

# HALSWELL RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE

Newsletter- December 2018



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the last newsletter of 2018.

Most of you will be aware I was granted a sabbatical for Term 3. My sabbatical was made up of two parts; firstly a short course at Harvard University. The course 'Leadership: An Evolving Vision' was for principals who have been in the role for over six years. I met a number of principals from other countries who were fascinated to learn about our residential setting. As well as learning from each other, a number of published academics presented lectures. We were pushed to the limits as we challenged ourselves both intellectually, and on the second day physically and mentally too on a high ropes course.

One interesting thing we learnt is that leaders who have experienced difficult challenges in their own life make the best leaders. I guess that is a good reminder about the benefits bad life events can gift if we learn and grow from them.

I also spent time adapting a self-control programme developed by a doctor of psychology at the University of Otago, for our students. The programme ENGAGE uses play (through table-top games, outdoor games, puzzles etc) to teach the skills of self-control and we will pilot the adapted programme in 2019. The programme is typically implemented by a parent/caregiver so if you are interested in learning more, my paper has been published on the

Ministry of Education website or you can contact me directly.

ERO recently visited HRC. While their final report is not yet published I am pleased to say we received overwhelmingly positive feedback. The reviewers noted that staff and students are proud to be part of HRC and that HRC is driven for a quest for improvement and excellence. They said they had observed effective teaching in both the day school and the residential settings that reflected the high expectations leadership has of staff and students.

I wish you all a magical Christmas.

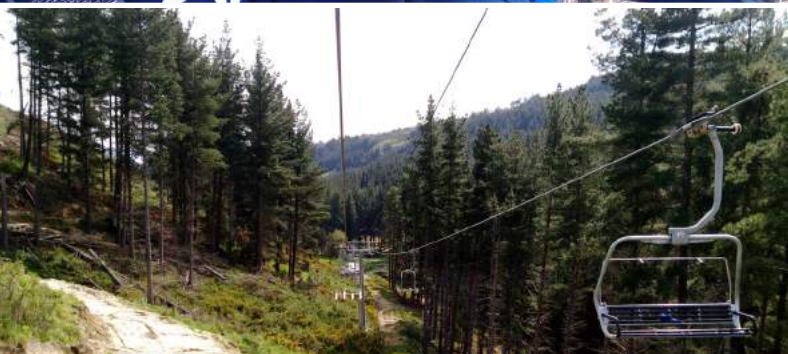
**Janine Harrington**  
Principal



REMEMBER, It is not what is  
under the tree that matters,  
it's who's gathered around it.







# CHRISTCHURCH ADVENTURE PARK







# WHARE OWAKA

DONNA BLAZEY, YOUTH WORKER

This term the girls have been very busy with badminton, swimming in the school pool, picnics, a visit to Orana Wildlife Park, bowling, karts, a Halloween party, Laser Strike, youth group, Ruapuna Speedway, a trip to the Hanmer hot pools and more.

Sapphire and Nikita have both been playing netball in the staff social netball team. Dominique had a birthday and has been doing loads of baking. Nikita has been doing work experience at a local café and she is really enjoying it.

This term we also said farewell to a student from Whare Owaka, and we wish Nancy all the best for the future.

The girls are all looking forward to the fun that the final weeks of the term will bring, and the Christmas holidays.

From everyone in Whare Owaka, we wish you all a fun, sun-filled Christmas break.







# WHARE MAKONUI

KEN JOBLIN, HOUSE MANAGER & STEVE PHILLPOTTS, YOUTH WORKER



With the arrival of Dylan from Christchurch, Whare Makonui is now at capacity. Makonui has engaged in numerous activities of note this term. The highlights being a visit to the Christchurch Adventure Park to be carried up the hills in their amazing lift and enjoy the spectacular views, a trip to the Groynes junior fishing area where one of our students caught his first ever fish; a decent sized rainbow trout.

Also appreciated were the trips to Velocity Karts, Ruapuna Drag Racing, the movies, and of course Margaret Mahy family playground where there is a variety of activities of different levels of difficulty. Around HRC the gym and badminton have been particularly popular, as have the bikes and scooters,

and 'bat down'; an adapted form of cricket which has become the latest flavour of the month. Of course some still prefer the indoors with some students taking time in their own private space, listening to music, or talking with friends, and accessing the mix of electronic games, TV, Xbox, Wii, Lego construction sets and various board games.

The term seems to have flown by and the students are increasingly focused on their impending return home. For some, particularly those for whom this is their last term, there are mixed emotions as they prepare to move on, leaving behind some of the friends they have made here and the sense of security and acceptance they have experienced.

Overall though there is an atmosphere of excitement as everyone looks forward to a well-earned break and renewal of important relationships around family and loved ones. We have the privilege of seeing our students perform at the very best of their abilities, particularly after they have been with us for some time, so we are always a little sad to say farewell, but also we can believe in them to go on with their best foot forward. To those leaving, we really wish you all the best for opportunities and preparedness to take them up!

Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good break!





# WHARE TAUAWA

TIM CHRISTENSEN, KAIWHAKAHAERE



E nga iwi,  
E nga Mana,  
E nga reo.

Tuku atu nei nga Aroha ki a koutou. Merikirihimete ki a koutou me o koutou whanau. Kia tau te Rangi marie.

Another year has come to an end; we look forward to a Christmas break and so do our tamariki. Winter activities are now over. The school pool is open and

well used.

Braiden, Mitchell and Kristan attended an eeling trip this term. They enjoyed their time catching eels which they returned with, cleaned and cooked the next day to share amongst the others.

We welcomed Jordan to the whanau from Tamakimakaurau. Our students are looking forward to returning home for the holidays and sharing time with their whanau.







# Get2Go CHALLENGE

GREG YOUNG - ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL, DAY SCHOOL

This year the Get2Go Challenge was held at the Groyne. Seven of our most intrepid students decided to take on the challenge of orienteering, canoeing, mountain biking and a little bit of problem solving.

HRC arrived at the Groyne at 9am for the briefing with 24 other teams from throughout Canterbury.

Our first event was the canoeing. We had to have three students in a canoe and paddle out and around some

buoys, then back to shore. Then three more HRC students had to jump in the canoe and paddle, paddle, paddle. Then three more, then three more, and so on. This event lasted for one hour... phew!

Then the HRC team went to mountain biking where we had to race around a track, then tag another team member who raced. Every student had to race one lap and some more than once.

After this we went to problem solving.

This was a group activity where we had to use teamwork to get across a pretend ocean without falling into it. We were only able to stand on mats. The HRC team showed great teamper-sonship.

The last event was the orienteering where you had to run, run and run and find markers. This was extremely tiring.

Overall, the HRC team had a fantastic day. Well done Sapphire, Kristan, Maurice, Jacob, Nikita, Bodhi, and Braiden.







# SPECIAL OLYMPICS ATHLETICS



A huge thanks to all the HRC staff who made the 2018 Special Olympics Athletics one of the most successful athletics days we have had. Great weather, great facilities, great students and great results to be proud of.

Student	100m	200m	Shot-put	Long Jump	Relay
Jacob	1st	1st		1st	2nd
Zane	5th	2nd		2nd	4th
Jordan	1st	1st		1st	4th
Jordie	7th	4th	2nd		
Mitchell	1st	1st		1st	2nd
Braiden	3rd	2nd	1st		
Dylan	2nd	3rd		4th	4th
Maurice	4th		3rd	4th	
Bodhi	4th		4th	3rd	4th
Jack		6th		2nd	
Sapphire	1st	1st	3rd		2nd
Nikita	2nd	2nd	1st		2nd
Codie		5th	5th		
Jochem	4th	7th	6th		
Dominique	7th	3rd		2nd	





# ROOM 7

NICOLE TODD, TEACHER



We have had a really busy term in class. Our topic has been life cycles so we have hatched chicks and watched tadpoles beginning to grow their legs. Unfortunately, the Monarch butterflies have not found our swan plants yet.

We have had a focus in class on Emotional Intelligence and working on Zones of Regulation. We have had great outings to the New Zealand Agricultural Show, bowling, Imagination Station, Margaret Mahy playground, as well as the museum. We like to be busy in Room 7!

## JACK

"I have enjoyed working in the garden and I liked hatching the chicks in class."

## JORDAN

"I loved this term because we got to do lots of outings and hatch chickens. My first term was really good and I love everything we do. I like doing Karakia in the morning in class as it's calming. I even sometimes like PLP."

## BODHI

"I have liked learning maths, we have been doing time. I like doing fitness as it's good to exercise. I liked it when we hatched the chickens, it was pretty fun."

## ZANE

"I liked hatching the chickens. I like going out places especially Imagination Station."

## JOCHEM

"I like outings, hatching the baby chicks and PLP."







## ROOM 2

JOHN LAWSON, TEACHER & LEE TACON, TEACHER ASSISTANT

Rooms 1 and 2 split this term as the needs of the students were getting more diverse and this was better managed as two classes.

Room 2 gained Nancy and Dylan and lost Maurice and Jacob. As a result, we have focused more on core academic areas; maths, reading and writing.

Room 1 has focused on work and living skills. We still do a number of activities together as best fits each student's needs, for example our maths groups and our mountain biking trips.

The two classes participated in the Get2Go Challenge near the end of last term involving team activities like orienteering, mountain biking and

canoeing. We were competing against other schools and this was a lot of fun for all involved and it was great to see the students mixing in with their peers and being leaders.

We have been exploring waste management and this term have built compost bins (almost finished). We plan to collect organic waste from the classes and the kitchen and make our own compost for the Horticulture Unit. In the Horticulture Unit we have planted a variety of vegetables and grown some from seed; learning about their growth and care. Some are now producing a crop.

Our current project is the secret Santa's grotto we are building and hope this will be revealed very shortly for all the school to see. Keep an eye on facebook for the pictures as I am not letting the cat out of the bag as to what's in there just yet.

That's us then for 2018. Only a short time to go and then Christmas is upon us. All the best for the long break, and for those finishing, farewell and good luck for the future.

## ROOM 1

JESSICA GRENFELL, TEACHER



Term 4 has flown by! The students worked one-on-one with an intern from the NZ Graduate School of Education as part of their teacher training.

The students have also been attending barista training on a weekly basis. Ask them to make you a hot beverage in the holidays and see if it is to your liking.

We have several students on different work experience placements. Jacob and Nikita are currently working at a café called Crafted Coffee Company. Maurice is working at a doggy day care where he is learning to care for animals.

The students have also been running the school café. Each week a student is assigned a role which is one of the following: barista, chef or waitress/waiter. They design and write a menu and prepare the food in advance for the other students.

We have continued with road code studies. The students are really enjoying this and enjoying testing their road code knowledge!

We have also completed some exciting extra curricular activities including the New Zealand Agricultural Show, mountain biking adventures, and have Beach Education Day still to come.







# KAWATEA

SARAH HALL, TEACHER



There have been three students in Kawatea this term: Dominique, Jordie and Codie, along with Matua Denis and me. It has proven to be a very busy term with a lot of opportunities for our students to participate in some activities that may be new to them.

As well as our usual learning programme based in the classroom, we have had some outdoors based programmes and taken opportunities to get out and about as much as we can.

Early in the term all Kawatea students participated in the athletics sports day. We were lucky to have the brand-new Nga Puna Wai sports facilities next door to school open in time for us to take advantage of the grounds. Denis and I were so impressed to see all Kawatea students participate in the day. They entered several events each and enjoyed what the experience had to offer.

In mid-November we had the New Zealand Agricultural Show nearby to celebrate Canterbury Anniversary Day. We all walked to the showgrounds and had a look

at the animals, wood chopping, carnival rides, stalls and food hall. It was a beautiful warm day and all the students enjoyed spending their money and having a relaxing day out.

Denis and I have been trying to get the class outdoors when possible, so we recently buddied up with Room 1 and spent the day at Spencer Park. We started our day going on a mountain bike ride, then sparked up the BBQ for a relaxing lunch in the sun and ended the day building sandcastles on the beach.

Of course there has been the usual classroom and school-based activities to ensure we're keeping on top of our learning goals, but the value we get from getting out and about and participating in non-academic activities is priceless. We're lucky to be able to offer our students these extra opportunities and it's always fantastic to see them take full advantage of what is offered. We're looking forward to ending the term with Beach Education Day and an end of term class outing.



# MERRY CHRISTMAS

FROM THE WHANAU AT HALSWELL RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE