



# Melville High News

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Issue 3

April 2015

## TOUCH REPS OFF TO AUSSIE TOURNAMENT



**Touchdown by Te Mahine and Sita**

*The following article was featured in the Hamilton Press on 18 March 2015. We couldn't be more proud of Sita and Te Mahine's achievements.*

Melville High School students Sita, 16, and Te Mahine 15, have played their way into the national Under 17 girls' touch rugby development squad and will take part in the New Zealand development tour in October.

Selected during the national junior championships in Auckland in February, they will play in a tournament against their Australian national counterparts at Caloundra on the Gold Coast in October.

Both girls are members of the Melville girls' touch team, while Sita is also part of the Waikato U17 girls' squad and Te Mahine in the U15 mixed team.



**Teacher Only Day**



**Friday 22nd May**

**MHS PTA**  
everychild.onevoice.®

**Wednesday 29 April  
at 6.00 p.m.**

Meet in the front reception foyer

**GET  
INVOLVED!**



**Creating Pathways to a Positive Future**

**Featuring.....**

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## **PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

Tena koutou katoa

The first term has drawn to a busy end. It has been an exciting time with a host of Outdoor Education, sporting, cultural and other activities. Our March parent interview evening was a very successful event and we had a significant improvement in parent attendance. We received very good feedback from parents, whanau and staff on the evening. Staff valued the opportunity to establish positive relationships with families and whanau. Such opportunities provide a positive platform for the year.

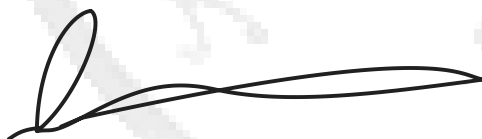
Parents and caregivers are reminded that we welcome the opportunity to meet with you about the progress and achievement of your children. Just contact the school to arrange a suitable time to make an appointment with staff.

It has been a particularly busy term for Education Outside the Classroom activities. The Year 13 and Year 9 camps, senior field trips, the Raft Race and much more. As this newsletter records there have been a host of such activities going on.

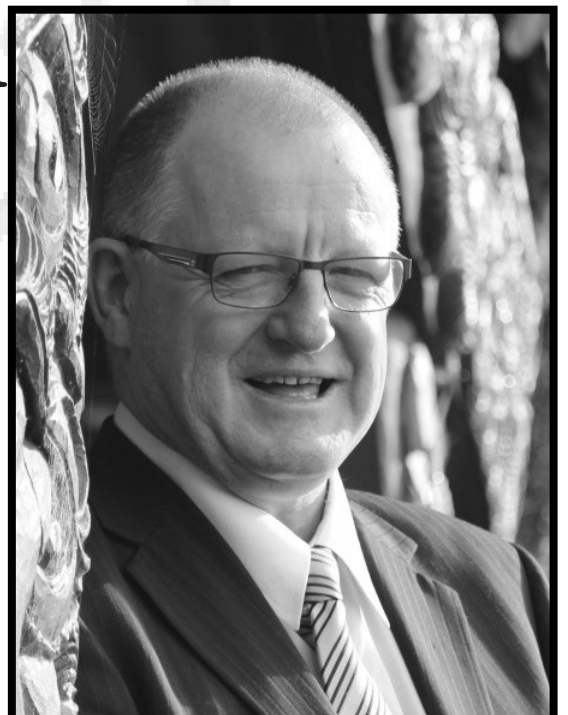
I spent two days at the Year 9 camp at the Karapiro Domain in mid-March and my appreciation goes to Mr. John Ledson, SLT Year 9, and Mrs Elsie Leslie, Year 9 Dean for their leadership, EOTC staff member Amanda McIlhorne and POET's Donald Matheson. Students spent two and a half days under canvas with staff and Year 13 students delivering a diverse range of activities. I very much appreciate the input and effort that staff put into planning, preparing and implementing such exciting and eventful weeks, which is essential for its success. However without the willingness of teachers of Year 9 to attend the camp, we would not have had the resources to undertake such a positive activity.

There have also been a host of sporting and cultural events which our students have been involved in, as well as those that are reported on elsewhere in the newsletter. All these activities require additional effort and support from staff, families and outside coaches and organisations.

The Board received with regret the resignation of Aaron Whaanga this week. Aaron has a new leadership role at Fraser High School and we thank him for his many contributions to the Board, especially in his role as Convenor of the Board's Finance committee. The Board is seeking interested parents with financial management experience. If you are interested in this role please share this interest with a board member or myself.



**Clive Hamill**  
**Principal**



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE.....continued

### PERSONNEL CHANGES

#### Mr Kerry Cooper

Last month I announced the resignation of Mr Kerry Cooper. Mr Cooper had been on a period of extended sick leave. Mr Peter Rowlingson had been appointed to this position and will now undertake this role until the end of the year. We wish Kerry all the best for the future.

#### Phobie Howarth

Phobie is leaving at the end of the Term after relieving for Fran Diaz, who was on maternity leave. Phobie had a broad range of teaching skills and developed strong relationships with her English classes. We wish Phobie all the best over the coming months and thank her for her many and varied contributions. We look forward to the return of Fran next term.

#### Jamieson Hudson

Jamieson has left her position as Art Teacher to take up a permanent position at Hamilton Boys High. We thank Jamieson for her contributions to her classes. We have appointed Rhiannon Thornton to take her place for the rest of the year

#### Grace Whaanga

I congratulate Grace for winning the permanent teaching position in English which was advertised nationally. Grace, though a Year 2 teacher, has demonstrated the skills and attributes of an effective teacher and we are all looking forward to continuing to work with her.

### STAFFING CONFIRMATION

The school was able to confirm through our March 1 Roll Return a total roll of 613. This includes 27 students who attend Trades Academy programmes up to one day a week and 15 students at Alternative Education. The Trades Academy courses are provided by Wintec and Te Wanganga O Aotearoa. As a result the staffing entitlement roll is 33 students above the MOE predicted roll.

### PARENT PORTAL INFORMATION

Please see the enclosed leaflet about the Parent Portal and your personal login details. You can now access your child's live academic results, timetable, reports, attendance and fees. You can also view the school daily notices and the school calendar.

### STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The final results are in from NZQA and I am able to affirm that our NCEA results at Level 1 and Level 2 are our best ever. This is regardless of whether we use the participation numbers or the roll based numbers. The Māori student achievement rates at these levels are well above national norms too.

This is a tremendous achievement and may well be a challenge to sustain. The school is currently reviewing our curriculum delivery.

### EXCELLENCE AWARD RECIPIENTS

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

#### Level 3 Gold

Rebekah , Brooke ,Anvil

#### Level 3 Bronze

Kyle, Jaron, Amy, Alvin, Rexana , Bailey, Cerise Ngarimu, Lyza , Caitlin , Whaitiri

#### Level 2 Gold

Kaitlyn, Holly ,Emily, Breanna , Natasha , Hayley

#### Level 2 Silver

Moesha ,Laura

#### Level 2 Bronze

Assryia , Uel , Jurnee , Jazmin , Katie , Samuel

#### Level 1 Gold

Cheng-Yao, Harmon, Kaity , Maddisyn , Chieh-I , Annika, Eloise

#### Level 1 Silver

Elijah, Nikita , Sita , Mitchell , Nicholas , Natasha ,Keeshon, Kylie ,Kevin

#### Level 1 Bronze

Eric ,Mackenzie , Deano, Reeve ,Eva , Joshua Kritesh, Werner , Sharn , Ethan

**Congratulations on your wonderful academic achievements.**



### MELVILLE HIGH SCHOOL SUPPORT GROUP - PTA

The school PTA has held two meetings to date and adopted the Excellence Dinner as its focus for this term. There is a growing number of parents who are keen to support this group and its role within the school. I thank Janine Jackson, for her key position in supporting and leading this project.

This will be a hands-on opportunity for parents and community members to be involved in supporting the school. The next meeting is on 29<sup>th</sup> April in the school Board Room.



## 2015 EXCELLENCE DINNER

# CELEBRATION of EXCELLENCE

This week, the school acknowledged our academic students through the annual excellence awards dinner. Over 100 students, ex-students, staff and family joined in the night of celebration in the school hall which was decorated appropriately. These awards were instituted by the Board of Trustees in 2008 to recognise the Board's strategic goals of raising student achievement and celebrating excellence.

As you will most probably be aware, our 2014 NCEA results for Level 1 and Level 2 were our best ever. Not surprisingly so were the numbers eligible to attend the excellence awards. This year the dinner celebrated a record number of award recipients (54) which is triple the number of our first dinner in 2008. Indeed the total number of recipients was 25% more than the previous record number from 2011. Well done students, families and teachers.

Melville High School awards badges and bars for students who gain a number of Excellence awards at NCEA at this 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**

The first year that students receive a bar they are also awarded a school badge. Each subsequent year they are able to add a further bar. At the function, some recipients had a total of 3 bars on their badges. Well done.

This year the PTA has chosen to contribute to the management and organisation of this event. The school is indeed very thankful that the PTA is funding the cost of the dinner for award recipients and reducing the cost to all others by volunteering their time and effort. Parents, whanau and staff are invited to join the PTA's next meeting on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> of April.

The standard of the food was excellent with the whole evening being well run. I would like to thank our Chairman, Tracey Cooper, for his excellent speech to the audience. I would like to especially like to acknowledge the support of Leanne Morris from Event Management and the work of Jos Caughley and her team in supporting the PTA's very successful first event.



*Excellence Dinner*





## RAFT RACE



The annual Melville High School raft race was held this week. It was a beautiful day with seven rafts taking part. Minor adjustments were made to accommodate other river users and it was the first time that all the rafts made the two and a half hour journey without disintegrating. The race began at the boat ramp at the Narrows Bridge through to the Gratham Street Boat Ramp car park.

Thanks go to Graeme Kuiti for his organisation and to our parent supporters, teachers and hospitality crew who all ensured it was a safe yet fun morning event. I would like to acknowledge Owen Pratt for providing one of the rescue boats, Graham Young and Frank Everaarts for paddling their kayaks in safety support.



This year's winner was the "Dean Barker" sailed by **Thomas , Xavier , Trey and Alex .**



## SCHOOL UNIFORM



With the cooler weather approaching, please put a plan in place to ensure your child has appropriate winter uniform. Unisex wool jerseys (\$85) and black jackets (\$75) can be purchased from the school uniform shop at intervals Monday, Wednesday and Friday. School polar fleece jerseys can also be worn.

Any other non-uniform hoodie, jersey or jacket will be confiscated and returned to caregivers from Student Services or at the end of the term.

### LIMITING CREDIT

The Melville High School Board of Trustees has been reviewing its financial position and has identified that there is a large amount of debt owing to the school. In part this is because of slow or non-payment of school fees (like course fees, stationery, uniform, sports trips etc.). In these tight financial times the Board attempts to be fiscally prudent and to deliberately ensure that our fees and prices are at the lowest possible. Currently course fees, School Camp fees, uniform and stationery costs are amongst the lowest in Hamilton.

In the light of this, at the Board's last meeting on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> of March, they have decided to limit the amount of credit available to families whose total debt (exclusive of the school donation) is in excess of \$500, and families have chosen not to have a regular payment process (like an automatic payment) to pay off this amount.

It is with regret that the Board of Trustees has made this decision and they have done so after careful consideration, however the Board believes it is only fair to undertake this initiative because of the way that the overwhelming majority of our families are able to manage their debt successfully and make decisions about their children's choices based on their families ability to pay.

A letter will be sent to families that this directly affects. If you have any questions or queries about this letter please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Clive Hamill**  
Principal

## TOUCH TEAM

This years Touch season was an extraordinary experience for our girls. We had many new comers join our group, who fitted in nicely and got on well with our team.

We were lucky enough to have the opportunity to compete at Regionals for the first time. Although we were unable to make it through to Nationals by one point, we were still stoked to have come this far.



**Please note our wonderful brand new Melville High School mini bus in the background.**

Overall we finished with great results. We came second in the Steel Park module and with five girls representing in Waikato.

This team brought so much spirit, happiness and laughter to each training and game with some unforgettable memories.

Lastly a big thank you to coaches Beau and Michelle for giving their time and service to our team. Also to Kelli Kemara and Ray Stevens for their contribution towards our team. We truly appreciate everything you have done for us.

## Shy Year 12

### 2015 TERM DATES

<b>Term 1</b>	<b>28 January—02 April</b>
<b>Term 2</b>	<b>20 April — 03 July</b>
<b>Term 3</b>	<b>20 July—25 September</b>
<b>Term 4</b>	<b>12 October—8 December</b>

### PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2015

<b>Easter</b>	<b>03 April - 06 April</b>
<b>Anzac Holiday</b>	<b>Mon 27 April</b>
<b>Queens Birthday</b>	<b>Mon 1 June</b>
<b>Labour Day</b>	<b>Mon 26 October</b>

## 2015 TERM 2 CALENDAR

### APRIL

#### Week 2

**Mon 27 April**

Thu 30 April

**ANZAC Day Holiday**

Pasifika by Nature Rehearsal

### MAY

Fri 1 May

Sat 2 May

Pasifika by Nature Rehearsal

Pasifika by Nature

#### Week 3

Mon 4 May

Sat, Sun 9 & 10

1st Aid Training Y12 Gateway

Mana Ariki Culture at Okahukura School Complex, Taumaranui

#### Week 4

Fri 15 May

Week 5

11.30am Visiting Echolalia

**Fri 22 May**

**Week 6**

Wed 27 May

Thu 28 May

**Teacher Only Day**

Board Meeting 6.00pm

Yr13 Drama Performance 7.00pm

### JUNE

#### Week 7

**Mon 1 June**

Thu 4 June

Week 9

Thur 18

**Queen's Birthday**

Yr13 Drama Performance 7.00pm

Yr11 Drama Performance 7.00pm

Mon 15—Fri 19

Yr12 Tongariro Adventure—Yr12 Adv PE

#### Week 10

Mon 22 June

Fri 26 June

Reports & Newsletter posted

Y13 Adv PE—Tough Guy & Gal

#### Week 11

Tue 30—Wed 1

L3 Cookery assessment —  
Waiariki Inst, Rotorua

### JULY

Wed 1 July

Parent Report Evening 3.30-6.00

**Term 2 Ends 03 July 2015**



## TECHNICAL SUPPORT VACANCY

We have an opportunity to employ a person with experience working with and repairing equipment in our Hard Materials Technology area. The position involves ensuring resources are ready for classes, tools are sharpened, equipment is repaired and resources are ordered.

The position is for 5 hours a week and would suit a person who has had experience in the building, joiner industry or engineering.

If you are interested or know someone who would be interested please contact Mr Pachappa Goundar, Head of Hard Material Technology.

## 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.

Year 9	Elsie Leslie	Extn 962
Year 10	Arnie Paurini	Extn 960
Year 11	Phillip Smiler	Extn 964
Year 12	Teresa Bayly	Extn 961
Year 13	Lester Silver	Extn 959

## 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, Friday 11.00am—11.30am

Wednesday 10.45am—11.05am

## GUIDANCE COUNSELLORS

Students and families are invited to make appointments with our Counsellors, Lesley Beech and Michelle Holloway-Smith during Tutor time each day or by phone (843 4529 ext 939/940)

## 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 Maria Pearce for advice on gateway placements (843 4529 ext 925 or 027 4521026).



## SLANZA WORKSHOP AT SCHOOL LIBRARY

The Glenice Gallagher Library hosted a workshop on Modern Library Learning Environments in Term One.



The workshop was initiated by the (SLANZA) School Librarian Association Aotearoa.

We had 52 teachers and librarians participate in the workshop from all over the North Island.

We had three key note speakers Paula Eskett, who is a Knowledge Curator and works for Core Education. Paula formerly worked for National Library Services to Schools as a School Library Development Specialist; Anital Vandenberghe, who is the Library Manager at St Kentigern College and Jennie Skinner who is a National Library Services to School Programme Adviser in Northland. Jeannie talked about re-thinking collections in Modern Learning Environments.



They all spoke on various aspects of the "Modern Library" from the physical space to how our students' needs are changing, re-thinking our collections and how libraries are changing and how to adapt to those changes.

Libraries are more than just about the books and reading. They are about multiple uses, multiple ways of doing things, being flexible and adaptable and most of all somewhere our kids want to be.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed our speakers and many questions were asked.

Our library is often used for workshops and courses due to the environment and the technology we have available. We were complimented on the how well the workshop was run.





## DRAMA PERFORMANCES

Melville High School prides itself on the talent and ability of our students in Drama. We have Drama at all levels and when the students are seniors they do their assessments as evening performances with an invited audience.

The rationale behind this is that the students feel the experience of performing for an audience rather than for a grade and this just about always results in a very high quality of performance. It has been very heartening to see the high level of audience attendance at these performances.



**Isaac and Reeve**



**Garry in BARE**

We kicked off our evening assessments with our Year 13 drama class performing an excellent version of Bare by Toa Fraser, and our year 12 Drama class performing a series of one act plays



**Natasha and Maddisyn**



**Jazmin in BARE**

I am so proud of the progress of these students, some of whom have been doing Drama since Year 9. I would encourage anyone to come to the next lot of drama assessments in Term Two. Check the school website for details.



**Year 12 Drama one act play**



## GREAT BARRIER ISLAND TRIP

In Week 6 of this term, a group of Year 11 students from the Institute of Sports class were given the opportunity to go to Great Barrier Island. It was a week long experience that none of us will forget. We participated in various activities such as surf kayaking, sea kayaking, coasteering, rock climbing, abseiling, snorkeling and camping. While there, we appreciated the beautiful scenery and wonders of this small, untouched part of nature. Fishing, diving for kina and swimming with stingrays were highlights for the group on our Thursday overnight expedition.

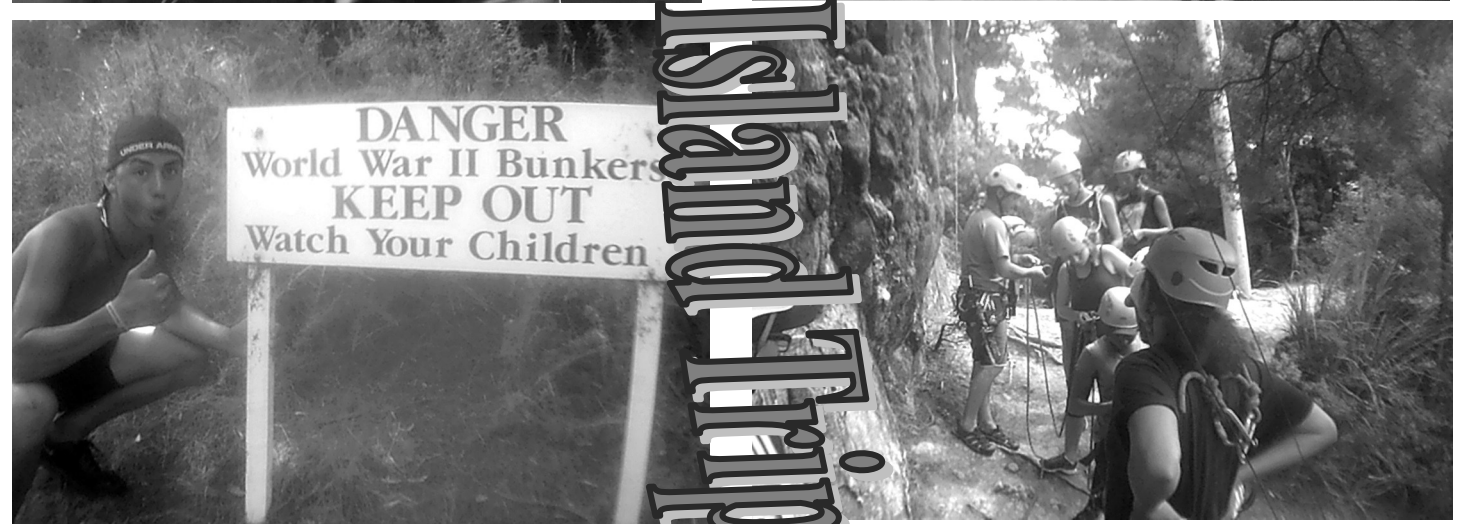
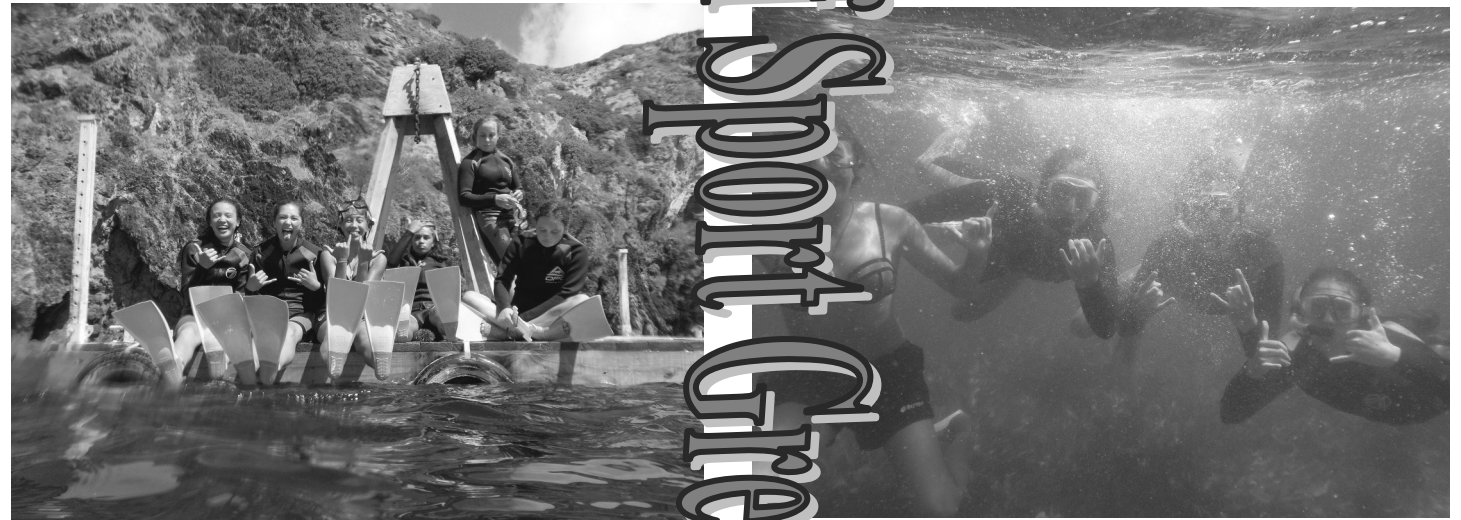
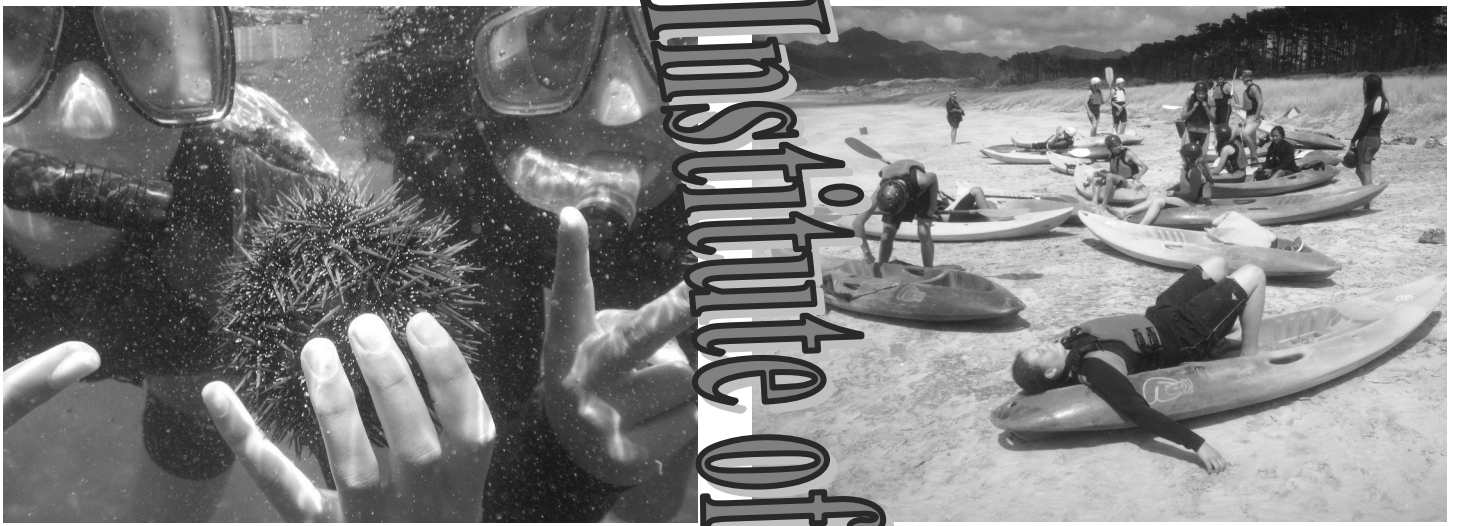
Some activities were difficult and pushed us out of our comfort zones but, through the encouragement of each other, we managed to pull through and overcome our fears. In a cheesy way, we all bonded and became more close to each other as school peers and friends. Of course we all passed our assessments that were part of this experience, and yes we were required to complete written work during the week!

We'd like to thank those who supported our trip and for all the time, support and effort that Mr Edwards gave us. Without all their help, the trip would not have been the same. We would recommend this trip to anyone because it really is a golden moment of your high school lives. Great Barrier is a memory that is 'unforgettable in every single way'.

**Alyssa** Year 11 student







# Institute of Sport Great Barrier Island Trip



## YEAR 9 CAMP

Although the weather was cold and wet, 65 enthusiastic students and 6 staff gathered on Monday 16 March for the Year 9 camp. Upon arriving at the Karapiro Domain, the weather improved and stayed fine for the remainder of the week.

It was great to see that 120 students attended this camp which was the best turnout we have had in the four years that the camp has been operating.

The Year 13 peer support leaders did a fantastic job with leading their enjoyable activities which taught the Year 9 students about trust and team work. The three stafflead activities gave the students an opportunity to build a raft, experience mountain biking and visiting the Maungatautari ecological reserve.



Sleeping in a small tent with other students was an interesting experience for everybody and this experience will be repeated in the Year 10 camp. Plenty of good food for the five days was provided by our cook, Sonia Whanga-Katipa who coped magnificently with the long hours, large crowds of students and big quantities of food.

Great support was provided by an excellent team of staff. The Perry Outdoor Education Trust (POET) provided financial support, guidance with the programme and an "on the ground" support person for the entire five days of the camp.

The Year 9 camp was again a huge success and a big thanks goes out to the parents and families who supported the students with packing, transport and especially enthusiasm to try something new and challenging.



## KNIFE SKILLS



The Level 2 Food Studies students are currently studying a unit on Knife Skills. Once again they have been fortunate enough have experts from industry to come in and share their knowledge and skills with the class. Kevin from the Glenview New World Butchery came in and presented a deboning session using whole chickens and chicken thighs. The students were able to see the potential uses for all the different parts of the chicken. They produced their own crumbed chicken kiev with baton potatoes from the boning out of the chicken thigh. An essential part of preparing any food item is the use of a knife.



Luigi Del Grosso "the Knifeman" presented a lesson on knife sharpening and honing knives using a grinder, stone and steel. Luigi has a wide range of knives to demonstrate with from his business sharpening knives for local butchers, cafes and restaurants. A big thank you to both Kevin and Luigi for coming into school and sharing this knowledge with the students.



## WWI HISTORICAL REENACTMENT SOCIETY



On the 30<sup>th</sup> March a group of five men came to Melville High to do a reenactment of World War I and Gallipoli to all of the Year 9 students. They showed us the uniform worn in WWI and WW2, they also showed us the kit and weapons used.

Putties were worn around the ankle, up to just under the knee. They were used to keep dirt and water out of the shoes. Also it helped to prevent the pants getting caught on barbed wire while they were running through the trenches.



Webs were worn around the back and held a baton, water, ammunition and a musket. They passed around (unarmed guns), grenades, jam bombs, jackets and webs. All of the items were relatively heavy.

They taught us how to march, stand at ease, do turns and halt. They talked to us about Gallipoli and how things changed between WWI and WW2.

The overall experience was interesting, fun and amusing while learning a lot at the same time. I hope everyone enjoyed it as much as I did.

**Shana 9GOP**



## YEAR 12 TONGARIRIO TRIP

On March 25-27 the Level 2 Geography class went on their annual trip to Tongariro National Park. Eighteen students and two teachers spent three days in an Alpine environment studying Natural Processes, Glaciation, Fluvial Erosion and Plant Succession.

The group stayed at the wonderful Pipers Lodge again and many thanks and appreciation is extended to Bruce and Dianne who own and run the Lodge. They also fed us breakfast, lunch and dinner for the duration of the trip.

The first day saw the students tramping around the Taranaki Falls at the foot of Mt Ruapehu. Also the students travelled to the top of the Bruce Road which is 2000 meters above sea level.



The second day was a huge day for the group. We tramped into the Mangatepopo Valley and up the Devils Staircase to Red Crater. This was a very challenging day and the weather was cold and windy with limited visibility. From the top of the Red Crater the view is amazing however the cloud cover limited this view drastically. Once back down the mountain the students and teachers got a well deserved thermal pool relaxation activity at Tokaanu Thermal Pools.

The third and final day was an amazing day weather wise. Stunning blue skies and no wind. On this day the group walked up the Whakapapiti Valley to the Silica Rapids. By the end of this day everyone was exhausted and getting home was somewhat of a relief.

I want to thank the students for the quality behavior, even when tired they were positive and supportive of each other. Special mention goes out to Mr. Ledson who was outstanding on this trip and totally in his element. Many thanks and appreciation are extended to DOC Ranger and Alpine expert Mr. Bubs Smith as well as the wonderful staff at Pipers Lodge.







## WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING IN OUR NECK OF THE WOODS?

<b>Gateway Placements</b>	<b>Mrs Pearce</b>
<b>Gateway Classes</b>	<b>Mrs Bayly</b>
<b>Service Academy</b>	<b>Staff Jones</b>
<b>Careers, STAR, Trades</b>	<b>Mrs Searancke</b>
<b>Contact: Futures@MHS</b>	<b>Phone 078434529</b>

**Gateway placements:** There are 48 year 12 and 13 students out on their work placements already.

One day a week for 10 weeks, they will attend work in an area they are interested in.

Thanks to:

In Sign Out, Hair by Teresa, Café Fresca, Kingsgate Hotel, Marshall Transmissions, Mike Bryant Builders, St Columbus kids club, YMCA, Kids to 5, Body Rehab, NZME (radio), Waterworld, Gumboot Girl, PB Auto Electrical, Cranleigh Holdings (farming), Glenview Kindy, Brightstars, Playworx, Mini Miracles, The Warehouse, Hillcrest Autos, 4WD Fibreglass, Jack and Jill Educare and Jump.

All these students are in Gateway classes which are taught by Teresa Bayly. The students are already logging credits for the work they are completing. We really enjoy having these classes in our J6 classroom so that we see all the students nearly every day.

**Trades Academy:** 29 students are enrolled on one of the Trades Academies in 2015.

The academies are:

- Automotive (WinTec)
- Services Industries (WinTec)
- Construction and Infrastructure (WinTec)
- Manufacturing and Technology (WinTec)
- Whakairo (TeWananga o Aotearoa)
- Fitness (TeWananga o Aotearoa)
- Agriculture (Taratahi)

The students attend their academy one day a week. It is a challenge for the students to keep up with the work they miss when they are away so please contact Mrs Searancke if you think your student needs some help with this.

**STAR:** Students who would like to spend a day finding out about a career they are interested in are able to complete a STAR enrolment form. These are available from the Futures office.

**Service Academy:** The 74 Service Academy students from Years 10, 11 and 12 have settled well into this programme. They all participate in physical instruction and drill each week. The Year 11 and 12 students have camps to look forward to during this year and all students will be issued with Service Academy uniforms. Thanks to the High Wire Trust for this support for Melville students.



## FUTURES@MELVILLE

What steps are you taking to create your future? If you have any questions about your future come to J6 and see Mrs Searancke, Director of Careers.

## CAREERS

Careers classes are held every Wednesday Period 3 for Years 11, 12, and 13.

## GATEWAY

Students studying Gateway as a subject are required to do a work placement gaining experience in a career area of their interest. See Maria Pearce in J6 for all your Gateway enquiries. If any employer wishes to host a student in their work place, please contact Maria on 027 452 1026.

## STAR

Secondary Tertiary Alignment Resource – is available to enable students to experience a range of careers through programmes at WINTEC and other providers. Students can apply to enroll on the courses by coming into the Futures office at J6.





### SOFTBALL

The Melville High School Softball team finished 5<sup>th</sup> overall with a convincing 20 runs to 5 over St Pauls and this Saturday we are hoping to have a students versus the parents game. We have had a good season.

### RUGBY

On Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup> our First XV played Fraser High School in a pre-season game and won 29-24. A good hit out for both teams as they prepare for the season.

### WAKA AMA

Congratulations to our waka ama teams that participated at the Nationals in Rotorua last week. They performed very well and thank you to our Coaches the Morgan Family for their time and effort.

A great experience for all which the students thoroughly enjoyed and will be better for next year. Our U19 mixed team came 4<sup>th</sup> in the bowl final

*Below is an article which appeared in the Hamilton News Friday March 27*



### MELVILLE PADDLES INTO DEEP END

First time paddling crews are representing Melville High School at the National Secondary Schools Waka Ama champs at Rotorua's Blue Lakes this Week.

The crews, with only two members with previous club experience, make up a J16 Girls W6 team, and a mixed J19 W12 team competing in 250m and 500m sprints.

Coach Steve Morgan, who is in his second season of coaching Melville High School, said the championships are all about the experience for the students. "It's not about numbers It's about the kids going out there and giving it a go, and representing their school." With the help of his family, wife Faye Morgan and their children, Steve has helped prepare the students through their knowledge and experience in the sport.

Steve has more than 15 years experience as a waka ama paddler, and has tried to pass on that wisdom to the students, though it has been complex at times. "How I see it is that it's pretty hard for mainstream schools such as Melville competing against kura kaupapa schools that have waka ama in their criteria. Most of the kids from kura kaupapas are club paddlers, so it makes it easier for the coaches because they have paddled before. But for newbies like Melville, it's quite hard to get them up to scratch in a month's time."

The school was training once a day up to five times a week, sometimes until 8pm.

Steve said it had been a great advantage living in Hamilton, reaping the benefits of the Waikato River and its strong current. His goal is to encourage all students once the secondary school season has finished to find a waka ama club and train with them. "I hope it doesn't end here. I want them to get a taste of it and keep fit over winter and join a club."

Almost 1500 students from 97 schools are competing at the event this week.

In its 14th year, the championships are increasingly growing in student numbers, in what is now one of the largest secondary school sports events





