

Principal's Message

Kia koutou

This is the final newsletter for the year and it provides an opportunity to showcase the challenging and fun activities that the junior students have been involved in over the last few weeks. The Year 10 Camps were held in beautiful southern weather and through our facebook page we were able to see the girls enjoying the many activities on offer. The heat and busy activities meant all the students and staff enjoyed themselves and slept well! The Year 9 activity week involved two fantastic days at the Otago Polytechnic. Here they were engaged in practical hands on learning in a tertiary setting. This included making a key ring light, building structures, some practical nursing skills and some physical self-assessments. Thanks also to Tony Heppenstal and his team, the lunches supplied were delicious.

Last night we celebrated the achievements of the Year 9 and 10 students at our Junior Prizegiving. It was wonderful to see so many girls gaining academic awards which are an acknowledgement of their hard work and ability. Congratulations to Sophie Palmer (Year 10) and Holly Cook (Year 9) on achieving the Top Scholar Award for their year level.

This final issue is being sent to our new Year 9 students for 2018. We wish to welcome them and their parents and caregivers to Queen's and share with them some of the activities the girls have to look forward to over the next few years. We hope new parents are able to join with us and the girls at the barbeque on Wednesday January 31st at 12.30pm.

I would like to thank you all for your commitment to the students and their learning at Queen's over 2017 and I look forward to working with them next year. Have a wonderful holiday period, keep safe and enjoy a Merry Christmas with families and friends.

Barbara Agnew
Principal



Staff Farewells

We say farewell to five members of the Queen's staff this year. Our Counsellor, Heather Knox is retiring after nearly 27 years at the school. Aside from her important role as school counsellor, Heather has been on, and led, innumerable school camps and tramps, and she has run Rowing in the school for over 17 years. We will miss her dearly and wish her well for her retirement.

We also farewell Art teacher Mrs Fay Coster, who has taught at Queen's for the past 12 years. Fay's talent and passion for Art and her ability to connect with and guide the students that she has taught will be greatly missed.

Leaving from a key role in the Student Office is Mrs Sylvie Smith who has been in the job for the past 12 and a half years. Sylvie has done a wonderful job of supporting students, parents and staff throughout her time here.

We also say goodbye and good luck to Drama teacher Ms Erina Caradus who has taught Year 9 and 10 Drama this year, and Mrs Stanley-Brown who has worked predominantly in the Maths department for the past 2 years.



Upcoming Events:

December

8 - 9 Meridian Rowing Champs,
Lake Ruataniwha

January

22 School Office opens
26 Senior course confirmation

29 Teacher Only Day
30 - 31 Yr 9 Orientation Days
Yr 13 students in school

February

1 Full school begins for all
students



Year 10 Camp Week

WANAKA CAMP

We spent the entire week touring around Wanaka for our Year 10 Camp. We went on a 5 hour hike to Mount Aspiring Hutt, which produced some awe-inspiring views. We climbed the walls at Clip n Climb, where several people climbed blindfolded. We tackled the maze at Puzzle World, and spent afternoons swimming in the lake in town and at Eely Point. We also got on SUPs and paddled to and from Eely Point, and played balancing games.

Everyone had a night to cook and we had lots of delicious food. Our highlights were definitely the stand-up paddle boarding, and the clip and climb, but overall it was a great week. Thanks to Miss Ellis and Miss Meronek for looking after us in Wanaka and making the camp so great.

Megan Sieroczuk, Hannah Stewardson, Makayla Davey



ALEXANDRA CAMP

20 Year 10 students went to Alexandra for our camp week. We did lots of fun things that kept us tired but happy. We went swimming in the Clyde rivers, climbed high ropes, biked the rail trail, and went panning for gold. We learned some really interesting history about Otago's gold mining past.

We even met up with the Cromwell camps and had a lovely BBQ tea with them. The teachers took us to see the movie Wonder, which made us really think, and was a tear jerker.

Thanks to Ms. Lowther, Ms. Rogers, Ms. Beamish, and Mr. Sherborne for taking us on camp and looking after us. Overall camp was really good, and we made some amazing memories and got to know our peers more. All of us will treasure the time we had together.

Abby Cooper, and Aqua Spiers



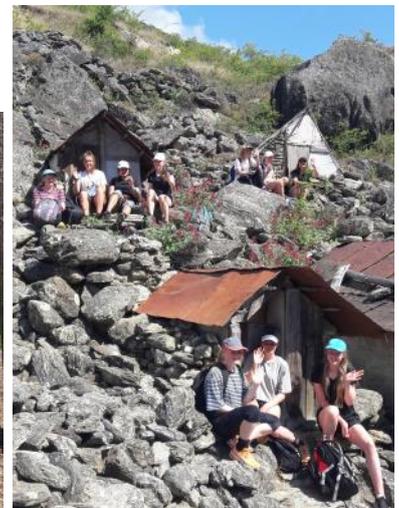
Year 10 Camp Week

CROMWELL CAMP

The Cromwell camp was an experience we will never forget, and many memories were made. We pushed our limits on the high-ropes course, and the three hour bike ride. We balanced the hard work with competitive mud fights and swimming in the lake. We ate a lot of cherries at the Jakkem Orchard and tried our hardest to find gold at the Otago Gold Fields Museum.

Thank you to Mrs. Finnie and Ms. Palmer for the amazing camp and the opportunities, and support you gave us. For sure we have made friendships that will last a lifetime.

Sophie Palmer and Abby McMullan



SCHOOL BASED CAMP

We had a group of students participate in the school based camp – they still did heaps of fun things but got to sleep in their own beds at night! Activities included upcycling old denim jeans and turning them into cute backpacks and drawstring bags and an afternoon playing petanque and crafting with Scan N Cut machines.

Girls made delicious elderflower cordial and participated in a Masterchef challenge. Each girl made a micro herb garden with egg cartons and they also created and painted a mural and tried glass etching. The glass etching was fun – although the hardest bit was choosing what to put on them. A scavenger hunt was great fun in the warm weather and the camp concluded with a day playing giant games (Jenga, Draughts, Ring Toss, Dominoes) and weaving, followed by a shared pizza lunch and ice cream. The afternoon was spent watching a movie and recovering from all the activities of the week. We had a fabulous time and really enjoyed ourselves!



Year 12 Leadership Training

Last week 23 Year 12 students took part in three days of leadership training, preparing themselves for next year and the various roles they may take on as prefects and associates. The training involved junior peer support training and two days learning ABL (Activity Based Learning) games with Garth Hassell at the Malcam Trust. The students had a fun and energising three days developing their leadership skills and all of those involved demonstrated that they have the attributes and skills necessary to be inspiring senior leaders in 2018.



Futsal Finals

Our two junior futsal teams for Term 4 have had a great season. The Year 10s won their game against Bayfield, 4 - 0, which meant they finished 5th in Division 1. Last week the Year 9s had beaten Logan Park but this week they lost their tightly contested game, meaning they finished a very creditable 2nd in Division 2. Thanks to Year 12 students Jasmine Penny and Lara Wall who helped Ms Burden with coaching each Thursday.



Learning Support

Queen's Challenge Camp was held recently in Oamaru. After a year of planning, fundraising and organising, the students enjoyed the experiences of Moeraki, Steampunk HQ, the Elephant Rocks, blue penguins sighting and a visit to the Whitestone cheese factory. Many thanks to Helen Beamish and her team for ensuring the success and enjoyment of these camp experiences.



Following camp Bell Murphy of Wāhine Toa Self Defence Network facilitated a full day self-defence course. The wellness week continued with 2 days of crafts and fun ending with a visit to learn about growing plants and the uses of herbs at the Otago Polytechnic Horticulture unit with Lisa Burton. Our thanks to Bell and Lisa for supporting this learning with their expertise. Our final days have been spent making good progress on our painted mural then finishing with the mad hat and lipstick shared lunch break.

