

Queen's News

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Kia koutou

This week, the Year 9 classes have all been on an overnight camp with their Year 13 Peer Support Leaders and students from the Year 12 Physical Education class. These students have been running activities that are part of the Level 2 Achievement Standard 'Evaluate leadership strategies that contribute to the effective functioning of a group'. The feedback from the staff involved in the camps, has all been the same; the senior students have been fantastic leaders and role models, they have all been enthusiastic, well organised and inclusive. To all of the students involved, well done.

Senior students will all be sitting assessments within their classes or have assessments due to be handed in very soon. To support our focus on achievement, please check with your daughter that she is on track for completing any assessments due over the upcoming weeks and encourage her to speak to her teacher if there are any queries or issues.

This week, Maree Crabbe was in Dunedin giving a presentation titled "It's time we talked pornography, young people and sexuality today." She discussed a variety of effective strategies that all parents and whanau can use around the issues our students are faced with through the internet, media and social media sites. You can access this information through the following website - <http://www.itstimewetalked.com.au/>.

To all of our sportswomen taking part in the South Island Secondary Schools' Rowing Championships, the Otago Secondary School Athletic Championships and the Otago Secondary School Volleyball Tournament this weekend, good luck.



Barbara Agnew
Principal

This past Wednesday, our Pacific Island Group '**Queens of the Pacific**' had their first singing and dance practice. There was a lot of laughing, and smiling as the girls learned new moves, and practiced old ones. We are very happy to see a large group of new students join the group, from all year levels. We think this year is going to be very strong. If you have any questions about Queens of the Pacific, or want to get involved as a parent, don't hesitate to get in touch at stephniem@queens.school.nz.



Fa'afetai, Kia Ora, and Meitaki.

KIDNEY KIDS COLLECTION

A big thank you to the Year 13 students who collected for this appeal on Thursday.



SURFING SUCCESS

Shani Ayson, Anika Ayson and Jaya Reardon competed at the Canterbury Women's Surfing Championships on the 5th of March. All three girls surfed really well and are constantly improving their competitive tactics and rankings in the South Island circuit. The waves were pumping most of the day and the girls were able to post some great scores. Shani Ayson smashed her semifinals in both the Open and Junior categories. Unfortunately the waves died off during the finals and the onshore wind didn't help either. Dunedin girls definitely aren't used to surfing waves like this! Shani picked up 4th place in both of her categories. Anika Ayson surfed the best she ever has in a competition getting through her first heat in the Open division, she then went on to lead the semifinal for the majority of the heat and only in the final minutes dipped out on making the final. She definitely gave those older girls a fright and this fantastic performance gained her the 'Up and Coming' award for an Under 14. Jaya Reardon got a good couple of waves in her Junior division heat and as usual smashed it in her free surf. Teacher, Tash Civil also competed and finished up 2nd place in the Senior division. The girls had a great weekend and really enjoyed the warmer water up in Christchurch. A big thanks to Jaya's mum, Ang Reardon for coming on the trip and helping the team out.



QUEEN'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES

What does a school board do exactly?

I was asked this question recently and found it quite challenging to explain. It's easier to explain what we don't do. We are not managers, we are not involved in the day to day running of the school and have nothing to do with timetabling or teaching – all of these things are run by the Principal and the school's very experienced and capable senior leadership team.

The best analogy I heard recently was to think of the school as a cruise ship with the captain and staff delivering a high quality experience for all of the passengers (students and their families). The board's job is not to tell staff how to run the ship but to work out where the ship is going and to ensure that everyone on board is treated fairly, kept safe and follows the Ministry guidelines.

Overall boards are accountable for student achievement. We work with the Principal and staff to ensure that there is a plan in place each year with specific goals and that the school provides an environment for quality educational experiences for all of its students. This is all written up in the school charter. In practical terms, we monitor the budget and ensure that spending is focused on best outcomes for students; this includes building works and resources such as computers, sports equipment etc. We also agree on policies, ensure that legal obligations are met and that we meet our responsibilities in terms of the Treaty of Waitangi. Most importantly we monitor student achievement in all areas: academic, cultural, sporting and in areas of leadership – we use the information gathered to agree new goals and to ensure that the school responds to the needs of the students.

At this time of year analysis of achievement data from 2016 data is complete, goals for the year have been agreed, the budget is in place and the journey is underway. Happy sailing to all!

Joy Atkinson (Chairperson)

P.S.T.A FOR QUEEN'S

The PSTA recently held their Annual General Meeting and have elected the following.

President: Karen Wispinski Vice President/Secretary: Angela Wilson

Treasurer: Lynette McMullan

Thank you to the very good number of parents/guardians who attended this meeting.

The next two PSTA meetings are Monday 27th March and Monday 10th April.

This group is enthusiastic towards helping support staff and students throughout the school.

Please support the first fundraising activity—Cheese Rolls. There has been an email sent home and order forms given to the students.

CHEESE ROLLS

1 doz - \$6 3 doz - \$15

Orders close Thursday 13th April. The cheese rolls will be made and ready for delivery or collection from Queen's High School on Saturday 6th May 2017. Payment must be made by cash/cheque and submitted with the order form.

The money raised will be put towards purchasing items on the school wish list.

Thank you to the PSTA for their kind donation, we were able to buy a class set of these smart navy and white striped aprons for the Pro Foods room.



Trying something new ...well done to the three Year 13 girls who competed in the Corporate and Secondary School triathlon on February 28th at Macandrew Bay. Knowing that some of the other girls in their category regularly did triathlons did not ease their minds; the Queen's girls were out of their comfort zone. Caitlin Harris had a great swim; Leah Anderson simply powered off on her 20km bike ride into a strong wind and Louise Nicolson followed this up with a competitive 5km run. 3rd placing was the bonus at the end, but giving something new a try and overcoming fears were the highlights.



P.S. if you recognise 2 other faces there, we had 2 staff teams as well. Go the Queen's Triers and Queen's TriHards.

HOUSE UPDATE

The **athletics** day set the tone for HOUSE activities and the momentum continues. Each week **Ka Pai** cards earn house points and already we've had two **lunchtime activities**. Capture the Flag saw lots of girls out running, laughing and enjoying themselves and although last week's Walk the Block as part of Walk 'n Wheel week was more sedate, more than a third of the students took up the chance to join in. The cardboard challenge for **Makerspace** is also going to earn entrants house points.



Currently the girls are planning **new flag designs** and this will earn them points for the way they work together as well as how amazing their finished products are. It was great to see the enthusiastic response to the idea of every house choosing a **charity** to support this year.

Points as of 3 March are: **Ballard 3575**; **Dawson 4084**; **Pickering 4649**; **Rae 4547**.

AROUND THE CLASSROOMS

Here's some photos of our junior students working hard.



PARENT—TEACHER MENTOR INTERVIEWS

Thursday 23 March - 3 - 7 pm
Friday 24 March - 9 - 3 pm

ONLINE BOOKINGS

The online booking page for Year 11-13 parent-teacher mentor interviews will go live at 9 am on Monday 13 March and will close at 12noon on Wednesday 22 March. Meetings are scheduled for 20 minutes each. Go to <http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/home> **Key in the School Code dew9f**



Just enter your event code in the form above. We'll guide you through three simple steps, and moments later you'll get an email confirming your bookings. Easy!
And if you need to change or cancel your bookings, just enter the event code

Gym Controller Vacancy:

We are looking for a reliable person to be the gym controller for Friday night basketball in our gym. This is for Terms 2 and 3. The person is responsible for setting the gym up for games, running the clock and keeping the score (training will be given for this). They will pack the gym up and make sure that it is locked up at the end of play.

This is a paid position.

Contact Karen Palmer

sport@queens.school.co.nz



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 especially need coaches for Netball, Basketball, Football and Rugby. 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.co.nz

QUEEN'S EX-GIRLS

A message to all those vibrant Ex-Queen's girls out there. We are seeking new members to join our committee which meets monthly. This is a friendly, welcoming group whose purpose is to ensure scholarships for our students continue to be made by planning one fund-raising activity per year. We also involve ourselves in forward planning for reunions. If this sounds like something you would be able to contribute to, please contact: colleen@queens.school.nz

"Once a Queen's girl, always a Queen's girl."



Mar 11	Otago Athletics Championships SISS Rowing Championships
Mar 14	Safer Journeys Expo—Year 11
Mar 16	School Photos
Mar 20	Anniversary Day Holiday
Mar 21	Young Scholar Awards 5.30 pm
Mar 23/24	Senior Mentor interviews
Mar 27	PSTA Meeting - 7 pm at Queen's

Adolescent Oral Health Service

Adolescents

(from Year 9 until their 18th birthday)

Adolescents* are entitled to FREE basic dental care, from Year 9 until their 18th birthday – no matter where you're at... high school, training course, work or unemployed.

Free basic dental care is available by enrolling with a Dentist. This is usually arranged at the child's last dental visit with the Community Oral Health Service in school Year 8. The chosen Dentist should contact you directly to make an appointment.

If you need to enrol, or have any questions please call:

0800 825 583 – option 2

For more information visit: <http://www.southernhb.govt.nz/pages/adolescent-oral-health-service/>

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*who meet the [eligibility criteria](#) for publicly funded health and disability services