

# Queen's News

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Kia koutou

The first two weeks of Term 2 have just flown by. The Sunday before the term began, *He Waka Kōtuia* performed at the regional Te Hautoka. Their performance earned them first place overall and the right to attend the national competition in Palmerston North next year. Congratulations to all members of the group. The Pacific Island Performance Group held their concert the following weekend and again I continue to be impressed and delighted with the talent that I see on these occasions. Both of these groups are now working hard towards the Polyfest in September.



Yesterday I had the privilege of attending the ODT Class Act Awards. Leah Anderson and Louise Nicolson were presented their well-deserved awards by the Prime Minister. This is recognition of the excellent academic achievements of these two young women and also of their incredible involvement in school life.

We have also been welcoming Year 8 students and their parents into Queen's. Our girls loved showing the visitors around the school, proudly sharing their personal experiences of learning and the extra-curricular activities they are engaged in. The feedback from our Open Mornings and Open Night was so positive with the guests commenting on the real warmth and family feel at Queen's. We know that achievement starts with girls being happy, engaged and challenged in their learning as well as feeling comfortable and valued at school. The Maanakitangi which lies at the heart of our school was clearly evident to our visitors. Thank you to everyone who made both the Open Mornings and Open Night such a success.

Also a couple of reminders. Parent teacher interview night is on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August. The information on booking interview times is later in this issue. Careers and Options Evening is on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August. This is an opportunity for you to listen to ex-girls talk about their career paths and discuss options choices for 2018.



Barbara Agnew  
Principal



He Waka Kōtuia were placed first overall at the Otago/Southland Secondary school's Kapa Haka competition, Te Hautoka, on the last weekend of the school holidays. The combined Queen's and King's High School group has now qualified for their fourth straight bi-annual National Secondary Schools Kapa Haka competition, which will be held in Palmerston North in the last week of Term 2 next year.

The group spent countless hours preparing for this year's competition, under the guidance of their tutors Komene Cassidy, Paulette Tamati-Elliffe, Angelina Kiore and Waiariki Taiapa-Parata with the support of Cherie Ford and Jonathan Waters. Tracey Cooper also worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the group looked immaculate on stage. He Waka Kōtuia presented a polished, moving performance that told local Kai Tahu stories. Photo credit: Rewa Pene Photography (ex-girl)

## CULTURAL EXCHANGE TO CANADA

In June, He Waka Kōtuia spent two and a half weeks in Canada on a cultural exchange. They were invited by the Aboriginal Tourism board of British Columbia to perform at their annual Aboriginal Festival in Victoria. They were also then invited by the K'omoks people to spend their National Aboriginal Day with them. 18 of our He Waka Kōtuia whānau travelled on this trip, which included current students from both King's and Queen's, ex-students, tutors and whānau.

The group performed most days that they were away, sometimes 2 or 3 times in one day. They visited Native reservations, friendship centres, schools, local community events and spent this whole time sharing the Māori culture and being immersed in the First Nations of Canada culture.

It was extremely emotional, uplifting, inspiring, motivating and humbling. The quote of the trip which Komene said over and over was "we might be speaking in a different language but we are saying the same things"

All 18 of the travelling party came away with different stories and views of what they had learned. But the one they can all agree on is that this was a life changing experience and it will motivate them all as Māori to continue to pave a way forward for Te Reo Māori and Tikanga Māori.



## UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO SCHOLARSHIPS



Nicole Jenkins, a Year 13 student last year at Queen's received a Performance Scholarship valued at \$16,000 over three years. She recently featured in a publication from the University of Otago in an article about scholarship success stories.

Nicole is studying towards a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Theatre with a minor in Tourism. She's also keeping busy with musical theatre classes, teaching beginner hip hop and dance jam classes, and is coaching a Queen's hip hop B crew. The practical nature of her theatre and dance papers has been a highlight of her studies so far, says Nicole, who one day hopes to become a professional actor. She admits that the transition to university has been "a very big step up" from high school. "My teachers at Queen's prepared me with the strict deadlines of handing in assignments." There's also been plenty of support from the university to help make the transition go smoothly as well, she says. "The lecturers are very knowledgeable in their fields and they are very onto it and organised." Learn more about [University of Otago Entrance Scholarships](http://www.otago.ac.nz/entrance-scholarships) [<http://www.otago.ac.nz/entrance-scholarships>].

## JUDGING SUCCESS FOR CELINE ROBERTSON

Recently, at Marching Otago's AGM meeting it was confirmed that Celine had passed her judging exam and is now a qualified Technical B judge.

She will be marching this season for Onyx Militaires under 16 team and judging all other grades at local competitions and she hopes to sit her qualify exam which will mean she will be able to be selected to Judge as the Technical B judge at the Regionals competition in December 2017 and the National competition being held in Hamilton in March 2018. Well done, Celine.





### Final Incubator Visit for 2017

Last Friday our Year 12 and 13 Incubator Group students had their last visit for the year. We heard from Wendi and Ann who told the students about the work of the Maori Liaison and Maori Health team, and the importance of caring for the whole person spiritually and emotionally, as well as physically. We enjoyed hearing from House Surgeon, Venod, who 'told it as it is', regarding his role and training as a Doctor. He talked about how much he enjoyed learning every day, being challenged, and the pleasure of feeling he is doing something worthwhile. He encouraged the girls to aspire and work hard, in order to attain their goals.

We also visited the Mortuary, where Mortuary Technician Dianne explained the processes and procedures after someone passes away within the hospital system. All the girls thoroughly enjoyed the day, and one student commented that

the most interesting piece of learning she had on this day was "That there is such a loving and caring side to all departments, even if it's behind closed doors." Any student in Year 12 or 13, who has an interest in careers in the Health Sector is able to join the programme in 2018. As part of the Incubator programme, this year's Year 13 students have the opportunity to have work experience over the coming weeks in a field that interests them. Thank you again to Vicie Hodge and the SDHB for organising this stimulating programme.



### Year 11 University of Otago Microbiology Trip



At the end of Term 2, Year 11 Science classes visited the Otago University Microbiology and Immunology department.

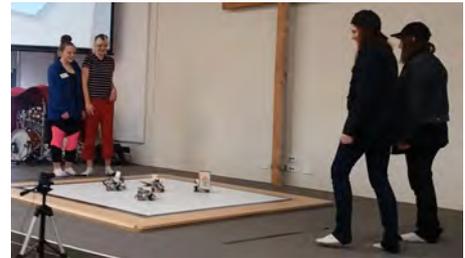
The aim of this workshop was to assist and inform us on our upcoming Microbiology Internal. Masters students covered a wide range of topics and issues about bacteria, fungi, viruses and what life would be like without microorganisms.

We were given the opportunity to complete two investigations where we used the brand new fancy microscopes. There was a fun activity which involved us preparing a wet mount of pond water. It was AMAZING to see the huge variety of Microbes in such a small sample.



### RoboCup Junior - 2017 - by Brianna Reid (Year 11)

On Saturday June 24th, four members of the Queen's High School Robotics Squad



participated in the Dunedin regional RoboCup competition. Schools from across Otago came together and showed off their programmed robots. There were several categories of competition - Search and Rescue, Soccer and Theatre. The Queen's team were late starters, and had only been working on it for around 2 months, meeting each Friday morning at 7.30 am, and working together at other times to refine programming and costuming. (Dedication and commitment, am I right?!). We built, programmed and presented little robots in a throwback, boys vs girls themed dance-off for the theatre competition. Another two students had also been working towards the SAR competition, and one member of the Theatre team was unable to attend on the day. However, we came a whopping 3rd place in the Senior Theatre competition and won a badge and \$20 each! We wish to thank, Scott Technology who supplied the robot kits and Philippa Dick - ex-girl and volunteer teacher extraordinaire - who taught us everything we know about Robotics!



## PASIFIKA PERFORMANCE

The Queens Of The Pacific hosted a concert recently at the performing arts centre. There was a variety of different performers that helped the Queens Of The Pacific have a successful night. Big thank you to all the Mothers and Teachers that helped in the kitchen, Ms Meronek for organizing the night, and a HUGE thank you to our amazing tutors! (Yo Ah Keem and Jocelyn) Massive thank you also to everyone who came and supported our group.



Above from left: Oriana, Lunisi, Serena, Leanetta, Veisia, Rawinia and Meleana, who are members of the Samoan Group.



From left: Miriama, Cayla, Peggy-Sue, Keisha, Breanna, Tiare, Lily, Erin. Front: Lunisi, Oriana, members of the Cook Island Group.

## PARENT—TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Thursday 10 August - 3 - 7 pm

### ONLINE BOOKINGS

The online booking page for Year 9-13 parent-teacher interviews went live on Friday 7th July and will close at 12noon on Wednesday 9th August. Interview are 5 minutes each. Go to <http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/home> Key in the School Code **afw7a**



7-11 August	Book Lovers Week
10 August	Parent-Teacher interviews 3-7 pm
16 August	Careers and Options Evening
17 August	Otago University Liaison Visit
18-20 August	NZCAF Aerobics and Hip Hop Championships

Queen's High School

## Book Lovers' Week 2017

Monday 7th to Friday 11th August

### Fun activities and prizes to be won

- create a Book Spine Poem
- make origami lucky stars
- take a Blind Date with a Book
- Get Caught Reading
- enjoy Silent Reading lunch time on Wednesday 9th Aug
- enter the Reading Challenge
- try a bookish word puzzle
- join us for cake & the prize draws @ lunch time on Friday

*Come along to the Information Centre and join in the fun!*