

NGĀ PĀNUI | THE NEWS

Quarterly Newsletter by Halswell Residential College

Term 2, 2020

A word from our Tumuaki/Principal

It was wonderful to have the students return after lockdown. It is a privilege to be part of a school whānau where the students and kaiako (staff) missed each other and got such enjoyment from regrouping. Building relationships is one of the most valuable and important things our kaiako invest their energy into to assist our students.

In Term 2, we received our written Standards and Monitoring Services (SAMS) report from their

in-depth review of the College undertaken in February. SAMS differs from ERO in that they spend more time focused on the well-being of the students across the whole school, as opposed to a focus on teaching and learning.

The review was requested by the College as we are always keen to look for ways to improve our service for our students and their whānau. The review provides a catalyst for ongoing learning and continuous improvement. I am proud of the reflective culture at HRC, and part of being reflective means being open to feedback.

The report is extremely positive. While I do encourage you to read it (you'll find it on our website), in summary SAMS found that 'HRC continues to provide a safe and nurturing environment for young people with highly complex support needs.' They noted that the 'residential service provides a consistent,

professional and stable support team', and that we rely on internal and external partnerships 'to provide safety and consistency for the young people at the college.'

SAMS also noted that 'the school is in the process of developing innovative initiatives based on sound research to enhance the outcomes for students within the College.' I will write a little more about these initiatives in the Term 3 newsletter.

I want to extend my thanks to the students, kaiako, and stakeholders (IWS staff, Board chair, whānau, student advocate, nurse, psychologist, clinical supervisor, etc.) who took time to talk to SAMS and offer their perspective and feedback.

Janine Harrington.



Our 2020 focus

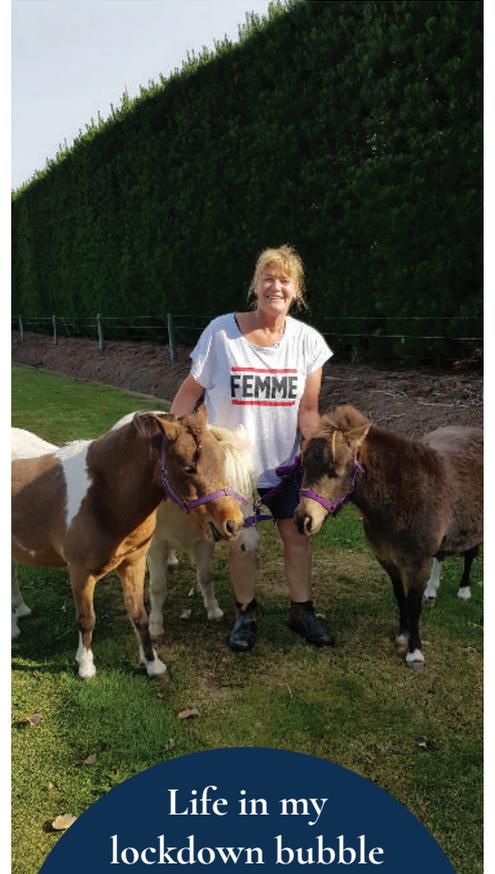
WHANAUNGATANGA BUILD RELATIONSHIPS

Te Whare a Owaka

From the team of Te Whare a Owaka, we welcome you to Term 3.
Here's a recap of what we got up to during Term 2.

This term I have enjoyed coming back to my routines in Owaka. We had a stall and I made bookmarks, beeswax covers, trinket boxes and other small items to sell. The stall felt just like a market. I made lots of money.

Ruby Verran



This term I have enjoyed when staff bring their animals in to see us. Lily, Simon's cat, quite often pays us a visit in the house, and I give her cat food. I enjoyed going to Hanmer Springs and going on the hydroslides with Kirstie. I had lots of fun with the staff and other students.

Laura Latu



Life in my lockdown bubble

"Fortunately I live on 10 acres, so my bubble was filled with all sorts of animals.

These fur babies are my favourites, motivating me to get out and attempt some exercise. I definitely need to go a few more laps to rid the layers of lockdown home baking."

Vicki Taylor

This term I enjoyed the stall. When I was in lockdown at home, I made lots of origami hearts to sell. These were a hit with the staff and students.

I also enjoyed doing a tie-dyed t-shirt with the other students. These turned out amazing.

Catelyn Berry



Te Whare a Makonui



On behalf of everyone in Makonui, we hope you all had a great holiday break.

While the time spent on-site during Term 2 was relatively short, we certainly managed to keep ourselves busy, even with the social distancing rules that were in place.

We welcomed in Oliver, who made friends straight away and has been working hard on his goals already. Todd, Cameron and Taylor have also continued to work on their goals and have shown maturity with their approach to being resilient and being understanding of each other. Great work guys!

During Level 2 of COVID-19 restrictions, the students were kept busy doing some awesome and challenging walks. Mt Vernon, where the path went through some farmland, was one of the favourites. It was a steep walk. Some took a well-deserved break at the top to re-energise.

A trip to Hanmer Springs was thoroughly enjoyed. The hydroslides were a hit, as were the 'smelly' pools, as the students fondly named them.

The students were also lucky enough to secure a booking at the brand new He Puna Taimoana, the hot saltwater pools in New Brighton. There are views of the

Pacific Ocean and a 0°C plunge pool which some of the students braved.

Adrenaline Forest proved again to be a real treat for all. It was a humbling experience for staff to witness the courage and determination of every student who participated. It was empowering for the students who climbed and zip-lined their way across the sky from tree to tree, whilst having complete respect for the safety measures in place.

It is safe to say, that one of the main highlights of Term 2 was getting the Disney+ channel and a new X-Box. It has provided more options for late night TV, and a lot of happiness.

Last term was an excellent term for all students who continued to show resilience with their coping skills, forming and maintaining friendships, and showing kindness to each other.



Te Whare a Tauawa

Kia ora koutou e nga iwi katoa.

Noho mahanga mai i roto i ra makariri.

Mihi au ki a koutou.

Another term has recently ended where we mihi to Jullian Stevens, who has moved on to his new kura and new life. We will miss you Jullian, but know that we are all happy for what you have achieved while at HRC - your kete is full.

An outing at Adrenaline Forest with the tamariki from all three whare was a highlight of the term for Tauawa. The students all displayed awesome behaviour and there were lots of smiles and laughter throughout.

Everyone started on the Level 1 course. After completing that, Cameron and Patrick went up Level 2. Todd, Taylor and Jon B continued on to Level 3. Jacob, Arama, Jullian and Laura all braved the Level 5b course with Jon B and James, which is set 25 metres off the ground.

It was great to see the students all push their limits, give each other encouragement, and stay positive while participating.

A big thank you to Patrick and Jon B for organising the trip which had a positive impact on our students' learning and development while creating healthy memories.

By the end of Term 2, all our tamariki were looking forward to the holidays and spending time with their whānau.



I liked my time at HRC because there were a lot of the activities like biking, riding trikes, the tramp, and Hanmer Springs Hot Pools (we should go there more often). I also liked device time.

My best activity was skiing last year. I also enjoyed all the climbing with some of my friends at Adrenaline Forest.

I will miss the food that Tracey cooked. Thanks Tracey, it was yummy.

I will miss the school staff, whare staff, and my friends Arama, Jacob and Phynn.

Jullian Stevens

Special Olympics Futsal Tournament

During Term 2, Halswell FC competed in the Special Olympics Futsal Tournament at Pioneer Stadium.

Halswell FC played two matches, and won both. The first was against Allenvale. This was a tight contest with Halswell FC going up, 1-0, and then Allenvale levelled to make it 1-1 at half time. After a quick team talk,

Halswell FC went back into the game with a steely resolve to get to the ball first.

This new-found determination led Halswell FC to score two more goals to lead, 3-1.

Allenvale were able to get one goal back, but Halswell FC held on to the final whistle to come away with a win, 3-2.

Our second game was against Waitaha. With our new confidence, and love for passing, Halswell FC won, 7-1.

Thanks to all who came to support.

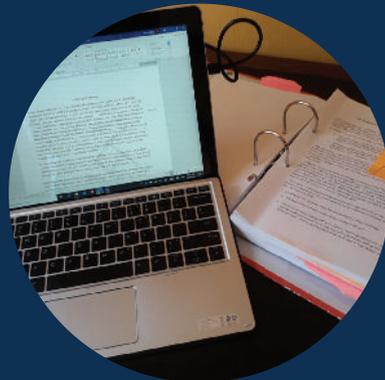


Life in my lockdown bubble

“While lockdown felt long at the time, it wasn’t long enough to finish editing, ‘The History of HRC’!

Two of my favourite autumn gifts from nature are quince and acorns. I had fun turning quince into jelly, chutney, paste, and leather, as well as bottled and frozen preserves for winter desserts. My experiment with acorn coffee was an abysmal fail. But acorn flour enhanced both short-bread, and seed crackers.”

Anne Askey



Life in the HRC lockdown bubble

“After losing our home to a house fire on Boxing Day we were dreading lockdown in our small sleep-out - a one room tiny house - with two adults, four kids, a dog, and a cat, however we were lucky enough to move into whare Huritini at HRC.

Of course, I couldn’t sit still during the lockdown so I ended up painting the senior’s office, kitchen block, and made a start on the administration building. We also cleared a whopping 19 large trailer loads of leaves with help from the Gannaway family, the other family living at HRC who were part of our bubble.

It was not all work though, our two families had lots of fun. We spent plenty of time on the bikes and drift trikes, in the Cloud 9 cafe, the gym and art room, and we even had fish and chips for tea one night.

We celebrated two of the Gannaway’s birthdays, Mother’s Day, and had an easter egg hunt at Easter.”

Jessie Jones



Raumata

Teacher: Jess Grenfell
Teacher Assistant: Jane Robb

What a strange term Term 2 was. I'm glad everyone managed to stay safe during the COVID-19 lockdown. It was fantastic to finally get the students back to school. We missed their sense of humour and spirit.

Throughout lockdown the students kept busy with their Mathematics learning, earning lots of awards. Jacob completed seven bronze certificates, and one silver certificate. Arama and Todd both won two bronze certificates. I am extremely proud of their efforts.

Both Jacob and Todd attended barista training on a weekly basis during Term 2. Ask them to make you a hot beverage and see if it is to your liking.

The students also ran the school café. Each week a student was assigned a role from one of the following: barista, chef, or waitress/waiter. They designed and wrote a menu, and prepared the food in advance for the other students and staff.

Term 2 saw some of our class complete a novel study on the book, 'Holes' by Louis Sachar. The students engaged well in this activity, particularly enjoying the practical element where they had to have a go at digging a 5'5" hole.



Te Puna Wai

Teacher: Nicole Todd
Teacher Assistant: Lee Tacon



Well, the first two terms were very strange in Te Puna Wai. By the end of Term 2, we were settling into a new 'normal' after lockdown. We missed being able to go on our usual outings like bowling, Margaret Mahy Playground, etc. Instead we found enjoyment exploring the outdoors with walks and biking.

Another aspect that was different during Term 2 was doing our technology at school and mixing up our groups for a Tech/Art interchange.

It was great being able to cook at school and we made some wonderful food. On Tuesdays, the whole school came together for a whenua (land) project, which included some really great outings into nature. One group went to the estuary at Sumner, walked around Riccarton Bush, and over the Port Hills to look at the extinct volcano crater.

Te Puna Wai looks forward to the changes Term 3 will bring and we wish Jullian all the best in his future adventures.



Phynn liked the Zoom catch-ups during lockdown. He was happy to be back at school to see his friends.

Jullian said he enjoyed lockdown but it was good to be back as the food in cafe has been good.

Laura liked being able to sleep in during lockdown and doing her work later in the day. She was happy to be back to see her friends and the teachers.

Kawatea

Teacher: Sarah Hall

Teacher Assistant: Josh Geddes

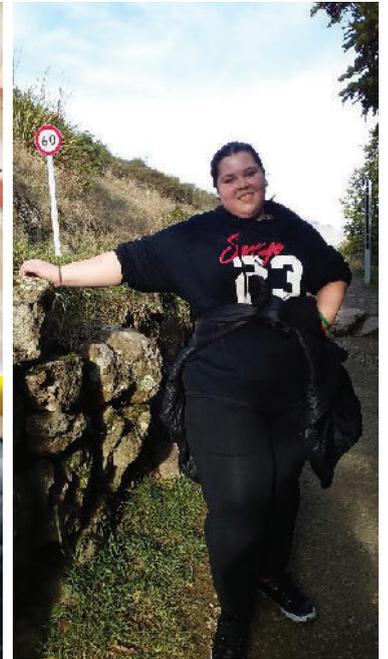
What a term! We started Term 2 in lockdown. School work was done online and in booklets sent home by courier (thanks to Simon for printing and sending these). The term ended with all students back in class and feeling like life was mostly back to normal.

While it felt like a weird term with some of it being in lockdown, we produced some amazing work and went on some great outings. We started Term 2 back at HRC with Taylor and Caty, who were in Kawatea in Term 1. We welcomed Josh, as a new teacher assistant, to the class. And then a couple of weeks later, a new student Oliver (Ollie) arrived. The three students got on brilliantly and the class had a great feel to it.

Aside from the usual school work, we tried to get out biking and walking despite all the gloomy, damp days. We took Caty, Taylor and Ollie to a nearby cycle park to practise our cycle safety skills on the school bikes. We also tried some local cycle lanes and tracks, and we went mountain biking at McLeans Island. We have got more walking and biking planned for Term 3 which everyone is really enthusiastic about.

The day school had some interchange afternoons which saw more biking and walking, cooking and art, and a whenua (land) topic. Those afternoons provided our students the opportunity of working alongside students and kaiako from other classes.

Term 3, although being the winter term, has some great events to look forward to: it's the ski term, we play basketball at Pioneer on Wednesday afternoons, and as the term draws to an end, we see the days getting longer and warmer!



Tihao

Teacher: Briar Dumelow
Teacher Assistant: Ruth Baker

Term 2 in Tihao started with our students learning from home. The online classroom was quite different from what we were normally used to, but the Tihao students were incredibly resilient through this time.

The time the students spent at home gave staff an unexpected opportunity to see more of the students' whānau and home environment. It was great to have the whānau supporting the students to complete their learning at home.

We were happy to have the students return to school and adjust back to our classroom environment.

The students continued to focus on Zones of Regulation. We have seen great progress around recognising the different emotions we feel, why we feel them, and what we can do with those feelings. I'm very proud of the maturity we saw our students show over the term. They have improved on their ability to reflect

on situations. The students have also accepted support more often in situations that are challenging for them.

Other areas of focus during the term were animals, health, whenua, and social studies. The students began an animal research project which they will aim to complete during Term 3. They engaged with it well and impressed kaiako with their willingness to take on a new challenge.

We were lucky enough to be able to plan outings in the community that taught us about the land around Christchurch, and the purpose it serves.

We enjoyed our time learning with students from the other classes as well.

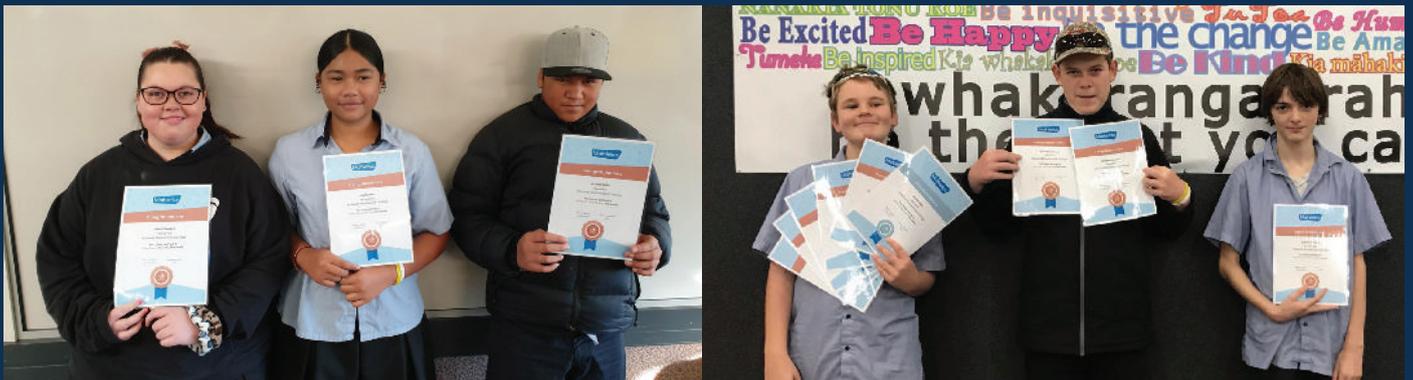
We hope that everyone continues to stay safe, happy and healthy.



Lockdown learning

We are proud of all our HRC students for embracing online learning during the COVID-19 lockdown.

Below are some students who managed to earn Athletics certificates for their hard work. Well done to them.



comings *and* goings

Josh Geddes

Teacher Assistant

Kia ora. My name is Josh Geddes and I am married to Naomi. I have two young tamariki: Kilian, aged 5, and Emiko, aged 3.

I love to get outside, running, biking, climbing and heading into the hills when I get a chance.

I started off in the New Zealand Army as an Electronics Technician, then moved into the outdoors industry. My wife and I have travelled to Canada where we spent 15 months working in a camp, and also travelled to some other beautiful places.



Simon Gannaway

Teacher

Tēnā koutou Halswell Residential College whānau.

My name is Simon Gannaway and I joined the team at the start of 2020 as a day school teacher. We moved here from Culverden in the rural Hurunui region and currently live on-site in the school house.

My wife's name is Laura, and together we have three children: Evelyn, aged 4, Penelope, aged 3, and Adam, aged 1. You may also get to meet our cat, Lily, at some point.

We all enjoy physical activity, bike rides and playing on the playground. Laura enjoys playing netball and we both play badminton together when we can.

We look forward to meeting you all in due course.



Teaching in Tihao

With the end of Term 2 came the end of my full-time role at HRC. I'm heading back to university to complete some further study around psychology. I have really enjoyed my time in Tihao. Luckily, it's not over yet!

From Term 3, we're lucky enough to have John Lawson return to the classroom. John will be teaching Tihao Monday to Thursday, and I will return for Fridays until the end of the year.

It will be great to stay involved with Tihao.

Briar Dumelow

We wish Briar success with her studies, and look forward to her continued involvement with the College.

Dates for the diary

Board of Trustees Meeting:	7 August, Video Conference
Student Council Meeting:	20 August
Board of Trustees Meeting:	18 September, Westbridge Residential School
End of Term Travel Day:	25 September

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