



# Otamatea High School

*Te Kura Tuarua o Otamatea*



Welcome to the 2017 school year

## Principal's Comment

The 2017 academic year started with huge improvements in our NCEA results. The preliminary results showed fantastic improvements across all levels. 98% pass rates in NCEA Level 1 literacy and numeracy. Over 90% pass rate at NCEA Level 2 as well as considerable gains at NCEA level 3 and University Entrance. The full results will be published in the next newsletter (once these are finalised by NZQA). A huge congratulations to all of our students. Thank you to the staff and the families who have provided valuable support to enable our students to succeed.

In week one all new students were welcomed into the school by a powhiri and spent a day learning the routines and familiarising themselves with their new environment. The year 7s enjoyed their camp and this gave them a really good opportunity to bond with each other and their teachers. The prefects did a wonderful job of ensuring that they were challenged in team building activities. Thanks to the Mrs Randell, Miss Parkinson, Mrs Alcock and Mr Chambers for their help at the camp and to Ms Gee and the food technology students for the amazing food.

We have a new prefect for 2017 – Natalie Birt, who will be taking up the role of Community Services prefect. Her role will involve helping to support charitable initiatives such as Relay for Life, World Vision 40 hour Famine and Samaritan's Purse. As a school we have made a decision this year that all mufti days will raise money for charities and there will be one a term; this is to help develop the concept of helping those less fortunate than ourselves. The first mufti day is on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April and the proceeds will go towards the Relay for Life fundraising. All fundraising requests (for charitable causes) and to support school extra-curricular activities will go to the Student Council for consideration. This will include school socials, bake sales etc.

The Student Council, led by Holly Anderson, Student BOT Representative, and supported by Mr Chambers has now been elected for 2017. Congratulations to the following students:

Arawa: Mina Fairburn, Paris Rika, Quinton Brown, Maniapoto: Gareth Ferguson, Brenda Ferguson, Portia Wehi, Ngapuhi: Poppy Scott, Renee Allen, Annmarie Holst Whatua: Kieran Fergus, Jaden Sheppard, Isaac Sheppard.

Swimming sports was a great success; thank you so much to the parents who supported this event by providing the essential time keeping for us to run the event smoothly. There were many familiar faces who support the school in so many ways. Thank you. Thanks also to Tina Holst and the PE department who organised and facilitated another awesome event.

You will have noticed that we have started the school re paint and it is looking very good. The office has also had a face lift over the holidays. Thank you to Richard Reed for a job very well done; I am sure that you will agree that it provides a much improved welcoming entrance to the school.

Are you receiving the weekly **Te Panui o Otamatea** via email every Friday?  
If not please call Nikki Donaldson 0800 682 628

# NCEA Excellence Endorsements for OHS students

Otamatea High School is very proud of the large number of our senior students who have gained NCEA endorsements in 2016. Each year NZQA recognises high achieving students by awarding various endorsements. Students who gain 50 credits overall at excellence (or merit) level have their NCEA certificate endorsed with excellence (or merit). It is a considerable honour to be awarded such an endorsement. Congratulations to the following students who have all gained overall endorsements for the 2016 academic year.

## NCEA Endorsed with Excellence.

NCEA Level 3: Oskar Harding, Ruby Rose Hallamore, Monica Jaques, Danielle Hyland

NCEA Level 2: Samantha Allen, Samantha Cawkwell Troost, Kate Cawkwell Troost, Joshua Nishitani Hart, Tyler Porteous

NCEA Level 1: Zelda Sims, Gian Liu, Zoe Meehan, Annmarie Holst, Erin Corble, Natalie Birt, Ewan Smith, Molly Curnow, Claude Smyth

## NCEA Endorsed with Merit.

NCEA Level 3: Jessica Linton, Erin Mooney, Jesper Smyth

NCEA Level 2: Max Daniels, Miriana Littlejohn, Lenhy Massey, Greer Sanger

NCEA Level 1: Seb Nowell, Simon Parker, Jodie Lannie, Holly Anderson, James White, Hannah Mills, Jayde Holloway, Corey Slimo, Laurinda Bokma, Holly Brunt, Abigail Mason, Aaron Lupton, Bailey Hudson, Leroy Porteous



## Course Endorsements

Students can also be awarded individual course endorsements. These endorsements recognise outstanding achievement in a particular subject or course. Students need to gain at least 14 credits at excellence (or merit) in a single course to receive an excellence (or merit) endorsement. The number of excellence course endorsements at OHS continues to track upwards, with 36% more excellence course endorsements than in 2015. The following students have done exceptionally well in receiving NCEA course endorsements for their efforts last year (subject in brackets).

## NCEA Courses Endorsed with Excellence.

**NCEA Level 3:** Danielle Hyland (Biology, Chemistry, Calculus), Ashton Coates (Physical Education), Jesper Smyth (Calculus), Monica Jaques (Chemistry), Oskar Harding (Calculus), Ruby Rose Hallamore (Chemistry), Samantha Allen (Biology)



**NCEA Level 2:** **Joshua Nishitani Hart** (Digital Media Studies, Physical Education), **Molly Curnow** (Drama, History), **Samantha Allen** (Chemistry, Statistics), **Tyler Porteous** (Biology, Physical Education), **Azariah Ingham** (Physical Education), **Claude Smyth** (Mathematics), **Kate Cawkwell Troost** (English), **Max Daniels** (Mathematics), **Natalie Birt** (Statistics), **Zelda Sims** (Statistics).

**NCEA Level 1:** **Zoe Meehan** (Drama, Mathematics, Science), **Molly Curnow** (Art, English), **Natalie Birt** (English, Science), **Zelda Sims** (English, Physical Education), **Annmarie Holst** (Physical Education), **Erin Corble** (Art), **Gian Liu** (Physical Education), **Hannah Mills** (Accounting), **Holly Brunt** (Physical Education), **Jodie Lannie** (Accounting), **Kasey Ata** (Physical Education), **Mathias Damsted** (Physical Education), **Mya Lawrence** (Science),

### **NCEA Courses Endorsed with Merit**

The following students all received merit course endorsements.

**Level 3:** **Ruby Rose Hallamore** (Biology, English, History, Calculus), **Oskar Harding** (Chemistry, English, Statistics), **Danielle Hyland** (English, Statistics, Physics), **Erin Mooney** (Chemistry, Calculus, Statistics), **Jesper Smyth** (Biology, Chemistry), **Kate Cawkwell Troost** (Biology), **Erin Mooney** (Biology), **Ashton Coates** (Chemistry), **Natasha Tornquist** (Geography), **Samantha Allen** (Geography), **Cameron Lupton** (Geography), **Jessica Linton** (History), **Rita Hames** (History), **Jamahl Robinson** (History), **Emma Rankin** (History), **Monica Jaques** (Statistics), **Samantha Cawkwell Troost** (Statistics), **Miriana Littlejohn** (Painting)

**Level 2:** **Samantha Cawkwell Troost** (English, Geography, History, Mathematics), **Lenhy Massey** (Chemistry, Geography, History, Statistics), **Greer Sanger** (Biology, Geography, History, Statistics), **Joshua Nishitani Hart** (English, Mathematics, Physics), **Tamati Abel** (Mathematics, Physical Education), **Ewan Smith** (Chemistry, Mathematics), **Claude Smyth** (Chemistry, Statistics), **Zelda Sims** (Chemistry, Mathematics), **Max Daniels** (Chemistry, Physics), **Rowena Allardyce** (Biology), **Sammy Hammon** (Chemistry), **Joshua Linton** (Chemistry), **Miriana Littlejohn** (English), **Blake Sims** (English), **Natalie Birt** (Mathematics), **Liana Reid** (Statistics), **Tyler Porteous** (Statistics), **Lochy Steedman** (Physical Education), **Kezrah Powley-Anderson** (Photography), **Chloe Archer** (Photography)

**Level 1:** **Abigail Mason** (Accounting, English, Health, Mathematics, Science), **Annmarie Holst** (Accounting, Mathematics, Science), **Simon Parker** (Mathematics, Physical Education, Science), **Zoe Meehan** (Digital Media Studies, English, Health), **Gian Liu** (Health, Mathematics, Science), **Stella Atkin** (Art, English), **Laurinda Bokma** (Digital Media Studies, English), **Jodie Lannie** (English, Science), **Seb Nowell** (English, Mathematics), **Molly Curnow** (Mathematics, Science), **Holly Anderson** (Mathematics, Physical Education), **Mya Lawrence** (Mathematics), **Suzy Hames** (Science), **Emma Millard** (Science), **Lucas Beeler** (Science), **Jade Tornquist** (Science), **Isaac Sheppard** (Science), **Erin Corble** (English), **Hannah Mills** (Geography), **Holly Brunt** (Geography), **Jayde Holloway** (Health), **Holly Kenyon** (Health), **Leroy Porteous** (Mathematics), **Natalie Birt** (Music), **Shyla Hodge** (Physical Education),

**Dietrich Von Dincklage** (Physical Education), **Xavier Brown** (Physical Education), **Bailey Hudson** (Physical Education), **Adele Boniface** (Physical Education), **Jessica Allen** (Physical Education), **Samuel Stephens** (Physical Education), **Corey Slimo** (Physical Education), **Samuel Daniels** (Physical Education), **Ewan Smith** (Science), **Claude Smyth** (Science), **Zelda Sims** (Science),

Well done to our NCEA stars, you have all shown commitment to your studies and have continued to demonstrate what the 'A' in the OTA way is all about – Always Learning.

*D. Smyth, Deputy Principal*

# OTAMATEA HIGH SCHOOL

## 52nd Annual Athletics Day

**28<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

Starting Time: Sub Junior and Junior – 9.15am  
Intermediate and Senior – 11.50  
Relay Races – 3.00pm

Welcome to Otamatea High School athletics day. The aim of the day is to celebrate athletics as a sport and to encourage as many students as possible to take part. There is an individual championship for each age group as well as the Iwi competition. All pupils will receive a point for their Iwi for entering an event. If they come 1<sup>st</sup> they get 9 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> 8 points and so on. Trials have been held for all running events with the finals being held today. All students are to participate in the field events.

**Individual Champions will be decided from points in their total top five events with a split of either 3 track events and 2 field events or 2 track events and 3 field events.**

**Age Groupings** are as at 1<sup>st</sup> Jan on year of competition

Sub Junior     Under 12 as at 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2017  
Intermediate Under 16 as at 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2017

Junior Under 14 as at 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2017  
Senior Under 19 as at 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2017

## Please join us to celebrate *Eileen Parsons* inspiring contribution to Otamatea High School



Eileen’s first association with our school was in 1974. Her kindness, thoughtfulness and tireless work has influenced our entire school community. She is ‘one in a million’.

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 4pm (after OHS Athletics Sports)**  
**E Block - Otamatea High School**

# Otamatea High School Swimming Sports 2017 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sports



Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February saw the 42<sup>nd</sup> Otamatea Swim Sports. The day started rainy and cool but the sun soon broke through to produce a mostly sunny day. Our stand out results came from Ocean Shadbolt who broke two records. The 25 m intermediate girls back stroke with a time of 17.05, beating the record set by R Exler in 2006 of 19.75. Also the 25 m intermediate girls breast stroke with a time of 18.21, beating the record set by S Foster in 2005 of 20.19.

A huge thank you to all the parents who helped time keep on the day. Thank you Nikola Kemp and Ellen Snelling for being our stroke inspector/turn judge, Jon Clist, for the music, Kay Fell and Eileen Parsons for recording under the gazebo all day. Thank you to all the staff and students who helped throughout the day in the many jobs to keep the day running smoothly. Lastly thank you to all the swimmers who stepped up and swam their hearts out to make this an enjoyable competition.

*Tina Holst, Sport Coordinator*

## House Results

1. Maniapoto

2. Ngapuhi

3. Whatua

4. Arawa

## Sub Junior Girls

<b>25m freestyle</b>	1. Lilly Vaughan	2. Alida Spencer	3. Ayla Antunovich	19.09
<b>25m backstroke</b>	1. Ayla Antunovich	2. Milly Hodgson	3. Terehia Taua	23.25
<b>25m breast stroke</b>	1. Ayla Antunovich	2. Milly Hodgson	3. Piper Donald	33.34
<b>50m freestyle</b>	1. Meg Paton	2. Emma Browne	3.	40.14
<b>50m backstroke</b>	1. Meg Paton	2. Kate Cotching	3. Emma Browne	51.19
<b>50m breast stroke</b>	1. Meg Paton	2. Emma Browne	3. Ayla Antunovich	57.00
<b>75m medley</b>	1. Meg Paton	2. Emma Browne	3.	1.20.28

## Sub Junior Boys

<b>25m freestyle</b>	1. Tawhetu Phillips	2. Nathan Harris	3. Branden Edwards	19.40
<b>25m backstroke</b>	1. Rikki Beazley	2. Joshua Davis	3.	28.35
<b>25m breast stroke</b>	1. Nathan Harris	2. Branden Edwards	3. Kaddison Hyndman	29.84
<b>50m freestyle</b>	1. Nathan Harris	2. Kevin Kim	3. Joshua Davis	47.78
<b>50m backstroke</b>	1. Rikki Beazley	2.	3.	1.07.63
<b>50m breast stroke</b>	1. Nathan Harris	2.	3.	1.04.22
<b>25m freestyle</b>	1. Tawhetu Phillips	2. Nathan Harris	3. Branden Edwards	19.40



Junior Boys

25m freestyle	1. Zayde Wyatt	2. Brett Allen	3. Keanu Taiaroa	16.34
25m backstroke	1. Boyd Wintle	2. Odin Dalkie	3. Kieran Fergus	21.59
25m breast stroke	1. Keanu Taiaroa	2. Ben Donald	3. Josh Sheppard	26.09
50m freestyle	1. Bob Hamlin	2. Joe Rose	3. Zayde Wyatt	40.09
50m backstroke	1. Boyd Wintle	2. Odin Dalkie	3.	54.37
50m breast stroke	1. Joe Rose	2. Keanu Taiaroa	3. Bob Hamlin	53.43
100m freestyle	1. Zayde Wyatt	2. Joe Rose	3.	1.34.94
75m medley	1. Joe Rose	2. Bob Hamlin	3.Keanu Taiaroa	1.18.22

Junior Girls

25m freestyle	1. Sophie Gribble	2. Alana Yardley	3. Brooke Hutton	16.72
25m backstroke	1. Brooke Hutton	2.	3.	21.90
25m breast stroke	1. Alana Yardley	2. Jemma Kurupo	3. Summer Kenyon	23.62
50m freestyle	1. Grace Kemp	2. Sophie Gribble	3. Brooke Hutton	36.31
50m backstroke	1. Grace Kemp	2. Renee Allen	3.	41.09
50m breast stroke	1. Trista Comer	2. Alana Yardley	3. Sophie Gribble	50.67
100m freestyle	1. Grace Kemp	2. Trista Comer	3.	1.26.00
75m medley	1. Grace kemp	2. Sophie Gribble	3. Trista Comer	1.08.60

Intermediate Boys

25m freestyle	1. Brady Foster	2. Quintin Brown	3.Tyrone DeArdenne	15.40
25m backstroke	1. Shicane Storey	2. Ethen Trembath	3. Tyrone DeArdenne	21.65
25m breast stroke	1. Patrick Butler	2. Shicane Storey	3. Isaac Sheppard	22.30
50m freestyle	1. Quintin Brown	2. Zack Hamlin	3. Brady Foster	34.68
50m backstroke	1. Zack Hamlin	2. Ethan Trembath	3.	50.25
50m breast stroke	1. Patrick Butler	2. Jaime Kurupo	3. Zack Hamlin	52.94
100m freestyle	1. Quintin Brown	2. Ethan Trembath	3. Shicane Storey	1.26.43
75m medley	1. Zack Hamlin	2. Patrick Butler	3. Isaac Sheppard	1.10.90

Intermediate Girls

25m freestyle	1.Portia Wehi	2.Paris Rika	3.Willow Tito	15.90
25m backstroke	1.Ocean Shadbolt	2.Portia Wehi	3.Katrina Poyner	17.05
25m breast stroke	1.Ocean Shadbolt	2. Portia Wehi	3.Paige Kenyon	18.21
50m freestyle	1.Willow Tito	2. Paris Rika	3. Cat Mason-Veale	42.12
50m backstroke	1.Katrina Poyner	2.	3.	55.54
50m breast stroke	1. Ocean Shadbolt	2. Portia Wehi	3. Paige Kenyon	41.00
75m medley	1. Ocean Shadbolt	2.	3.	58.04

Senior Boys

25m freestyle	1. James White	2. Josh Nishitani-Hart	3. Kayden French	14.91
25m breast stroke	1. James White	2.Simon Parker	3.Lee Holst	20.05
50m freestyle	1. James White	2. Kayden French	3. Josh Nishitani-Hart	33.37
50m backstroke	1. Josh Nishitani-Hart	2.	3.	57.41
50m breast stroke	1. James White	2. Simon Parker	3. Lee Holst	47.15
100m freestyle	1. David Hames	2.Josh Nishitani-Hart	Lee Holst	1.26.56
75m medley	1. Kayden French	2. Simon Parker	3.Jesse Tautari	1.19.38

Senior Girls

25m freestyle	1. Sophia Smith	2. Holly Brunt	3. Abigail Mason	17.06
25m backstroke	1. Sophia Smith	2.Holly Brunt	3.	22.04
25m breast stroke	1. Sophia Smith	2. Shawna Hawken	3. Chantel Shadbolt	26.68
50m freestyle	1.Sophia Smith	2. Abigail Mason	3. Shawna Hawken	38.30
50m backstroke	1. Annmarie Holst	2.	3.	57.41
50m breast stroke	1.Annmarie Holst	2. Holly Brunt	3.Shawna Hawken	51.56
100m freestyle	1. Annmarie Holst	2.	3.	1.42.13
75m medley	1. Annmarie Holst	2.	3.	1.16.38

Open mixed 200m	1. Ocean Shadbolt	2. Grace Kemp	3. Quintin Brown	2.32.90
25m butterfly boys	1.Joe Rose	2.Isaac Sheppard	3.Ben Donald	19.53
25m butterfly girls	1.Ocean Shadbolt	2. Grace Kemp	3.Sophia Smith	16.25

Grade Champions

Grade	Winner	Runner Up
Sub Junior Boys	Nathan Harris	Rikki Beazley
Sub Junior Girls	Meg Paton	Emma Browne
Junior Boys	Joe Rose	Bob Hamlin
Junior Girls	Grace Kemp	Trista Comer
Intermediate Girls	Ocean Shadbolt	Paige Kenyon
Intermediate Boys	Zack Hamlin	Quintin Brown
Senior Boys	Josh Nishitani-Hart	James White
Senior Girls	Annmarie Holst	Shawna Hawken



## Welcome to our new staff

**Tracey Christie** Formally known as Tracey Thomas - is an ex student of Otamatea, who graduated in 1997 as a prefect and Whatua House Leader. Tracey went on to study a Bachelor of Design, qualifying with Honors in Auckland and has been teaching Art and Design at Northcote College for the past ten years. Tracey and her family decided to relocate back north half way through last year. Tracey now teaches Digital Media Studies, Digital Technology, Graphics and English and is the whanau teacher for Whatua 2.

*Mrs Christie*



**Samid Buksh** Bula, My name is Samid Buksh and come from the beautiful island of Fiji.

I have been teaching Mathematics and Physics in Fiji for the past 11 years. I believe teaching is a very noble profession which I enjoy immensely. I have enjoyed meeting the students, teachers, parents, board members, office staff, cleaners, handyman and also those involved with the Otamatea Whanau.

I have completed PGDip, BSc and DDT as my qualification and I am hoping to finish my Masters in Science in the near future. I am a very hardworking and humble person who likes to work towards excellence. Students are most welcome to share their opinions and seek assistance in relation to school work. Instilling progress in a child academically and morally involves all as a package starting from home to school and others.

Vinaka.

*Mr Buksh*



Kia ora koutou, **Robyn Weir** ahau. Nō England ahau. I am so excited to be working at Otamatea for 2017. I currently live in Mangawhai with my Kiwi fiancé and our twin babies. We are passionate about teaching and have both been in the profession for 10 years. My subject speciality is Economics, and all things Commerce! Originally I was just going to travel through NZ but my cousins persuaded me to stay and work awhile...I have lived in NZ for nine years now and I am very fortunate to have so much whanau here! I hope to help inspire our tamariki at Otamatea and look forward to sharing in their accomplishments.



Heoi anō tāku mō nāiane! Kia ora.

*Ms Weir*

**Keresoma Lloyd** After having being born, raised and educated in Christchurch, I then realised there were brown people in NZ. (I then realised my parents were immigrants.) Although, being born in/on the South Island, I guess then, that makes me an Islander.

So, then after completing an economics degree at Canterbury University (having then been in factory, security and management roles as well) and then after eleven-nine (or what Americans call 9/11), I then realised money (as a sole goal) was not all really that important.



So, I chose teaching: (surely no one chooses teaching for money.)

Completing graduate teacher training allowed for my OE (across Cook Strait) to the North Island to teach students at schools where I could find out more about and being part of people, particularly Tangata Whenua. I have in particular learnt: in partnership, more is possible.

Then taking a break, I then completed roles supporting adults with intellectual disabilities. Eye opening, inspiring, yet also allowed being part of my only daughter's growing up, my only real important personal goal: being a great father; she is now in Year 7.

During my first few weeks here, I have experienced real whanau and community. I am in awe and respect of all (not just teaching) staff here. Each are passionate for all students here at Otamatea High School - for each student to find and be their best. You don't always get that at city schools. I have been impressed by the senior students developing their own leadership style and qualities protecting and guiding the future leaders here; good practise for future leadership roles for each in both groups. I am also in awe of the junior students' keenness to learn. I am humbled by the awahi and welcome by all students and all staff here at Otamatea: we all learn from each other.

I am in Arawa iwi, where I have learnt our catch cry is: 'A' is for Excellence - (Pre-NCEA, I guess, about old school values, tradition)

All the best for 2017 everyone, may you make this year and every year your best year.

*Matua Keresoma (Mr Lloyd)*





## Year 7 & 13 Camp 2017.

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. A 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 went to camp on the 2nd and 3rd of February. 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 Alcock and Mrs Randell for organising an amazing camp for all of us year 7s.

*Kate Cotching*







## Te Roopu Tautoko

Te Roopu Tautoko (TRT) is a roopu that is set up by a small group of parents and teachers for the benefit of our tamariki. We work at inspiring our tamariki to reach beyond the stars to better themselves in their education. For this to happen we do mahi to make putea that goes towards stationary for exams, NCEA exams breakfast, books for prize giving recipients, fund trips to Auckland University (BEAMS) as well as subsidising kapa haka fees for Te Tai Tokerau Festival.

### What's Coming Up?

This year we are hosts to **Nga Manu Korero Regionals 2017**. In Term 2, we will hold TRT meetings to cover what support is needed to make this event run smoothly.

## B.E.A.M.S - Auckland University

Each year Te Roopu Tautoko subsidises Y10 Maori and Pacifica students to attend B.E.A.M.S.

This is a 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 taura get the full University experience.

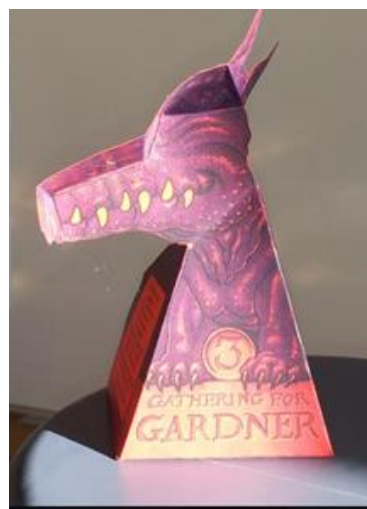
B.E.A.M.S happens around November/October each year. Students are selected based on good attendance and interest in the going to University.



## New Year 8 to 12's

On the first day of school the new year 8 to 12 students spent some time in the Technology department. They were introduced to the teachers by Mr. Martin North, head of the department and visited the food, textiles, wood and metal rooms and could envisage themselves becoming involved in these areas.

Then the students got the opportunity to show how well they could follow specific instructions and made a paper dragon whose eyes follows you around the room. An optical illusion is created by the unexpected way the head is folded. This activity ended a very successful first day for all.





## Applied Designs

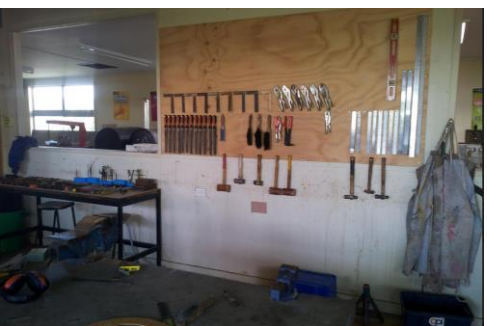
Changing fabrics, especially ones from natural fibres such as cotton, wool and silk are age old crafts. Stencilling pictures onto plain fabric was one of the first ways of decorating basic fabrics and is the forerunner of all modern printed fabrics. Batik is another traditional method which is widely used in the Pacific - Indonesia is especially known for their interesting batik fabrics.

The year 10 textiles class are making cushions from their own uniquely designed fabrics. The first cushions will have a stencilled design on one side and a batik design on the other. Pictured are a few of the finished fabrics.

Other cushions will be made with painted silk, tie dyed cotton, machine embroidered fabrics and quilted fabrics. Students have free range to

develop their own designs and do technological modelling to trial the methods before the prototypes are made.

Year 9 students are creating their own small samples of fabrics by felting, knitting and weaving and the year 7 students will be recycling clothes to create an outfit to be shown in a classroom show.



## Reorganised Metal Technology and Engineering Workspaces

In order to have a more efficient space to teach Metal Technology to junior students and a dedicated space for senior students to work with the engineering lathes T2 has been reorganised.

At the end of last year Mr Martin North, head of Technology and Mr Dave Burnell cleared out the area for the lathes to go in. Once it was empty they painted the walls and the ceilings with the help of two students, Hyde Massey and Braeden Yardley.

Then came the huge job of shifting the four heavy lathes into the new area. Now both areas are set up and ready for students.

Senior engineering students are excited to get started on their mini-motorbikes which will be their project for the year.

## Duke of Edinburgh – Gold Qualifier to the South Island

Day 1: On Dec 6th at 3.30am, eight students and our shadow party flew to Queenstown to connect with our transport to Lake Hauroko (the deepest lake in NZ at 462m). The boat "Namu" (Maori word for sand fly) was waiting for us at the lake edge, along with the hungry sand flies that Fiordland is renowned for. Our trip on the lake was very scenic as we headed into a headwind and the start of the Dusky track. We left Hauroko Burn Hut at 2.30pm and had six hours of tramping ahead of us. The notorious mud the Dusky is renowned for was dry, the air was hot and humid. We were following the Hauroko Burn River and soon came upon our first three wire bridge. Everyone mastered this easily which was just as well, as there were 19 more to go!

Halfway Hut was reached at 8.30pm, meals were cooked on cookers and an early night was had by all!

Day 2: We were on the track and tramping towards Lake Roe Hut by 7.30am. The track was a steady climb with several large beech trees across it in places to negotiate our way through or over. We came out onto the tops just as the rain and mist started to roll in. A fire was soon warming the hut and the game of five crowns came out. Two DOC workers joined us. They were studying rock wren up in the mountains and were based at the hut. Lee was able to give us the good news from his mountain radio that the weather was clearing for tomorrow.

Day 3: As forecast, the weather was fine the next day, so we all headed up into the mountains with the goal of climbing Tamatea. We thought this would be a great photo opportunity seeing we were from Otamatea! The scenery was breathtaking as we passed Lake Roe and there were mountains everywhere we looked. As we climbed higher we also got our first view of Dusky Sound in the distance. We made it to the top of peak 1595m but there was too much snow still to climb to the top of Tamatea. We cooked our lunch and relaxed soaking up the scenery. Some built snow sculptures, a snow shelter, some slid down a slope....some got horribly sun burnt!

Reluctantly we left the mountains and descended to a beautiful teal blue lake where some swam in the ice-cold water. Back at the hut, communal dinners were cooked and stories of the day shared with the DOC workers.





Day 4: We were on the track by 7.30am and climbing up to 1052m (a 170m climb) on Furkett Pass. The terrain was steep and undulating and reminded Mr Chambers of the Lake district in England. The wind was very strong in places and we had to make sure of our footing. A clear view of Dusky Sound could be seen.

Then began the steep 800m descent (with chains in one place to hold on to) and finally the notorious long three wire bridge over the flood prone Seaforth River before reaching Loch Maree Hut. Here there was an interesting buried forest in the lake. Some swam in the "tame" Seaforth River and others cooled sunburnt legs. It rained heavily that night, as forecast. Supper Cove was not to be!

Day 5: We set out in light rain for Kintail Hut. We climbed over numerous tree falls and skirted boggy swamps with deep mud, following the Seaforth River. Gair Loch was reached just before the hut. We were all cold and wet, so David got a fire going in the hut.

Day 6: It had snowed up in the mountains over night and the views were breathtaking as we made our way past Tripod Hill and up over Centre Pass (1051m) descending 240m and following the Spey River to Spey Hut. A family of wekas entertained us outside the hut.

Day 7: This was the final day of the 70km+ Dusky Track and it was to be our longest and boggiest. It was a fine morning and fresh snow was again on the mountains. Many of us landed in the bog up to our waists, accompanied by lots of yelps and laughter. (This was what we'd been expecting of the Dusky after all!) We cooked our lunch beside the Spey River, crossed our 20th three wire bridge and came out on to the road to Doubtful Sound. A kea entertained us in the trees above. We had a final 5km road walk to West Arm Hut and on to catch the ferry across Lake Manapouri and the bus to Te Anau.

We had done what was deemed to be "The hardest track in New Zealand"! It was an amazing feat and experience.

Thanks must go to Lee Holst for researching this track in depth for our group (and then convincing Robyn that we could do it!)

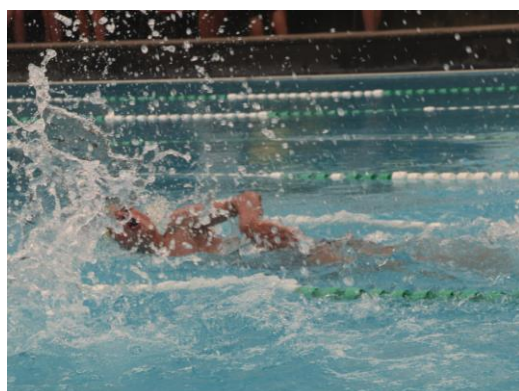
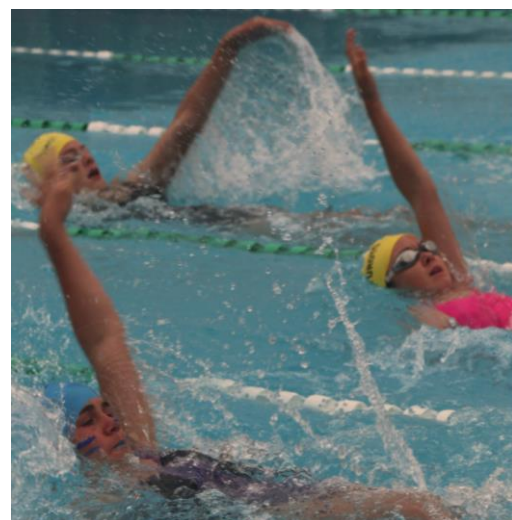
Thanks also to KSA, OHS PTCA, our school and local communities and our families for all their support with our fundraising activities for this Gold Qualifier.

Thank you very much to Phil Cotching for lending Lee the mountain radio for the tramp.

A HUGE thanks also to the "wonderful shadows" Ken Hames, Heather Troost, Paul Chambers and Rob ~







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