors and I.





























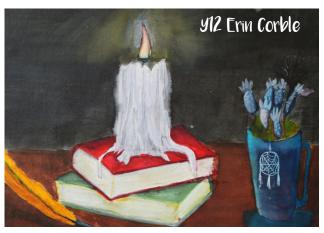




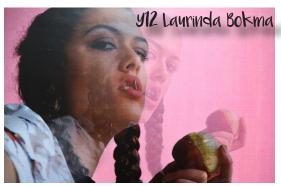














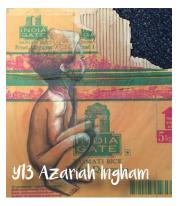


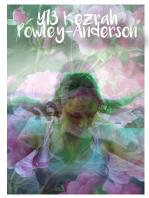
















# Cateway

#### **Shaun Ritchie Racing Ltd**

Sammy Hammon has had aspirations of being a veterinary since forever. Early in the year Sammy gained placement, during the school holidays, with the Vet Centre in Maungaturoto. She learnt so much about what the ins and outs are of being a vet were. In addition she completed valuable unit standards and hours for entry into Massey University.

Towards the end of the year Sammy decided her career direction was more towards horses. A fantastic opportunity arose via family, that Sammy could do work experience with Shaune Ritchie Racing – one of New Zealand's most successful thoroughbred training operations located in the heart of thoroughbred racing in Cambridge.

Sammy ad returned to his stables this year and she has also completed unit standards associated with a National Certificate in Equine.









## Learner Licence Course 100% success!

Over the school holidays, while most students were chilling out and enjoying the break, four dedicated students came into school to complete a free learner license course offered by Te Roroa Learning Assistance.

Linda Cowbourne, Te Roroa tutor, offered her time to put our students through the ins and outs of the NZ Road Rules.

With practise test, after test, so that they are fully prepared.

All students prepared well and it showed as all four passed with ease. "That was so easy" one student commented. All thought the course was well worth it and fun. As part of the course Linda invited Police in to talk about road safety and various scenarios about what the hazards are.

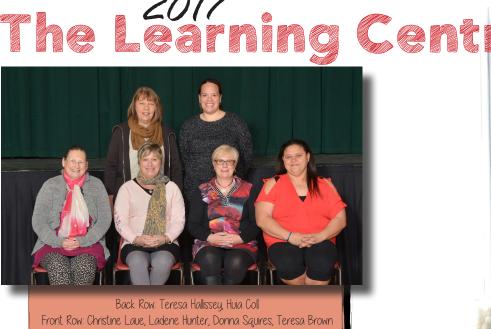
Congratulations to all students who passed!



We've had a couple of fun days on Tuesdays with themes, firstly we had pizza day

We also have had Mexican day and cooked nachos





This year in Term 2 we welcomed our new SENCO Huia Coll to our team.

The Learning Centre has had a few changes this year with different students and programmes running. The teacher-aides have had different challenges to master and have done these with expertise as usual!!

Some of our students have been on different activities outside the school with their class and have had new experiences.

Some students have continued to work on the SPEC Programme, which has involved learning new cooking skills, designing and cooking cakes and following different recipes. Lots of delicious delights have come from this programme.

It has been a busy time working our way through supporting students with NZQA and end of year exams in classes, and the usual challenges with reader/writers.

As the year is winding down we have spent some time teaching our students creative skills with some positive results and lots of excitement with Christmas drawing near. They have created a variety of different Christmas decorations and cards to take home to their families.

I would like to thank the Learning Centre Staff for the wonderful job they do with the students in the Learning Centre and for the classes they support. Also for the support we give to each other during the year with the unexpected obstacles that keep us on our toes!!

I wish everyone Happy and Safe Holidays! See you all next year!

Ladene Hunter Learning Centre Co-Ordinator Otamatea High School







Tutored by Ngaroimata Morgan, our kapa haka rōpū attended and performed at the Taitokerau Festival held at Bream Bay College this year. Great start to the year with awesome whanaungatanga within the rōpū, a credit to our kaiako and senior students, which showed in our a magical performance that had our rōpū receiving a wonderful response from the crowd.

Following on from Taitokerau, was the inaugural Te Uri o Hau Festival held at our school. Again our ropū provided a very entertaining bracket for whanau and surrounding primary and secondary school kura.

Our last campaign for the year was at Mangawhai Beach Primary School for the Kaipara Festival. We had a somewhat smaller ropū, however, their performance was sharp and precise. Well done to all our students for your commitment to practises and support with the hangi fundraiser, which was student lead. Special acknowledgement to our ropū leaders, amazing job this year with extra practises, organising hoodies, fundraisers and supporting each other. Nga mihi to Ngaroimata whose direction and passion for kapa haka has seen us through another successful year. Whanau and staff that helped at the wananga, goes without saying, without you we really can't call ourselves a ropū.





This amazing event was held in our very own school from the 7th - 9th June. Enormous time and preparation for this event was well worth it as the flow of whimsical word mastery graced our stage. This effort paid off as Ngā Manu Kōrero regional speech competition invited orators from the length and breath of Te Taitokerau secondary schools. Held over 3 days, over 21 schools competing, putting 60 speakers on our stunning stage. Orators Māori, English and Bi-lingual sections, it was something for everyone.

Representing our kura with so much kaha and passion was, Maddy Lemuelu (Tā Hemi Henare bi-lingual) and Aroha Lee Nahi-Connelly (Tā Turi Kara – Junior English). Both instilling motivation and determination in their respective whaikorero, whilst strongly supported by whanau and school.

Many thanks to those that contributed to this event being a success. Truly, showing that "He waka eke noa" is not just something we say at Otamatea, we do it!





## Ngati Whatua Tertiary Summit

The three-day Ngāti Whātua Tertiary Summit, saw eight Otamatea students mixing with over 140 students looking at options for their futures. The summit is target at Māori youth considering university next year.

The summit, supported by Te Runanga o Ngāti Whātua, Whai Māia Ōrākei and AUT, has seen student attendance numbers triple since last year. Otamatea was part of the inaugural Summit and as our students attend every year.

B.E.A.M.S - Auckland Uni



Since 2011, Te Roopu Tautoko subsidies Y10 Maori and Pacifika students to attend B.E.A.M.S.

Fantastic opportunity for our students to attend workshops for Business, Engineering, Architecture, Medicine and Science.

Plus, we go the extra mile and stay at the Auckland University Halls of Residence, so that our students get the full University experience.

B.E.A.M.S happens around November each year. Students are selected based on good attendance and interest in the going to University.





The final stop of the day was at LD Packers where we had a tour of a fruit pack house and a neighbouring kiwifruit orchard. That night we

stayed at Kerikeri Holiday Park and Motels which was enjoyed and appreciated by all. Against all predictions the management of the holiday park are very happy for us to return next year.

The next day before returning to Otamatea we visited Turners and Growers, Kerikeri and were given a tour of their pack house and a lemon orchard. By all accounts it was a great trip which was made possible by all the sites who generously hosted us. Thanks also to Sam Phillips who accompanied us and kept the girls in line.

Mr Troost



orchards, and the effluent ponds.

#### Badminton Champions – Year 9 and 10 Northland Secondary School's Tournament

On Wednesday 15th November Otamatea High School took 3 girls and 2 boys teams to this tournament. Teams were made up of 4 players who played a format of 4 games of doubles per round.

Congratulations to our top girls team who won the girls Tournament – Maggie Hames, Paris Rika, Hayley Linton and Cassidy Allen.

Congratulations also to our top boys team who went right to the wire with the last game deciding the outcome! They came second in the boys tournament.

Congratulations to our other teams who also all did really well with a 6th = for the girls out of 13 teams and a 6th for the boys out of 10 teams.

A huge thanks to Lana Parkinson for coaching the teams leading up to the event and to Pete Hames for helping on the day of the tournament.



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Our campaign to UNISS 2017, held in Auckland Netball Centre on 3rd - 8th September, was a challenging campaign, not only due to our competitors, but owing to weather conditions of heavy rain, then wind and sunshine consecutively on an hourly basis. Every year we stay for the A Finals and prizegiving with the hopes that one of our players will be selected into the tournament team. And like the icing on the cake, our very own captain, Jayme Curtis, was selected along with 9 other players from 384 players in the C Grade! It was an awesome moment for her, as the key area selectors were looking at, was consistency on court.

On reflection of our games, Jayme fought for everything - because she wanted it. Well done Jimi! Another amazing highlight was Shuntel Rika discussing with Helene Wilson about next year

to secure a scholarship. Shuntel impressed Helene enough last year that she took her under her wing to play in the Oceanic U21 Northland team. We wish you the very best Shuntel.



2016 saw Ota win the Wyatt Cup for the first time since 2009 so we had a lot to play for this year. Unfortunately rugby league was scheduled to play at the same time as cricket this year so that meant we had to ask opposition teams to play on a different day which was not always easy to arrange.

The first game at was at home against BBC and resulted in a win for Ota. We next played Rodney College at Rodney and, after a very tense last three overs Leroy Porteous and Keanu Taiaroa who were the last pair managed to run a bye on the last ball to secure a win by one run.

We travelled to Dargaville and after restricting the Dargaville batsmen to 170, we could not chase down the total and lost by 33 runs. The last game was a win against Mahurangi at Kaipara Flats.

Overall, we finished second to Dargaville High School, with Rodney third and BBC fourth.

2018 will be a rebuilding year for the team as we have lost most of the squad. Samuel Stephens was again a very solid captain and he contributed very well with the bat and ball. Simon Parker sent many a delivery over the boundary and will be sorely missed next year as he pursues a rugby scholarship. Aaron Lupton and his mystery spin will also be leaving the school. Lee Holst showed improvement with bat and ball and contributed some amusing innings this season.

The find of the year, and undoubtedly a valuable player in future years is Shayden Peele who, at only Year 7, opened the bowling on occasion and is a very accurate bowler.

Steve Davie-Martin Manager.







This season we entered two mixed teams in the Whangarei Collegiate competition. Team one qualified for division one for the season.

Team one moved into the top collegiate division and improved though out the season coming 4th overall after a hard fought battle against Huanui that went into extra time to decide the final placings.

Thank you to Robyn Bruce for coaching the season. This was a special year as this was Robyn's last year of coaching. Robyn will be sorely missed with all the knowledge she brings to the game and her dedication to all the players.

Thankyou also to Lee Holst who was captain and Josh Linton who was vice captain.

A thank you also has to go out to all the parents who regularly took players up each week – Marina Boniface, Mark Flannagan and Tina Holst

This year our Mixed Hockey Tournament team of 16 players flew to Christchurch on Saturday 2nd September. Friday saw us playing off for 5th and 6th place. This was an intense game backwards and forwards with the final score 3-3. We went into extra time with nine players with no goal keeper. The game was still locked at 3-3, so we dropped to 7 players until, with 30 seconds to play Mt Aspiring scrambled a pass over the goal line. 6th

Hayley Linton was named as most valuable player of the week for our team. Tyler Flannagan received a spot prize from the tournament management for sportsmanship.

We farewell our senior players - Lee Holst, Josh Linton, Sam Stephens, Aaron Lupton, Simon Parker and Adele Boniface. Good luck to all of them for their futures.

This was another great tournament!

place it was to be!

We must also remember our team mate, Travis Flannagan, who played so competitively throughout the collegiate season and was an integral part in our team's 4th placing in our collegiate hockey competition. Travis was with us in spirit and our shared memories at our South Island Tournament. You are greatly loved and missed, Wombat.

Robyn Bruce, Team Coach



### 2017 Basketball

The Otamatea Senior Girls' Basketball team have had a successful year. The team was able to play a range of games from Whangarei to Reporoa. The girl's team were successful and won quite a few of their games. Big congratulations to Sophia Smith who won the MVP - Most Valuable Player at senior prize giving. She was a fantastic captain and the top point scorer.



Back Row Parekaahu Paikea, Shuntel Rika, Jayme Curtis, Ozariah Ingham, Miss L Parkinson Front Row: Onnmarie Holst, Maddy Lemuelu, Sophia Smith, Kezrah Powley-Onderson, Holly Brunt



Curtis Stanaway, Jesse Tautari, Jaime Kurupo,

Shicane Storey

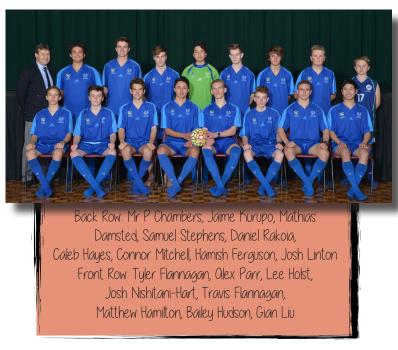
The senior basketball team made a slow start to the year and lost the first match to Ruawai comfortably. However as they became more organised and began to realise that they needed to play as a team their results improved. Matches up at Whangarei and the annual Reporoa fixture saw improvements to their team play. At the final tournament of the season at Otamatea they comfortably beat Rodney College, Bream Bay and Dargaville and should have beaten Ruawai losing by a solitary basket in the last minute. Good progress was made throughout the season, well done boys.

## Equestrian

On the 22nd March a group of four students from Otamatea High School traveled down to Coatesville to compete in the Kristin Intercollegiate Ribbon day. The first half of the day was competing in flat work classes with stiff competition and the second half was jumping. Our team seemed to excel in the jumping events. The day saw a big turnout with over 30 teams competing and about 100 riders. Prize giving came with a surprise when our team won first overall in the team's section, our team consisted of Tyler Porteous, Lexi Porteous, Zarlia Martin and Holly Brunt. Thank you to the organisers of the event. By Holly Brunt

Back Row: Mr D Burnell, Dylan Huggett, Tamati Obel, Simon Parker, Oaron Lupton, Kayden French-Brown Front Row: Rubin Paikea, Tyrone De Ordenne, Hyde Massey, Brady Foster, Isaac Sheppard, Zack Hamlin, Piripi Craig, Bob Hamlin







The school has enjoyed another very successful season culminating in the team winning the Division One title after defeating Huanui, the Division One North winners, 8-2 over two legs.

Overall the 1st XI have had a great season in 2017 and have a bright future ahead of them.

I would like to thank Mr Murphy for refereeing and assisting with the team this season and Mark Flannagan for helping with the transport and supporting throughout the season.

Mr P Chambers



The Girls First XI Football Team had a fantastic season this year. Sam Allen received player of the year and service to football. Emma Huband received the Golden Boot award for scoring the most goals. Lola Smyth was new to the sport this year and received the team's most improved player award. The team developed a range of skills throughout the season and should be pleased with their overall progress.

-Anna Liddington



Back Row: Brenda Ferguson, Hayley Linton, Stacey Liu Middle Row: Emma Huband, Kayla Reid, Ozariah Ingham, Emma Millard, Bridgette Hosford, Cheylysse Flannagan, Miss O. Liddington

Front Row: Kezrah Powley-Onderson, Juliana Bangcong, Samantha Ollen, Sophia Smith, Holly Brunt, Tanika Rutson, Grace Kemp



### 2017 Squash

Northland Secondary Schools' Individual Squash Championships - Congratulations to Annmarie Holst 2nd in the Open Individual Girls' Championship, Jack Hodgson who was 2nd in Division Two Boys'. Well done to the team of six students who also competed on the day. The Otamatea Girls' Team of Annmarie Holst, Ocean Shadbolt and Shawna Hawken won the Girls' Open Championship at Northland Secondary Schools' Team Championship.

Plus, the Otamatea High School mixed team of Jessie Allen, Aaron Lupton and Simon Parker who placed first in the mixed division.



Swim 500m – Bike 15km – run 4km

There was a great turn out for the triathlon this year with three individual competitiors and 12 teams. The course has been measured so this year all times will be new records as the distance is different on the bike section from previous years.

#### **Boys Individual**

1st David Hames with a time of 1.15.09

#### **Girls Individual**

**1st** Trista Comer with a time of 1.10.15 **2nd** Annmarie Holst

#### Mixed/Boy

1st Annmarie Holst, Lee Holst and Sam Stephens with a time of 1.01.462nd James White, Bailey Hudson and Claude Smyth

**3rd** Joe Rose, Haylen Moir and Kyrin Harris **Girls** 

**1st** Maggie Hames, Hayley Linton and Cassidy Allen with a time of 1.09.53 **2nd** Azariah Ingham, Tyler Porteous and Sam Allen

**3rd** Grace Kemp, Lola Smyth and Sophie Gribble.

The overall combined results for the junior and senior triathlons together saw Ngapuhi 1st, Maniapoto 2nd, Whatua 3rd and Arawa 4th.

The individual girl's event was contested by Poppy Scott, Billie Le Mesurier-Cowbourne in the girls division and Kieran Fergus, Rikki Beazley and Kyin Smith in the boys division. Poppy held the lead through out the entire race to win with a time of 34: 52 setting the new record. Billie was not far behind with a time of 36.22. The individual boy's event was won by Kieran Fergus with a time of 45.30 setting the boys new record. Second place was Rikki Beazley and third was Kyin Smith. The team event had one boys and one girls team enter and also brought in new records with the boys team of Kevin Kim, Marshall Scott and Nathan Harris time 35.18. The winning girls' team of Milly Hodgson and Emma Browne setting a new record with a time of 48.08.



Year 13 student Josh Nishitani-Hart won this year's road race, finishing in a time of 19.50 with a clear win looking like he could do another round of the block. Second place went to Isaac Sheppard with a time of 20.55, closely followed by his younger brother Joshua Sheppard.

Year 9 student Trista Comer (6th overall) took out the girl's race in a time of 22.08 – 49 seconds off the girls record. Second place was year 9 student Sophie Gribble with a time of 23.37 ahead of third place getter, year 10 student Hayley Linton.

149 students finished the road race just under last year's 151 students. The day was perfect for running being slightly overcast and only a gentle breeze.

The Winners

Boys	Year Group	Girls
Morgan Bull	7	Milly Hodgson
Joshua Sheppard	8	Billie Le Mesurier-Cowbourne
Brett Allen	9	Trista Comer
Jacob Butler	10	Hayley Linton
Zack Hamlin	11	Danni Mckie
Claude Smyth	12	Annmarie Holst
Josh Nishitani-Hart	13	Tyler Porteous







#### Year 9 and 10 Tennis doubles tournament

A group of 4 girls teams travelled to the Thomas Neale Courts in Kamo on Wednesday 22nd November for the Northland Secondary School's Tournament. The day was perfect with no wind and a little cloud cover.

Congratulations to our top girls pair who played in the open tournament came second overall – Paris Rika and Renee Allen.

The top result for the participation grade tournament went to Kayla-Rose Reid and Emma Huband who placed 7th. The girls all thoroughly enjoyed the day.





# School Ball On the 10th of July we had the approach Others to the second Others to the second

On the 10th of July we had the annual Otamatea High School ball and the theme this year was 'Enchanted Forest'. We had trees of all kinds donated by Kauri Park and fairy lights covering every inch of the hall and DJ Si creating a great vibe for the night, with around 140 students attending this year (the most in the past few years!).





Everyone enjoyed themselves and the prizes this year went out to...



Portia Wehi and Matthew Riddlestone

Cutest couple
Molly Curnow and Curtis Stanaway



















Back Row: Bob Hamlin, Brady Foster, Dietrich Von Dincklage, Piripi Craig, Isaac Sheppard Front Row: Rubin Paikea, Kayden French-Brown, Simon Parker, Tamati Obel, Zack Hamlin, Tyrone De Ordenne

Back Row: Tamati Phillips, Ben Donald, Branden Edwards, Kurtis Kemara, Tawhetu Phillips, Jesse Goodfellow, Zack Hamlin Front Row: Marshall Scott, Joshua Davis, Nathan Harris, Joshua Sheppard, Lilly Vaughan, Reef Riri, Rikki Beazley, Shauden Peele





Back Row: Joshua Nishitani-Hart, Ocean Shadbolt, Dietrich Von Dincklage, Shuntel Rika, Simon Parker, Tamati Obel, Zack Hamlin, Samuel Stephens Front Row: Haylen Moir-Bishell, Kyrin Harris, Tyler Porteous, Onnmarie Holst, Holly Brunt, Maia Fairburn, Joshua Sheppard



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**Back Row:** Ms D Squires, Reef Riri, Aaron Cooper, Jorja Thompson, Branden Edwards, Sara Anderson, Kurtis Kemara, Kyin Smith, Mark Anderson, Tamatea Tilby, Lilly Vaughan, Morgan Bull, Mrs C Laue

**3rd Row:** Amy Gribble, Monique Sheppard, Piper Donald, Ayla Antunovich, Niki Harvey, Joshua Davis, James Marshall-Baker, Quentin Barber, Myra Kingi, Elsie Holcroft, Devine Henderson, Leyla Routledge, Terehia Taua

**2nd Row:** Mrs P Randell, Manasseh Paki, Meg Paton, Kate Cotching, Kevin Kim, Chloe Millard, Cortney Phillips, Shayden Peele, Rikki Beazley, Leo Cannon, Ella Baker, Destiny Paikea, Mrs N Alcock

**Front Row:** Corbin Walker, Skye Johnson, Luca Verlaine, Gareth Ferguson, Emma Browne, Jesse Goodfellow, Nathan Harris, Jacob Kake, Roy Thomas, Willow Campbell, Marshall Scott, Aylah Legge, Milly Hodgson

Absent: William Holden, Kaddison Hyndman, Te Mapihi Paikea, Bayden Puke





Back Row: Mrs T Brown, Mr K Lloyd, Flynn Powell, Jim Holcroft, Teina Whare Paikea, Ronin Davis, Mr S Buksh

3rd Row: Alana Yardley, Toby Hudson, Joshua Sheppard, Manea Turner-Bennett, Ben Donald, Faith Maaka, Damin Edwards

**2nd Row**: Tuhimai Morgan, Joshua Stephens, Kieran Fergus, Caleb Ansell, Max Tornquist, Sara Campbell-Winter, Tai Walker, Tawhetu Phillips, Coryn Yorke, Georgia Watts

**Front Row:** Charlette Myburg, Bo Osborne, Mina Fairburn, Jade Paikea, Poppy Scott, Ashlie Huggett, Michael Ferguson, Oliver Caldwell, Maia Fairburn, Billie Le Mesurier-Cowbourne, Shannon Lee

Absent: Roman Miru, Tamati Phillips, Connor Quirk, Candace Smith, Tyla Stonex



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**Back Row:** Lily Hosford, Amy Tohu, Odin Dalkie, Sam Woolley, Andrew Birt, Brett Allen, Bryce Phillips, John Donnelly, Kyrin Harris, Carlos Wind, Jaden Sheppard, Boyd Wintle, Amber-Jade French

**3rd Row:** Tiana Whare Paikea, Sara Jansen, Grace Stephens, Dylam Lambert, Connor Sands, Cory Browne, Tygan Campbell, Wyatt Wheeler, Joel Taylor-Whitehead, Joshua Aitken, Ali Ghanbari, Keanu Taiaroa, Joe Rose, Zayde Wyatt, Haylen Moir-Bishell, Leon Mansell-Clark

**2nd Row:** Deborah Marshall-Baker, Aroha Connelly-Nahi, Tara Moyle, Sophie Gribble, Abby Cant, Alida Spencer, Brenda Ferguson, Grace Kemp, Lola Smyth, Emma Britton, Brooke Hutton, Cheylysse Flannagan, Madaline Sosene-Fletcher, Amber Corble, Asher Tito, Amity-Rose Littlejohn

Front Row: Chloe McGowan, Caleesto Mills, Charlotte Thurgood, Trista Comer, Teina Seager, Zane Crum, Franklin Fisher, Natasha Mannington, Beth Horne, Jessica Alexander, Alaek Tua-Taiapo, Kylah Slack, Emma Hosford, Cody Brunt, Ava Macdonald, Jack Hodgson

**Absent:** Renee Allen, James Anderson, Madeline Daniels, Shayla Hyndman, Summer Kenyon, Amy Lawrence, Adriana Phillips, Connor Stuart, Wyatt Wheeler



**Back Row:** Mr M Crisp, Tyler Young, Jonas Cassin, Brayden Grigg, Jacob Fox, Hamish Ferguson, Petuera Kingi, Romero Madsen, Jeff Smith, Cameron Phillips, Brayden Mills, Kyle Reid, Riley Evans, Mr P Chambers

3rd Row: Mrs K Sewell, Vanessa Andersen, Katrina Poyner, Chloe Wheeler, Maggie Hames, Toni Tornquist, Stacey Liu, Summer Ford, Rochelle Woods, Jocelyn Wind, Crystal-Rain Nicholson, Cassidy Allen, Ayla Driver, Cecilie Daniels, Bipasa Patel, Juliana Bangcong

**2nd Row:** Tane Nepia, Gene Watts, Shaquan Shaw-Gray, Brady Foster, Bob Hamlin, Denzal Peeni, Koby Worsell, Ethan Tautari, Tyrone Maaka, Blake Muir, Jacob Butler, Devon Slack, Tyrone De Ardenne, Hunter Goodfellow, Karl Von Dincklage, Lance Allardyce

Front Row: Tiva Kingi, C.J Smart, Katie Ferguson, Kelly Huband, Kayla Reid, Emma Huband, Paris Rika, Summer Miru, Willow Tito, Amyee Sheppard, Tanika Rutson, Laura Mickell, Hayley Linton, Ripeka Craig, Jemma Kurupo

**Absent:** Rikki Atkin, Jordi Ayoub-Thompson, Blake Jackson, Paige Kenyon, Shannon Nightingale, Danielle Phillips, Lexi Porteous, Matangi Tito, Chrish-chell Tuhiwai







Back Row: Jayme Curtis, Zack Hamlin, Jeremiah Cosgrave-Brogtrop, Ethan Trembath, Cole Doyle, Benicio Van Zwijndregt, Mason Wintle, Quintin Brown, Braeden Yardley, Jake Hardisty

3rd Row: Emma Millard, Isaac Sheppard, Shicane Storey, Connor Mitchell, Flynn Gilmour, Hyde Massey, Ocean Shadbolt, Leah Hodge, Eliana Kerrigan, Connor Morris-O'Reilly, Daniel Rakoia, Beck Goodyear, Hannah Cant, Bailey Baker

**2nd Row:** Mr M North, Damien Hayes, Matthew Hamilton, Kayne Goodfellow, Jaime Kurupo, Brandon Roberts-Murphy, Tyler Flannagan, Julia Mickell, Mya Lawrence, Nikayla Abel, Darryl Keyte-Cleverly, Hayden Wharfe, Alex Parr, Jade Reid, Mr W. Maclennan, Miss L Parkinson

Front Row: Levi Guffogg, Samantha Andersen, Jade Tornquist, Danni McKie, Rosasharn Vincent, Bridgette Hosford, Tayla Allardyce, Georgia Denton, Maddy Lemuelu, Kathleen Craig, Suzy Thomas, Niki Stoddart, Suzy Hames, Cat Mason-Veale, Kinga Harding, Jenna Swadling

Absent: Kauri Rowe, Chevy Turner-Bennett



**Back Row:** Miss A Liddington, Ms T Paul, James White, Leroy Porteous, Ben Smith, Aaron Lupton, Simon Parker, Sam Daniels, Faun Driver, Dietrich Von Dincklage, Mathias Damsted, Dylan Huggett, Mr G Skipper, Mr B Alison

**3rd Row:** Madison Holloway, Jayde Holloway, Stella Atkin, Matthew Riddlestone, Anthony Kim, Daniel Taylor, Holly Brunt, Shyla Hodge, Gian Liu, Caleb Hayes, Kayden French-Brown, Ewan Smith, Claude Smyth, Samuel Stephens, Jimmy Watson, Devan Gabbitas

**2nd Row:** Elissa Britton, Zoe Meehan, Tegan Evans, Natalie Birt, Kasey Ata, Piripi Craig, Rubin Paikea, Seb Nowell, Holly Anderson, Abigail Mason, Parekaahu Paikea, Laurinda Bokma, Annmarie Holst, Shawna Hawken, Jessica Allen

Front Row: Chantel Shadbolt, Kimberlee Mannington, Tewairipo Tito, Jahnessa Davis, Curtis Stanaway, Jarrod Hayes, Erin Corble, Kaysi Butcher, Hannah Mills, Erin Kingi, Bailey Hudson, Adara Clements, Molly Curnow, Jesse Tautari, Adele Boniface, Jodie Lannie

**Absent:** Patrick Butler, Jader Fairburn, Jack Frost, Kayla Joyce, Holly Kenyon, Alyssa Kiddie-Williams, Te Arna Matafeo, Callum McConchie, Corey Slimo.



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Back Row: David Hames, Josh Nishitani-Hart, Shuntel Rika, Blake Sims, Jayson Gilpin, Max Daniels, Rueben Elmbranch-Singh, Travis Flannagan, Lee Holst

Middle Row: Greer Sanger, Sophia Smith, Lenhy Massey, Azariah Ingham, Caleb Forbes, Nelson Gilmour, Cailean Ritchie, Sam Nowell, Tori Taylor, Rowena Allardyce

Front Row: Sammy Hammon, Tyler Porteous, Chloe Archer, Liana Reid, Tamati Abel, Mr D Smyth, Samantha Allen, Kezrah Powley-Anderson, Bianca Bangcong, Josh Linton, Miriana Littlejohn

Absent: Finnigan Denton, Callum Lowrie

## Prize Giving

Kia Maia – Be Brave in Learning (Te Uri o Hau Development Ltd) Miriana Littlejohn

Peer Support Award (Kaipara District Council) Blake Sims

Best Aggregate of Science Subjects in Year 13 (Fonterra Cup) Max Daniels

Jessie Vaughan Trophy for Senior Citizenship (Ferguson and Oldham Trophy)

Jayson Gilpin

General Excellence by a Senior Student (D A Finlayson Cup) Sam Allen

Exceptional School Supporter (K & N Trophy)
Sam Allen

Student Exhibiting School Spirit (*Te Jay Cup*) *Quintin Brown* 

Best All-Round Maori Pupil (Rennie Trophy)

Maddy Lemuelu

Fair Play & Sportsmanship Trophy (Engraving Systems)

Tamati Abel

Outstanding Sporting Achievement (Haydn & Mary Hutching Cup)
Ocean Shadbolt

Excellence in Level 2 English & Science (R & F Tornquist Trophy) Natalie Birt

Most Promising Student Returning to School (*Thompson Trophy*) *Annmarie Holst* 

Senior Victrix Ludorum (Karen McNay Cup)
Annmarie Holst

Senior Victor Ludorum (Webster Brothers Cup) Simon Parker

First in Year 11 (OHS Board of Trustees Cup)

Mya Lawrence

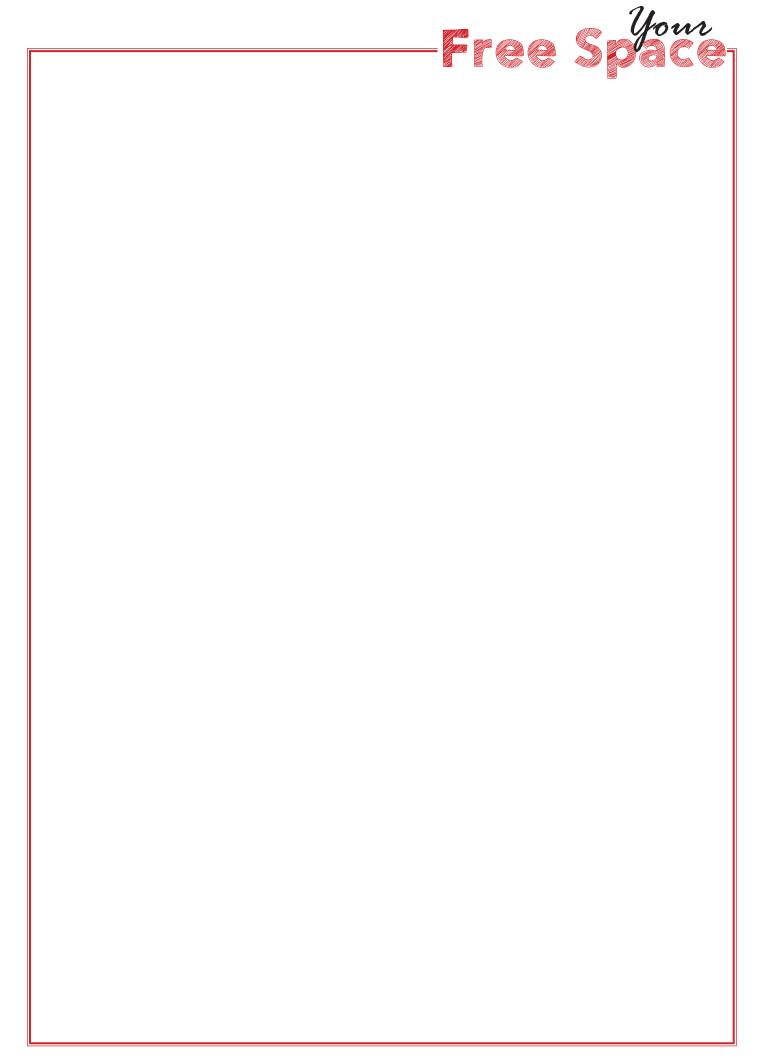
First in Year 12 (Neil McKay Trophy)
Molly Curnow

Proxime Accessit (Mr & Mrs J Morrison Cup) Joshua Nishitani-Hart

DUX OF THE SCHOOL (Mr & Mrs L Mitchell Trophy)

Max Daniels

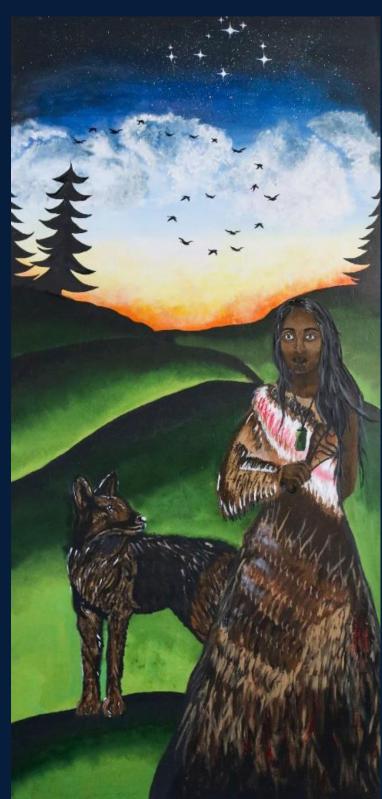












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