

# Queen's News

FEBRUARY 10 2017 ISSUE 1

www.queens.school.nz

Telephone: 03 455 7212

Facsimile: 03 455 8644

Email: qhs@queens.school.nz

Kia koutou

The beginning of 2017 has been an exciting and enjoyable one. On the first day of the school year, we were delighted to welcome our new students and staff to Queen's with a mihi whakatau. With the help of the Year 13 associates and the form teachers the Year 9 students have settled quickly and easily into their new school. I extend a very warm welcome to the parents and whanau of all our new students to our Queen's community and it was good to meet many of you at the lunchtime barbecue.



Congratulations to all of our newly elected prefects and in particular to our Head Girl – Louise Nicolson and Deputy Head Girl – Allie Bygate. We celebrated the election of our 2017 prefects in our special leadership assembly last Friday and it was lovely that family and friends of these students were able to join us for this wonderful occasion.

Our students have again excelled in NCEA with our level of excellence endorsements all above national averages (figures in brackets). At Level 1 – 22% (15%), Level 2 – 15% (12%) and Level 3 – 12% (11%), have gained their NCEA certificates endorsed with Excellence. Our preliminary overall participation pass rate is Level 1 – 82%, Level 2 – 89% and Level 3 – 80%. Congratulations to all these students.

We are in the most fortunate position at Queen's; we have great students, great staff and an amazing wider community that help and support us in all we do. Our focus continues to be on academic achievement and success for all students, in their own individual pursuits. We will continue to share the girls' successes with you over the year and appreciate your support for all their endeavours. I am both excited and privileged to be Principal this year and am looking forward to the year ahead.



Ms Barbara Agnew  
*Principal*

## Welcome to Year 9 Students

We welcomed our new Year 9 students, students from other year levels and our International students to Queen's on Monday 30th January. A mihi whakatau started two days of induction. Students were joined by their caregivers on Tuesday for a BBQ, ably cooked by the Year 9 Peer Support Associates. Girls and their caregivers also had the opportunity to visit the Sports and Cultural Expo, showcasing the wide variety of activities the girls can be involved in.





## 2017 Positions of Responsibility

On Friday we had the privilege of announcing Prefect Positions for 2017. We have a wonderful group of Year 13 students and look forward to them working with our students over the year.

- Louise Nicolson** - Head Girl
- Allie Bygate** - Deputy Head Girl
- Tamika Cherrington** - Nga Mareikura
- Oriana Tauga** - Pacific Island Prefect
- Ana Halilio-Rouvi** - Pacific Island Prefect

- Riley Haugh** - House Prefect
- Caitlin Harris** - Sports Prefect
- Ella Cameron** - Arts Prefect
- Aimee Bryan** - International Prefect
- Leah Anderson** - Year 9 Prefect
- Madison Kinnane** - Year 9 Deputy Prefect
- Abbey Perkins** - Year 10 Prefect
- Jessie Hansen** - School Council Prefect
- Taana Trotter** - Academic Prefect



## NEW STAFF TO QUEEN'S

Along with our new students we welcome the following new staff. Mrs Viv Smith (LAL English), Mr Matthew Sherborne (Geography and Tourism), Mr Tom Clark (Physics and Chemistry), Ms Megan Stanley-Brown (Mathematics, Phys Ed and Foundation Skills), Ms Sarah Hailes (LAL Learning Support), Ms Erina Caradus (Junior Drama) and Mrs Chrissie Hanning (Food Technology). They all bring a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to their classrooms.

Nicole McCone and Jana Polglase from the Otago University College of Education Masters Teaching and Learning programme are with us for the first half of the year.



Nicole McCone, Jana Polglase



Sarah Hailes, Viv Smith, Tom Clark, Matthew Sherborne



Chrissie Hanning



Erina Caradus, Megan Stanley-Brown

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or like our Facebook page—<https://www.facebook.com/QueensHighSchoolNZ/>



## Over the Holidays .....

### HANDS ON -

Last year, I applied to attend Hands-On at Otago 2017. Hands-On is an opportunity for high school students to experience University life. When I received the letter of acceptance I was extremely nervous. I was going to be staying with 400 students from all over the country for an entire week, and I knew no one! I was lucky enough to be given a scholarship therefore my entire course was paid for (including transport and accommodation).



Life at the University of Otago was interesting. We stayed in Halls of Residence (almost like dorm rooms); we explored the campus (which is huge) and we went to lectures and classes. We also had free time where we would hit the town in big groups, go swimming or play laser tag! It was only \$12 to play 8 games of laser tag (and I came 6<sup>th</sup> place out of 32 people might I add). When we went to town for free time, people stopped us and asked if we were at Hands-On Otago and high fived us because they had also been before in previous years!

I studied English, performing a Shakespeare comedy play - "Much Ado about Nothing; finance accounting, looking at auction games, making the most money in deals and how to do taxes. In Classics it was stars and their link to Greek mythology and stories from ancient Greek times (their imaginations were amazing)! And finally for Anatomy, my class went to the anatomy museum and viewed various body parts in jars (we even held a dried up leg!)

As scary as I initially thought it would be, it truly was such an amazing week and I am so glad I attended. It was an amazing experience, and I can now truly say I have great friends from ALL over the country!

### Angel Loper

I was lucky enough to be selected to attend Hands-On at Otago and participate in the history project. As part of the Hands-On at Otago program, over 400 Year 12 and 13 students came to Dunedin to spend a week working on a project in a chosen subject area, of which there were 36 options to choose from. I enjoyed my week as I got to meet a variety of people from all over New Zealand and I could experience a taste of what life could be like as a student at Otago University which included staying at Arana College and working on a project with the other history students.



### Zoe Thomas

### OUTWARD BOUND - Ana Halalilo-Rouvi



Last December I was lucky enough to spend 3 weeks in the beautiful Marlborough Sounds, participating in the Mind, Body and Soul course at Outward Bound. We were pushed physically, mentally and sometimes emotionally while doing outdoor activities that were a long way out of my comfort zone. Over the duration of my

course I participated in team-building, high ropes, river kayaking, tramping, camping in the bush alone, sailing with orcas and completing a half marathon. Participating in all of the activities listed above has taught me a lot about myself and has also taught me the importance of taking every opportunity that comes your way with an open and keen mind. Thankyou to Queen's High School and Rotary Dunedin for giving this amazing opportunity!!"



## ***Spirit of Adventure - Jelaine van Welie***

On Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> of January I set off to Auckland which was where I would be spending the next 5 nights as a trainee on the Spirit of Adventure. We boarded the boat and said our final farewells to our family and friends as we wouldn't have our phones for the next 5 nights so we were able to fully immerse ourselves in the experience. My time on the boat was definitely enjoyable and unique. I got to try out so many different things and learnt a whole lot about how a Board of Trustees should function and what their intentions/goals should be. Learning about these will be very helpful for the year ahead as the student representative. Each morning began with a 6:30 wake up followed by a jump in the sea to make sure we were fully awake. We then got prepared for the day which included a cooked meal for breakfast then off to cleaning duties. Each day was spent learning about different things for the boat (e.g setting and flaking the sails), team bonding exercises, Board of Trustees modules or exploring the Hauraki Gulf. In between all of that we also spent time getting to



know one another. We boarded the ship as 40 complete strangers with only one known thing in common which was the fact that we were all student representatives, but left the boat as a family. When the last day rolled around we were all disappointed that we had to leave but we were in high spirits; we said our goodbyes to the crew members and our new friends.

I felt and still feel very lucky to have been given this opportunity. It was definitely out of the norm compared to my daily lifestyle but I will forever treasure the memories made while on Spirit of Adventure.

## ***From your Board of Trustees***

The Board of Trustees met recently for the first time for 2017. We would like to welcome everyone back to school and offer an especially warm welcome to all of our new students and their families joining Queen's this year. We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead with improvements planned in several areas including building refurbishment and an upgrade to our IT services. Most of all we look forward to ensuring that all our students have the resources they need to achieve their full potential and to celebrating their achievements. Queen's girls excel in many areas; academic, sporting, cultural and the arts, they also play an active part in our local communities and show leadership in many areas. Queen's offers students many opportunities and we encourage all of our students to try new activities this year.

The Board meets once a month and will publish a short report in the school newsletter following each meeting. We are currently working on the annual plan, setting strategic goals for the year and approving the budget. We warmly welcome feedback from our community. Our next meeting is on 28<sup>th</sup> Feb and we can be contacted via the Executive Secretary and the school office.



Best wishes for the year ahead to all,

Joy Atkinson  
Chair

Jude Molyneaux, Jacqui Earland, Maria Sinclair, Angela Wilson, Stuart Anderson, Barbara Agnew  
Tony Carline, Jelaine van Welie, Joy Atkinson, Jo Lyons



## Waitangi Celebrations

He Waka Kōtuia were privileged to be involved with the Waitangi Day celebrations held at Ōtākou Marae this year. They supported the Mana Whenua at the pōwhiri and then worked for the rest of the day in various roles, from waitressing to clean up at the end of the day. He Waka Kōtuia also performed during the lunch break in a beautiful performance with current



and past members of the group. We are so proud to continue our relationship with the Ōtākou rūnaka and are grateful for the many opportunities that our students are given through this.



## Sports News

**Equestrian:** Queen's has a small number of keen horse riders, two of whom have been busy with pony club and competitions over the summer break. Molly Stephenson rode at the Palmerston show and is looking forward to a gymkhana at the West Harbour Pony Club next weekend. Cate Davidson and her horse, Georgie, did a 2 day event (cross country, show jumping & dressage) at Royal Bush a fortnight ago but her main event during the holidays was as a member of the Otago Dressage Team. Each member did two championship dressage tests and Otago was placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the South Island. This is a national event, even though the North Island teams ride separately and then all the results are combined.



**Any new riders at Queen's are to see Ms Burden please.**

### Football:

Zoe Thomas and Lara Wall travelled to Wellington in December to play in the National Age Group Championships. These two Year 12 girls play in the Regional Under 17 team which includes girls from Timaru to Bluff. Well done to them both.

## Are you a sportsperson? Can you coach?



Are you interested in coaching a sports team at Queen's High School? The number of girls interested in playing sport is increasing. We need coaches for these teams. We can support you by having a teacher manage your team and share information about coaching courses.

If you are interested in coaching please contact Karen Palmer [sport@queens.school.nz](mailto:sport@queens.school.nz)

## Achievements



We want to share and celebrate your achievements. Be proud of your success and share with your form teacher, coordinator or Miss Palmer. A short

description of your activity and a photo can be sent to [sport@queens.school.nz](mailto:sport@queens.school.nz)

### Football Festival reminder:

4x4, Tahuna Park on Saturday 18 February. 13 & 14 year olds will play 2:30 – 3:30pm. See Ms Burden if you want to play.

### **Holiday Rowing**

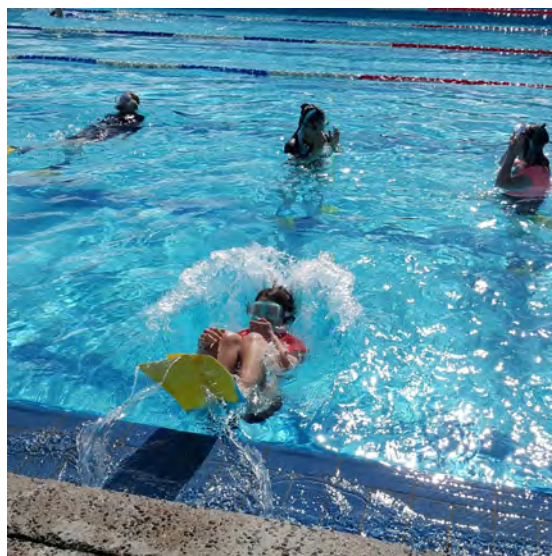
Two weeks ago our Queen's High School Rowing team competed at the South Island Club Championships at Lake Ruataniwha in Twizel.

We had a successful weekend of rowing with everyone making a final, although our novice quad and senior double weren't able to race their finals as the regatta was cancelled due to high winds. The Queen's Rowing results ended up with Ella Montgomery and Leah Anderson making it into the top 16 of the South Island for U17 singles, Leah Anderson and Bailey Rance (club rower) also making top 16 for U17 double. Katie Hawkins and Charlotte Mason battled the choppy water placing 11th in the South Island for the U15 double. The novice quad with Katie Hawkins, Charlotte Mason, Devon Wilson, Charlotte Williams and Lily Stedman (cox) is placed in the top 16 in the South Island for the U15 quad. The girls are now training hard leading up to their last big regatta in Twizel, the South Island Secondary Schools in March.



### **Year 11 Physical Education Class**

Year 11 PE have started snorkelling at St Clair Pool as part of an Achievement Standard requiring them to participate in physical activity. Here is a student demonstrating a seated entry.



### **Year 9 Parent Evening**

We welcome all Year 9 students and their parents on Thursday, 23rd February to join us for our annual Year 9 Parent Evening in the Information Centre.

This is an opportunity to meet your daughter's teachers, form teachers and co-ordinator as well as other parents in your daughter's classes. It is an ideal opportunity for you to learn more about school life and ask any questions you may have.

Supper is provided by the PSTA.



|        |                                  |
|--------|----------------------------------|
| Feb 15 | Athletic Sports                  |
| Feb 17 | Academic Blues Assembly          |
| Feb 21 | YES E-Day                        |
| Feb 23 | Year 9 Parent Evening            |
| Feb 28 | Top Scholar Awards               |
| Mar 6  | Attitude presentations Year 9/10 |
| Mar 7  | Year 9 Camp week                 |

### **Reminders from the Student Office**

#### **Changing Personal Details**

- \* Please remember to advise the Student Office by email or telephone any change of address or medical details.

#### **Absences**

- \* If a student is absent, please advise the school office on 455 7212 ext 801 at the beginning of the day.
- \* If a student is late, they must sign in at the student office (even if during interval) and collect a late pass.
- \* A text message will be sent to caregivers of students absent without an explanation.
- \* Please advise the Principal of any absences for in-term holidays.

#### **Contacting students if required**

- \* Please make all contact with your daughters during the school day through the student office - eg messages, lunch. Students are not able to use their cellphone during class time.

#### **Parking and collecting students at the end of the day**

- \* Please avoid parking at the Bayview Road gate as it is very busy at 3 pm when the students leave with buses, cars and people. Use the side streets or Surrey Street.