



Melville High News

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Issue 2

April 2014

Featuring . . .

Principal's Message – busy end to first term . . . *more on page 2*

Board Chairperson's Message – celebrating Melville High's 50th Reunion . . . *more on page 2*

Excellence Awards – celebrating academic success . . . *more on page 3*

Year 12 Geography Trip – extreme challenges at the National Park . . . *more on page 7*

Swimming Sports – great participation . . . *more on page 10*

Athletics Day – excellent results . . . *more on page 11*

Sports@MLV – successful start to the year . . . *more on page 12*

OPC Adventure Challenge Week – another week of exciting activities . . . *more on page 13*

50th Reunion celebrations – gallery of photos *on pages 8, 9 and 16*

50th REUNION CELEBRATIONS

I was immensely proud of our staff and students for the effort that they put into making the Reunion weekend, 4-6 April, an overwhelming success. Organisations only get one chance at this and the feedback from participants has been excellent. I was particularly impressed by the reunion team, staff and students who stepped forward to support the kaupapa of the weekend. There was a high standard of performance, display and organisation and as a consequence our former pupils, staff, visitors and parents went away with renewed pride in their school.

I would like in particular to thank the Reunion Committee, chaired by Tracey Cooper and the leadership roles of Jos Caughley and Lynette Malone in that team. I thank board members who also willingly contributed. To Liz Willis, Janine Jackson, Bill Russell and Gilly Rowling, many thanks go to you for your extra effort. Special acknowledgment is made of the sterling work of Donna Wilson, Claire Lincoln and Dave McNulty too who stepped forward when the need was great. I also acknowledge, the teaching staff who put in a huge effort to making their environments available and thank them for utilising our students to share what school life is like today.

While the school looked great and the participants had a pleasurable weekend there was a significant number of staff who were dislocated, relocated and alienated through the preparations. Thanks go to the staff who took on administrative and other tasks in the back, or on reception, in the sun outside or supporting our students in their displays or performance. Without this effort we would have sold our school short.

We all need to be very proud of our students. Over 100 of them volunteered their time to support the reunion. They were exemplary representatives of our school and the feedback was very complimentary.

Well done everyone.
Clive Hamill, Principal



Blessing of 'Morning Shadows',
designed by David Lloyd



Mr A F Campbell, former Principal (1979-1988)
addressing the audience

Creating Pathways to a Positive Future

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Tena koutou katoa

Student success has been the primary goal of the Board and staff of Melville High School. The first term has been a very eventful and long one and has highlighted this focus.

I have returned to work after successful surgery and am very appreciative of the efforts of the Senior Leadership Team and in particular the efforts of our Deputy Principal Dave McNulty who led the school very well in my absence.

The school's recent 50th Reunion was a tremendous success and I acknowledge all the hard work that staff and Board members put into this event to make it so memorable. The school looked great.

Our students represented us well and the standard of the functions, displays and activities was very high. Well done one and all.

I would particularly like to acknowledge the leadership and hard work of the Reunion Committee and staff. I was proud to be principal of Melville High School at the time of our 50th birthday.

Other special elements of the term include our excellence dinner where we celebrate those students who have done particularly well in NCEA and our raft race. Both these activities acknowledge special elements of what being at Melville High School is all about.

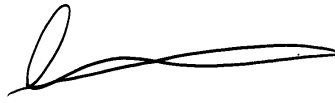
I would also like to thank the parents and staff who so willingly gave of their time to support our Year 9 camp. The Year 9 camp at Karapiro has again been an overwhelming success. Many thanks are extended to the staff who support such activities. The thanks go not only to those teachers who willingly gave up the comfort of their nice warm beds for the tenting experience but also to the staff who covered for their colleagues back at school. It is a unique opportunity for students and staff alike to get to know one another.

Melville High School is very fortunate to have the financial support of the Perry Outdoor Education Trust (POET) and the Gallagher Trust to be able ensure an excellent attendance at such an important outdoor education activity. We are able to ensure that over 60% of our students each year undertake a major Education Outside The Classroom (EOTC) experience.

This week will be my last for a while as next term I will be on Sabbatical leave. I am very much looking forward to this opportunity for refreshment and reflection. I have every confidence in the capacity of my Deputy Principal to lead the school in my absence.

Finally I would like to remind students and parents that our core business is the facilitation of learning and that students need to ensure that this remains the major focus of their endeavour at school.

Kia Ora



Clive Hamill, Principal

BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

Kia ora

It's hard to believe we've already made it to the end of Term One. Much of our early focus has been on ensuring new students receive the best start possible to their secondary schooling and it is good to see them settling in so well.

We've also been busy with the school's 50th Reunion, which was very successful, bringing around 500 former staff and students back to the school for the weekend. Old friendships were rekindled and new ones made over the weekend. We unveiled a stunning new sculpture outside the admin block and the school grounds are looking better than they have for many years. Most impressive was the number of students who gave up their weekend to help during the reunion. They were a credit to the school and many former students commented on how proud they felt seeing a new generation of students contributing to the occasion.

After what has been a busy start to the year, it's a good time to take a break before we settle in for the long slog through winter.

Next term, Principal Clive Hamill and Bill Russell will be away on sabbatical and it's good to know we have such capable senior leaders at the school to cover their absence.

The Board will continue its focus on raising student achievement across the school and we will also start preparing for the planned visit by ERO later this year. These visits take a lot of preparation and ERO always identifies areas for improvement but we can all be confident that the school is heading in the right direction. This doesn't happen by accident and it's thanks to the hard work of our staff who continuously impress with their commitment to helping their students achieve.

Thank you all for the positive start to the year, enjoy the two weeks off and I look forward to seeing everyone back in Term Two ready to work hard and do their best for the rest of 2014.

Nga mihi

Tracey Cooper, Chairperson

EXCELLENCE AWARDS

This week the school again acknowledged our successful students who gained excellence credits in NCEA Levels 1, 2 and 3 last year. Melville High School awards badges and bars for students who gain a number of Excellence awards at NCEA at a formal dinner. The awards are made under the following criteria:

- Bronze bar for recognition for 10-19 Excellence Credits
- Silver bar for 20-29 Excellence Credits
- Gold bar for 30 or more Excellence Credits

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total awarded	19	29	34	45	43	42
Māori	1	6	11	16	20	12
Pasifika			1	0	0	1

The Board welcomed the opportunity to recognise successful students. The recipients of the awards are as follows:

Level 3 Gold: Jessie, Rachel, Nic, Morgan, Cian

Level 3 Silver: Susan

Level 3 Bronze: Joshua, Matthew

Level 2 Gold: Rebekah, Anvil, Madeline, Cerise

Level 2 Silver: Amy, Prarthna

Level 2 Bronze: Jaron, Conor, Vijender, Brooke, Kyle, Katelyn, Caitlyn, Rexana, Terina, Cameron, Lyza, Caitlin Rose, Caleb, Samuel

Level 1 Gold: Holly, Kaitlyn, Natasha, Breanna

Level 1 Silver: Jade, Uel, Katie, Assryia

Level 1 Bronze: Ghia, Sean, Ihaka, Shylor, Laura, Manasseh



The ceremony was held in the school hall and 70 students, parents, whanau and staff attended this function. We were thoroughly impressed with the excellent table settings, the food and service which was provided by Liz Willis and her team. The very reasonable cost ensured the great turn out of parents family and whanau. I would also like to thank our Chairman, Tracey Cooper, for his words of encouragement to the audience.

C Hamill, Principal

CHANGES OF STAFF

Nilesh Prasad

It is with regret that the school received the resignation of Mathematics teacher, Mr Nilesh Prasad. Nilesh has won a promotion to the position of Head of Mathematics at Morrinsville College. We have advertised for a replacement



who would begin teaching after Queen's birthday weekend. We wish Nilesh all the best in his new role and thank him for his contributions to the school. In particular, I would like to acknowledge his on-line teaching role.

Angela Climo

It is with regret that we bid farewell to Ang Climo who has been with the school for over six years in the front office and more recently as our Gateway Co-ordinator. Ang has gone out of her way to support our senior students in this specialist work experience programme. She is leaving a significant legacy of business contacts, programmes and resources. We will miss her vibrancy and her care. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours.



Mereana Te Ahuahu

We welcomed Ms Mereana Te Ahuahu to the Campbell Centre mid-way through last month and we look forward to her continued presence next term. Whaea Mereana has a depth of experience and is relieving in the place of Matua John Toroa who has been on a sustained period of sick leave.



Maria Pearce

We welcome Mrs Maria Pearce as our new Gateway Co-ordinator. Maria comes to us with marketing experience. We look forward to having her expertise on our team which helps students to plan their career futures.



YEAR 13 LEADERSHIP CAMP

The Year 13 Camp, which was held from 12-14 February, was an opportunity for our Year 13 students to bond with each other, pick up some extra leadership skills and take part in some exciting challenges. It was great to witness a growth begin within our year level as they stepped up and welcomed their role as the leaders of our school.

The camp allowed Year 13 students to spend time with their peers outside of the usual school environment - this truly helped us to become closer as a group and to see each other as not only a group of classmates but also a group of friends!

The camp was held at Raglan Motor Camp – with many students' highlight being the spending of time at the beach and out in the sun (when we were lucky).



Overall the camp was a great success. Thanks go out to all the teachers and adults involved in making it happen, keeping us safe and feeding us well. The future is looking bright with a bunch of students so willing to step up to the challenge, learn new skills and support each other so freely.

Let's keep it up for the rest of 2014.

Rebekah Talsma, Head Girl

CAREERS CLASSES @MHS

Year 11, 12 and 13 students have a Careers class every Wednesday. The purpose of these classes is for students to develop their career planning and life management skills.

Students participate in a range of activities in this class:

- * They get credits from Unit Standards which teach them about Career Planning and Life Management.
- * They explore and develop understanding about the Careers NZ website. This site has interactive activities for students to work through to find out about careers that might interest them.
- * The main New Zealand universities visit and talk to senior students about the courses they can study and what they need for University Entrance.
- * Wintec talk to students about the courses they offer, what students need to be able to do with their courses and what life is like in a Tertiary environment.
- * Other presentations are from Human Rights, Financial Literacy, Study Link and Career Services.

Next term we will be having Careers information presentations. We will invite a range of people in to speak to small groups of our students about their experiences and achievements.

If you know anyone who has interesting experiences to share, please phone Ruth Searancke on 07 843 4529.



CAREERS EXPO

Tuesday 9 September

12.30pm to 4.00pm

Melville High School Hall

All parents and caregivers are welcome to attend with their child to talk to the providers about the courses, degrees and training they offer.

Absence Line**Phone 843 5212/Text 027 287 2428**

Please phone or text the above numbers if your child is absent from school for any reason. No note is required on return to school if you phone or text in.

Deans

Deans are available regarding any subject or behaviour concerns you may have about your child. Phone messages will be responded to at their earliest convenience.

Student Services Centre

- Notification of change of details
- First aid
- Student sign out/in for appointments
- Lost property
- Fees payments

Stationery/Uniform Shop

Opening hours

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

11.00 am –11.30 am

Guidance Counsellors

Students and families are invited to make appointments with our Counsellors, Lesley Beech and Paul Gay by phone (843 4529 ext 939/940) or by email (Lesley) be@melville-high.school.nz and (Paul) ga@melville-high.school.nz

Careers Adviser

Students and parents are welcome to make appointments with Mrs Searancke for advice on courses and careers (843 4529 ext 953).

Gateway Co-ordinator

Students and parents are welcome to make appointments with Mrs Pearce for advice on Gateway placements (843 4529 ext 925).

CURTAINS

Many thanks are extended to Liz Willis, Gilly Rowling, Janine Jackson and students for their hard work in toiling to remove old curtains and erect new ones in J Block and a set in the Art Suite. It has made a huge difference to the look and feel of the classrooms and their efforts are very much appreciated. Well done.

C Hamill, Principal**ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG COUNSELLING**

CareNZ provides a free and confidential alcohol and other drug counselling service for students who may be concerned about their own or others' use of alcohol or other drugs. Students may self-refer, be referred by concerned family members, teachers, deans, the school guidance counsellors or the Board of Trustees.

Further information about the CareNZ service can be obtained by phoning 0800 499469 or from their website www.carenz.co.nz.

This service is available on Thursdays at school. Appointments can be made using the appointment slip/locked box at the Student Services Centre or by contacting the school's Guidance Counsellors.

REV CYCLE FESTIVAL

The **Perry Outdoor Education Trust (POET)** has been supporting Melville High School with the running of our school camps since 2013.

This year, POET was the selected charity for the **REV Cycle Festival** in Cambridge on Saturday 22 February. As a POET school, Melville High School supported them in sending a team of 14 cyclists for the event. Students from Years 11, 12 and 13 entered the 18km race around the back of Cambridge.

It was Melville High's first time at the event and it was great to see what a huge and professionally run race it was.

In line with the Melville High School motto "*To serve and to work*" "*Hei Awhina Hei Mahi*", a group of students also supported POET with the managing of the car park, which for such an event as the Rev is a huge responsibility and requires a lot of organisation.

Thanks to Mr Edwards for riding in the event and Mr Kallahar for being a car park attendant for the whole day.

E Ross, LoC Technology**HOSTING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

Student Exchange Australia New Zealand Limited is seeking families to host international students from Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany and Italy on a voluntary basis.

There are also opportunities through AFS, IGO, LABO-LETS, ROTARY, STS, WYS and YFU for our students to study abroad in European, Asian and many other countries as exchange students.

For more information please see Mrs Stewart in the International room, phone 843 4529 ext 930 and leave a message or email sw@melville-high.school.nz

MATHEMATICS LEARNING AREA NEWS

We are very proud of our NCEA results for 2013. The following students have achieved exceptionally well:

Excellence in Mathematics

Level 1

Natasha

Merit in Mathematics

Level 1

Holly, Breanna, Kaitlyn, Uel, Hayley, Laura

Level 2

Anvil

We also had 90% success in Level 1 Numeracy.

Congratulations to these students and their teachers.

Mathematics Staffing Changes

With the departure of Harnish Prasad and Jan Masei at the end of last year, we have welcomed Doug Ashley-Miller from Huntly College and Chandani Jinadasa from the Technology Learning Area into the Mathematical world. Both these teachers are adapting well to their new environment and are great team players.



Mrs Jinadasa



Mr Ashley-Miller

Nilesh Prasad has also taken up the position as the new e-Dean after Mr Nair left to take up a position at Forest View High School in Tokoroa.

The Mathematics Learning Area currently has a great focus on Curriculum Literacy as we have found that students have struggled to understand and scaffold the word problems. Mathematics is a subject that cannot be mastered by reading but it is very methodological and requires a lot of practice. The students are urged to practise lots of mathematical problems. All students undertaking mathematics must have a scientific calculator.

All staff in this learning area are very friendly, supportive and caring. Students must seek assistance from them to enhance their learning and success.

We all welcome contact with home. Please contact us with any concerns or queries you have.

D Chandra, Leader of Mathematics Curriculum Learning Area

2014 TERM 2 CALENDAR

MAY

Week 1

Mon 5 First day Term 2

Week 3

Fri 23 Newsletter posted

Week 4

Wed 28 Board Meeting, 6pm

JUNE

Week 5

Mon 2 **QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY**

Week 6

Mon 9 **TEACHER ONLY DAY**

Week 8

Mon 23 Reports posted
Newsletter posted
Wed 25 Board Meeting, 6pm

JUNE/JULY

Week 9

Wed 2 **PARENT REPORT EVENING**
3.15pm-6.30pm
Fri 4 Last day of Term 2

2014 TERM 3

JULY

Week 1

Mon 21 First day Term 3
Wed 23 Team Photos

JULY/AUGUST

Week 2

Wed 30 Board Meeting, 6pm
Wed 30-Fri 1 Business Challenge

Week 3

Thurs 7 **OPEN DAY & EVENING**

Week 4

Fri 15 Newsletter posted

Week 6

Mon 25-Fri 29 **SENIOR ASSESSMENT WEEK**

SEPTEMBER

Week 7

Mon 1-Fri 5 **TOURNAMENT WEEK**
Fri 5 Senior Reports posted

Week 9

Wed 17 NCEA Senior Report Evening, 5.30pm-7.30pm
Fri 19 NCEA Reports posted
Newsletter posted

Week 10

Fri 26 Last day of Term 3

2014 TERM DATES

Term 2 5 May - 4 July
Term 3 21 July - 26 September
Term 4 13 October - 5 December

YEAR 12 GEOGRAPHY TRIP

On Monday 10 March, our Year 12 Geography class went to the Tongariro National Park for three days. We stayed at Pipers Ski Lodge and enjoyed activities such as swimming at Taranaki Falls and a 7 hour hike into the Mangatepopo Valley, up the Devil's Staircase and over the saddle of Mount Ngaruhoe. This was a challenging and breathtaking experience as we got to learn about and see Tongariro's beautiful landscape as well as feel a sense of accomplishment after climbing the mountain.



The class would like to give a special thanks to all those who made this trip possible, especially Mr Warren and also the staff at Pipers Lodge for their amazing hospitality and making us feel very welcome. **Year 12 students Moesha, Assryia and Shaniya**

THE BATTLE OF ORAAKAU COMMEMORATIONS

The 150th Anniversary Commemorations of the Battle of o Raakau was recently held at Oraakau Pa (near Kihikihi). The commemoration included iwi from around the North Island whose ancestors faced British forces. The Māori King Tuheitia, Governor General Jerry Mateparae and Prime Minister John Key attended this event.



Melville High's Kapa Haka group, **Jaeda, Grayson, Cody, Herepete, Tamiika-Lari, Anahera, Whaitiri, Keisha, Whitney, Iwirua, Dakota, and Astina** attended this event. Matua Te Whakahaweia Rapana and Whaea Valetta Wiperi escorted the group.

WWII HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY

Towards the end of term one, the World War Historical Re-enactment Society visited my two Year 9 Social Studies classes to support the students' study of WW1. This was a great opportunity for the students to see the uniform, weapons and equipment from WWI as well as WWII and to hear about New Zealand's involvement in the wars. Once again, our students represented our school well with their polite manner and enthusiasm of the topic. We would like to thank the Gallagher Fund (through Nigel Hendrikse) and the Social Science Curriculum Learning Area for giving a koha to the Society.

S Stantiall, Social Studies Teacher

On Friday 11 April 2014, we (9WA and 9MIA) were visited by a WWI re-enactment group. There were five members of the group, three acting as British and Kiwi soldiers and the other two as German and Russian soldiers. They were all dressed in uniform and had brought all their gear, clothing, ammo, and even guns. On each of the guns there was a blade attached to the under end of the barrel called a bayonet. They taught us marching drills and four fortunate students got to handle the best guns and learn some gun drills. I thought it was important because this year it's the 100th anniversary for the beginning of World War One.

Laitin, Year 9 Student

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS





SWIMMING SPORTS A SPLASH!

The 2014 Melville High School Swimming Sports were held at Waterworld Te Rapa on Monday 17 February. The competitive swimmers were very enthusiastic in the morning and marshalling was carried out efficiently.

The highlight of the day was when the whole school arrived for the Aqua Sports section of the competition. This is a house competition and competition in the various events was fierce.

The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all and results are as follows:

Champion House Ruapane

Champion Titles

Junior Girls	Kristal
Junior Boys	Dylan
Intermediate Girls	Daisha
Intermediate Boys	Alexander
Senior Girls	Renee
Senior Boys	Ezrym

Well done, everyone – it was a day full of fun!

A Tuck, Assistant Principal



WAIKATO SECONDARY SCHOOLS SWIMMING SPORTS

The Waikato Secondary Schools Swimming Sports was held on Wednesday 16 April at Waterworld Te Rapa. Melville High School had 12 students participating at this event.

IMPERIOUS DANCE COMPANY

Tutor: Leeza Vincent

7 years teaching experience

Hiphop and Jazz

Ages from 3 years

St Stephens Church Hall

For more information contact 07 870 5061 or

0274186777 or email

imperiousdancecompany@gmail.com

EXCELLING AT ATHLETICS!

The school held a very successful Athletics Day at Porritt Stadium on Tuesday 11 February. Students came dressed in their house colours (blue, green, red and yellow) and many took the opportunity to dress in entertaining and imaginative costumes.

A large number of students participated in most events and there was some close competition. The day finished with the Inter-house relays.

House Points

Athletics Shield Wharaurora

Participation Shield Ruapane

Champion Titles

Junior Girls	Arahia
Junior Boys	Shannon
Intermediate Girls	Kaylee
Intermediate Boys	Taylor
Senior Girls	Annalise
Senior Boys	Kalib

Congratulations to all our students for their excellent participation and successes!

ZONE ATHLETICS

On Tuesday 4 March, 25 students represented Melville High School at the Central Zone Championships which included all the secondary schools in Hamilton and the immediate surrounding towns.

Congratulations to the following students who qualified at the Zones and participated in the Waikato/BOP Secondary School Athletics Championships at Porritt Stadium on Saturday 22 March with these results:

Shannon Wilson 4th Junior Boys' Shotput
5th Junior Boys' 100m
4th Junior Boys' 200m

Renee Gudgeon 8th Senior Girls' Javelin

Kalib Guy 5th Senior Boys' 3000m

Annalise Morrow 6th Senior Girls' Long Jump

Te Aranga Murphy 8th Junior Boys' Javelin





Sports @MLV



Rugby

This year, Melville High School will have two teams playing in the rugby competition - an U16 and an U14. Both teams have already commenced training with good numbers.

We are fortunate to have the U15 team coaches from last year, **Paul Harmer** and **Sam Nonoa**, taking our U16 team. Graeme Kuiti will be the team Manager this year.

The U14 team coach is **Matt Tauroa** who has previously coached at Melville Club and has a good relationship with youth.

On Thursday 17 April, Blue Mountains Grammar School from New South Wales, Australia will be playing our U16 Rugby team at 4.00 pm - please come and support our boys.

Soccer

There are good numbers for soccer this year and we have four teams, three boys' teams and one girls' team.

The boys have been training for the last couple of weeks. **Gary Down**, the 1st XI boys' coach from last year, is back coaching again as is **Paul Chalmers** for the Junior Boys' team with the help of our new staff member, Mr Long Lu.

We have also formed a Boys' 2nd XI team.

The Senior Girls' team has started training and is being coached by Mike Molloy.

Netball

We have recently had our netball trials and the teams will be announced next week. Many thanks to our selectors, **Michelle Heu Wetere**, **Pauline Pakinga**, **Nakita Wiperi** and **Dana MacDonald** for their assistance in this process.

We are looking for coaches, managers and umpires - if you are able to help please contact Valetta Wiperi on 02102297012 or 843 4529.

On Wednesday 16 April, the South Canberra Netball Association visited Melville High School to play our Netball teams. There were some well fought games enjoyed by all teams.

Basketball

The Senior Boys' Basketball team, under the guidance of Coach **Aaron Whaanga**, participated in an eight team tournament on Saturday 1 March at Hamilton Boys' High School. There were teams from all over the North Island participating. Melville High finished 3rd beating Rotorua Boys' High School. The team's only loss in this tournament was to New Plymouth Boys' High School.

Volleyball

The Senior Girls' Volleyball team has been competing every Saturday morning and playing very well under the guidance of Mrs Bayly. The team finished 9th out of 18 teams in the finals recently.

Touch

We currently have a Senior Girls' team which plays every Wednesday at Elliott Park under the guidance of **Beau** and **Michelle Heu Wetere**. They have been performing very well and won the finals recently.

Congratulations to **Shyniah** and **Sita** who have been selected for the Waikato U17 Girls' Touch team which recently finished 4th overall at the National Touch Competitions. Shyniah has also made it into the Elite Academy for the top 24 emerging players for U17 girls.

Clay Target Shooting

Year 11 student, **Joshua** recently entered the North Island Clay Target Shooting competition where he finished 2nd behind an Australian competitor. Also entered in the New Zealand Sporting Clay Championships, he was placed 3rd behind two Australians.

Joshua is currently the top junior clay target shooter in New Zealand and was chosen to represent New Zealand in New Caledonia in April but unfortunately has had to turn down this opportunity.

Equestrian

On 28 March, **Kaitlyn** competed well in the North Island Secondary Schools Dressage Championships at St Peters School, Cambridge.

OPC GREAT BARRIER ISLAND - ADVENTURE CHALLENGE WEEK

On Sunday 2 March, 20 students took up the opportunity to travel to Great Barrier Island and participate in an Adventure Challenge programme for a week, run by the Sir Edmund Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre. Waiting on the tarmac for us at Auckland Domestic Airport were three small planes, an adventure in itself with most of the group flying in a plane for the first time. After arriving at Great Barrier Island and settling into our cabins, most took the opportunity to join in a Melville bombing competition off the wharf. Mr Kallahar whipped up a tasty dinner on the barbeque that night for us all.

Our first full day on Monday had us split up into two groups of 10, assigned with an instructor each, Tom and Freya. Students had their own input into the planning of the week with their group and instructor. As well as learning new outdoor skills throughout the week, students had to complete both written and practical assessments through a unit standard on sea kayaking. Mr Kallahar's group spent Monday developing their surf kayaking skills at Whangapoua beach. My group spent the morning learning how to roll a sea kayak and then learnt how to climb and belay on the indoor climbing wall.

On day two, Mr Kallahar's group learnt how to roll kayaks in the morning and then spent their afternoon completing the high ropes activities. My group spent the day at the Three Kings which involved rock climbing, completing the traverse as a team and abseiling. In the afternoon we tramped down through a stream and abseiled off a waterfall.



On Wednesday, Mr Kallahar's group completed the activities that my group did the previous day. My group tramped over the hill to the Glenfern Sanctuary and completed an environmental restoration project that involved clearing a wet land area for the protected Pateke duck. In the afternoon we completed high rope activity with the highlight being the Flying Kiwi, swinging out over the bay.

On Thursday, both groups prepared for their overnight expeditions. Both groups chose camp sites on Kaikoura Island with million dollar views. Before arriving at our camp sites, both groups detoured to Green Island and completed a coasteering mission, navigating their way around the island and bombing into the water at the high points of the mission. Both groups enjoyed a beautiful sunset that night and enjoyed their quota of kina.

On Friday, both groups got up at 6.00am and kayaked back to the OPC base at Karaka Bay. After washing down all their kayaks, it was time to fly back home.



The week was a huge success and we were blessed with six days of sunny weather. All students achieved their assessment. The students enjoyed their week so much that leaving was really difficult. I saw so much growth in the students involved over the course of the week, particularly in their leadership skills and respect for one another. Each day everyone was able to reflect on the buzz and satisfaction of learning new outdoor skills. I would like to commend all the students involved for their attitude and effort all week.

I would like to acknowledge the parents and caregivers of these students for supporting them to get to Great Barrier Island OPC. This week couldn't have happened without the generous support of the following organisations: Hendl and Murray Engineering, Pub Charity and The Sir Edmund Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre of New Zealand - thank you.

Finally, massive thanks to Mr Kallahar for supporting us with this trip and always looking out for everyone - he is known as Mr Incredible for a reason! I look forward to seeing the learning developed through this experience translate into a lot more back at school. Well done to following students: Nathaniel, Luke, Kaesin, Annika, Keegan, Josh, Nikita, Isaiah, Grayson, Bex, Monson, Emma, Shaniya, Moesha, Assryia, Moroni, Callum, Jeneah, Mariah and Jaron.

M Edwards, LoC Physical Education

ANNUAL RAFT RACE

The annual Melville High School Raft Race was held this week in splendid conditions with seven teams taking part.

The rafts 'sailed' down the Waikato River from the boat ramp by the Narrows Bridge to the Grantham Street Boat Ramp.



The journey took up to two and a half hours with the winning team of **Kaylee, Natalie and Renee** taking less than two hours.

Many thanks are extended to all the families who supported the construction and transporting of the rafts.

The students had varying designs and used a range of constructions methods, with one raft not making it off the Narrows Boat ramp.

I would like to acknowledge Tracey Cooper (rescue boat) Graeme Young (kayak) and Frank Everaarts (kayak) for their on-water support.

Special thanks go to Graeme Kuiti, our event manager, who did a great job and to our staff who willingly gave of their time too.

The fun day was concluded with a barbecue and the tired rafters took advantage of the early finish to the school day.

Some of the students and staff are already planning for next year's raft race.

C Hamill, Principal

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

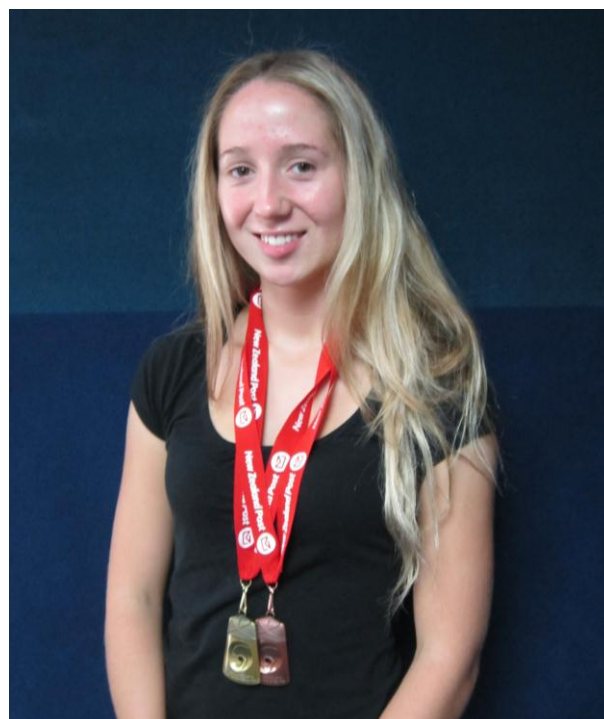
Staff have been actively engaged in a number of professional learning opportunities over this past month as we continue to build on our knowledge of the curriculum and our teaching skills. The Team Solutions group from Auckland University has been working and supporting all individual curriculum areas. While we have consistently applied for such support annually over each of the last five years since the Ministry captured the advisory resourcing, this is the first time we have gained access to such vital assistance. This project, called Secondary Student Achievement (SSA), is linking in to our major goals of raising student achievement and supporting the separate cohorts who are not succeeding.

The programme involves eight resource advisors working with teachers and Leaders of Curriculum (LOC). The programme will also involve a **Teacher Only Day (TOD) next term on Monday 9 June**. This support has been very well received by teachers as they receive specialist support to reflect on their current programmes and improve the quality of the classroom teaching.

C Hamill, Principal

WAKA AMA SUCCESS

Congratulations are extended to **Brooke** who competed very successfully in the 25th Anniversary National Waka Ama competitions held on Lake Karapiro. Brooke competed in the Women's Under 19 section as part of the Kinauu team. Brooke came away with a gold medal in the 1000 metres W6 and a bronze medal in the 500 metres12 W1 event.



Congratulations Brooke on such a high achievement.

C Hamill, Principal

REUNION IN REFLECTION

There were many highlights of the jubilee celebrations. Over 480 registered for the event and unfortunately we had to turn away those who attempted to register late because of our prior commitments to external contractors.

- The presence of former principal Campbell Fraser, 'Mr Zest', was appreciated by all. Mr Fraser spoke eloquently to the participants at the opening ceremony.
- The Haka Powhiri challenge began the Saturday programme with dignity and style.
- The unveiling of the sculpture 'Morning Shadows' an impressive piece which was donated and created by David Lloyd from the recycled remnants of Lonnie Hutchinson's piece, "Te Waharoa ki te Ao Marama".
- The presentations of our students in the hall which involved Pasifika, music performances, Mangakotukutuku kapa haka and stage challenge.
- Foundation student Mrs Vicki Pulman's treasure trove which including her uniform, exercise books, ink well pen, fountain pen and her code of behaviour (boys and girls weren't allowed to sit together at interval and lunch times) .
- The magnificent displays in the Music Suite.
- The digital records, including all our scanned photos are accessible on computer.
- The state of the grounds.
- How well our 100 student volunteers undertook their roles as performers, hosts and guides.
- A splendid church service lead by our School Chaplin, Shannon Mackie.
- The thorough enjoyment demonstrated by all participants.

Many thanks are extended to Roger Evans of Stafford Engineering for his support in the management and erection of the sculpture.

C Hamill, Principal

REPORTS AND PARENT INTERVIEWS

I would like to thank parents and caregivers who took up the opportunity to meet with teachers to discuss their child's progress. The Parent/Teacher report evening provided an opportunity to discuss the Interim Report and give a brief indication of each student's areas of success and possible areas of challenge. The reports are not designed to provide extensive feedback on the progress and achievement of students, rather it is a tentative statement about how students are settling in to the school year.

I would encourage all parents and caregivers to arrange an interview with teachers at any time should they have questions or queries about their child's progress.

C Hamill, Principal

GERMAN STUDENT BIDS FAREWELL

Kia Ora and Guten Tag

For those of you who don't know who I am, my name is Joyce and I had the privilege to be a part of the Melville community for the last nine months. I am an exchange student and my time here in Hamilton will be over very soon and I'll be going back to Germany to complete two more years of high school.



I would like to say that I really enjoyed my time here as a Melvillian and I appreciate how welcoming and supportive not only the teachers and the staff members are but also the students.

I think this school gives students great opportunities to participate in cultural and musical fields as well as in plenty of sport events, unlike Germany which doesn't have as many options in the field of extra-curricular activities.

Melville High nurtures the students and has an amazing school spirit, one that I admire. I have enjoyed my time here and the friends I've made. I would especially like to thank Mrs. Stewart for her support as my coordinator and my host parents Robert and Lauryl Crump for being the best family I could have wished for. You made my experience in New Zealand amazing and one to remember. I consider Hamilton and Melville High to be my home.

I'm looking forward to seeing my family again but sad to say goodbye to all of the friends I have made here. Thank you for your amazing support.

Joyce

16
MELVILLE HIGH SCHOOL 50th REUNION CELEBRATIONS



Photographs supplied by Barker Photography and Greg Fulton.