

2019 Prime Minister's Education Excellence Awards

FINALIST

The Prime Minister's
EDUCATION
EXCELLENCE
AWARDS

Te Pirimia
NGĀ TOHU
KAIRANGI
MĀTAURANGA



NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 2019

HALSWELL RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE

On 10 September the Board chair and senior leadership team attended the Prime Minister's Award Ceremony held in Parliament.

Even though we did not receive a placing we were honoured to be shortlisted amongst other fantastic schools who are doing incredible work. Congratulations to all the finalists and winners.

Katrina Casey (Deputy Secretary) sat at our table and mentioned that she thought we were the only residential school and special needs school in NZ to make the finals ever. Minister Hon. Chris Hipkins popped over for a chat. The Prime Minister viewed the brief video they played about HRC. It certainly was a great way to raise our profile at the highest level, and the \$3,000

finalist cheque is certainly appreciated.

I'd like to thank the people who helped us reach the finals. Thanks to the families and IWS for the support you provide so we can operate as an effective, united team. Good staff are the backbone of residential care and education. Thank you team for your hard work, resilience and relationships building. And finally the students. Thank you for letting us be part of your journey and letting us share in the joy of watching you grow.

Of course the real trophy is in changing lives. Lucky us, I guess that means we get to be winners every day.

Janine Harrington
PRINCIPAL

HE TAONGA
RONGONUI

TE AROHA
KI TE
TANGATA

KINDNESS
TOWARDS
PEOPLE IS
A GREAT
TREASURE



BE A LEARNER
AKO &
WHAKAAROARO



BE SAFE
WHAKAUTE
& HINENGARO



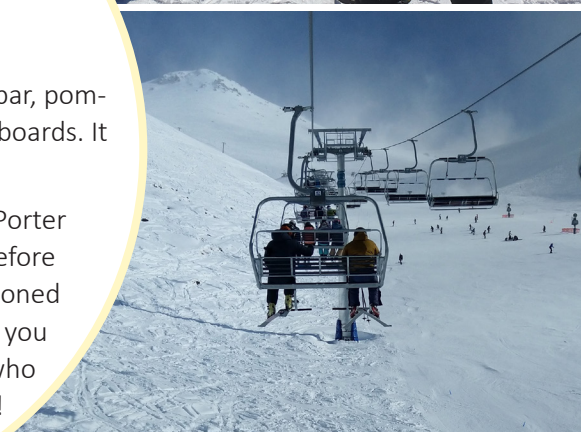
SHOW RESPECT
PONO &
MANAAKITANGA



LET IT SNOW!

Wipe-outs, chains, magic carpet, chair lift, t-bar, pommer, goggles, helmets, sunscreen, skis, snowboards. It all happens at Porter Heights.

The HRC skiers had three great days up at Porter Heights. For those who had never been before it was a great experience, and for our seasoned skiers, they know that with perseverance you can really improve. Thanks to all those who helped make all three trips super fun!





WHARE OWAKA

KIRSTIE LIGHTFOOT - YOUTH WORKER

While it has been cold and wet outside, in Whare Owaka we have been busy and keeping warm.

This term we have welcomed Caty (Catelyn) to Whare Owaka.

All the girls have been getting up to lots of fun activities. Some of their favourite activities this term were the Antarctic Centre, the gondola, and the movies.

Tahlia was brave enough to venture to Porters Ski Area where she gave skiing a go. Caty has been attending Star Jam where she has been learning a new song and dance. Ruby has

been creating lots of fun craft projects.

The girls have also been participating in fitness and basketball where they have been developing lots of new skills. Tahlia has been playing for the school's team and scoring points.

During the wet days and having to stay inside, the girls have all enjoyed doing some cooking and baking. Tahlia made a delicious shepherd's pie; just what you need to warm you up when it is cold outside. Caty and Ruby did some baking. Caty used one of Ruby's yummy home-made recipes.

The girls enjoyed a pamper night, and who doesn't love being pampered? This involved face masks, having a foot spa to soak their aching feet after a hard week, painting their nails and doing their hair and make-up.

As the term is coming to an end, we are all making the most of the time together. We are all proud of how the girls have continually made an effort throughout the term, and we are excited to see their progress during next term.

Well done girls on all your hard work.

TAUAWA

TIM CHRISTENSEN, KAIWHAKAHAERE

Kia ora koutou e te whanau nga mihi mahanga ki a koutou.

This term we welcomed two new members to our whanau; Jacob, and James (Jimmy), both from Whangarei.

Our tamariki have been involved in whakatau for members of parliament who visited our kura.

At the end of term we will farewell Kristan who is returning home to be with his whanau and attend kura in his home area.

Our rangatahi are all looking forward to the school holidays. and we are looking forward to seeing them again in Term 4.





WHARE MAKONUI

STEVE PHILLPOTTS, YOUTH WORKER



In Makonui we have enjoyed a variety of rich and stimulating activities this term. The most recent of these was a trip to Willowbank Wildlife Reserve where kiwis and other birds were observed close up, and massive eels were fed by hand. Another was a walk through Cave Rock at low tide. It has been so much fun and helped create the positive atmosphere that comes from doing and achieving things together.

Back in the house a new programme is being trialled. 'Engage' has brought a range of new board games and interactive games into the house for regular game sessions. The boys have been challenged around following rules, playing fair, taking turns, and learning to cope with losing – with the goal of improved self-regulation.

Another recent development are our two new drift trikes, which have been very

popular and encourage outside play. They have even unleashed a whole new dimension of imaginative role play with storylines based on characters from various movies. Most of these games include frantic chases between agreed safe areas, riding and drifting and sometimes using your hero super-power to avoid capture.

Makonui has been really settled this term with a great family atmosphere. In part this is due to gains in social competence of the established students, but also due to changes in the student mix that occur when some move on and others take their place. This has created a productive period in Makonui where students are more accepting of the rights of others, kinder, easier to correct, and more willing to learn alternative behaviours.





RAUMATA

JESS GRENFELL, TEACHER & MIKAYLA CLAPSON/JANE ROBB, TEACHER ASSISTANTS



We have welcomed two new students to Raumata this term; Jordan and Tyler. We are also farewelling Kristan. It will be very sad to see Kristan leave and we wish him all the best for the future.

This term our students have been enjoying being around and caring for animals; particularly dogs. Every Friday, Frank the dog joins us in class and the students enjoy reading and giving him cuddles.

Kristan is completing a work experience placement at Sharna's

Doggy Day Care. He attends this twice a week and enjoys caring for the animals.

Tahlia and Ruby have been attending barista training each week in the school café; they are learning to make a variety of espresso drinks. Make sure to ask them to make you a drink!

TOP FUN THIS TERM

"I have enjoyed technology."
Tyler

"I enjoyed doggy day care."
Jordan

"I have enjoyed RDA, technology and café."
Ruby

"I have enjoyed education outside the classroom."
Tahlia

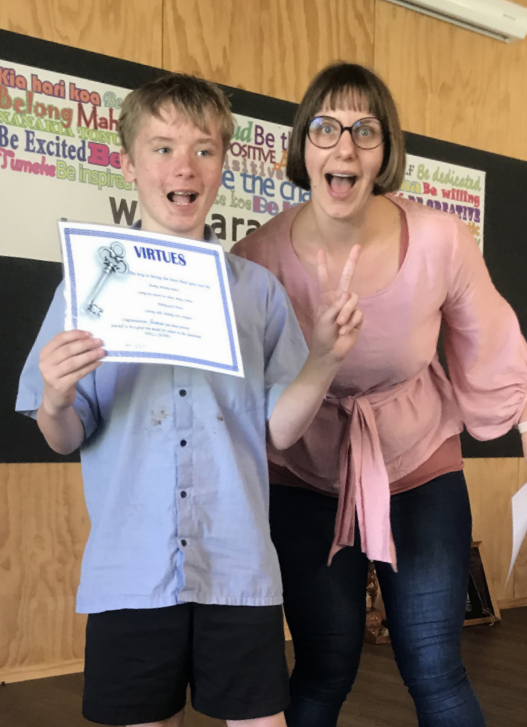


HON MEGAN WOODS & HON TRACEY MARTIN

We were privileged to welcome to HRC both Hon Tracey Martin, Associate Minister of Education, and Hon Megan Woods, MP for Wigram, on separate occasions this term.

We were grateful to Hon Tracey Martin for unveiling the new signage for our whare nui Te Mapua, and to Hon Megan Woods for planting a peach tree in our school orchard.





AWARDS AT END OF TERM ASSEMBLY



KAHAROA

NICOLE TODD, TEACHER & RUTH BAKER, TEACHER ASSISTANT



Our class has been really busy this term. We have become quite obsessed with Uno Flip which has been a lot of fun. You get to make people pick up lots of nasty cards (great for emotion regulation!).

We all take turns at doing karakia in the mornings and have all got braver at standing up and leading the class.

We practise mindfulness every day, and we are finding it easier to concentrate for longer periods of time. It's been

great working through the Zones of Regulation programme.

We love going on outings, especially on warm days when we sometimes to go the botanical gardens or Margaret Mahy Adventure Playground. On Mondays we go bowling and all our skills are improving.

JACOB

We get to go bowling every Monday and I really like that, so when I go home I can beat my dad!

CATY

I like it when we get to go to the gardens on a hot day because it is fresh. I like spending time with my friends and seeing lots of pretty flowers.

JOCHEM

I like my PLP, fitness and definitely going on outings!



WHAT WE LEARN AT SPECIAL OLYMPICS BASKETBALL

How to wait.

Be a gracious winner.

To have self-control when you don't like the referee's call.

Follow instructions.

Ignore the niggling of peers.

To try hard even when you are tired after 4 games.

Team work.

To be a good loser.

Help out with clean up.

Ignore the opposing teams' aggressive words and play.





TIHAO

BRIAR DUMELOW, TEACHER & LEE TACON, TEACHER ASSISTANT

Term 3 in Tihao has offered a lot of fun sporting activities. The students have really pushed themselves to do well at a sport that they don't have much experience in. The sports have been very fitting for the seasons and weather we have experienced in Term 3. In Week 7, the class went on a longer mountain bike ride than we typically do. We often go for 30-45 minutes on the mountain bikes but this time we spent an hour and a half biking around Bottle Lake Forest. At times we had to push our bikes through sand. We had some very tired students at the end of this.

We have continued to do EOTC on a Monday afternoon, weather permitting. This term the class has visited the Canterbury Museum to see the Arctic exhibit, walked the

Harry Ell track again, visited McLeans Island, and we even went on shopping. Lee, our TA, is an amazing bargain hunter so we wanted to show the students how much you could buy and what deals you can come across at a second-hand shop.

Some of our outings involved walking a dog to a nearby supermarket and choosing a treat, but we had to follow very specific rules around sugar content which was quite a challenge. The students enjoyed the variety of outings this term.

Another focus this term has been science experiments. Part of performing these experiments was understanding that some science experiments go really well, and some do not. We have attempted

to make air powered cars this term by attaching balloons to premade cars or by building our own cars out of Lego. We had some success with this. We enjoyed looking at how long chocolate takes to melt in a mug with a candle heating it; that was a delicious experiment! We have also tested out moving food colouring between cups using paper towels, and creating lemon volcanoes. Tihao has had quite a bit of fun with science this term and we'll keep going with it next term as well.

The students have earned a well-deserved break. We can't wait to see them back in Term 4!





KAWATEA

SARAH HALL, TEACHER & DENIS CARROLL, TEACHER ASSISTANT



This term in Kawatea we have Cameron, Louy, Hunter, Zac, Jullian and Jimmy. The boys have been working hard at their school work and enjoying lots of play outdoors which has helped to build friendships, social skills and communication skills.

We are developing our outdoor play area and we're working on developing a BBQ area. The BBQ is there, and we're currently collecting comfy seating so we can enjoy the area in style!

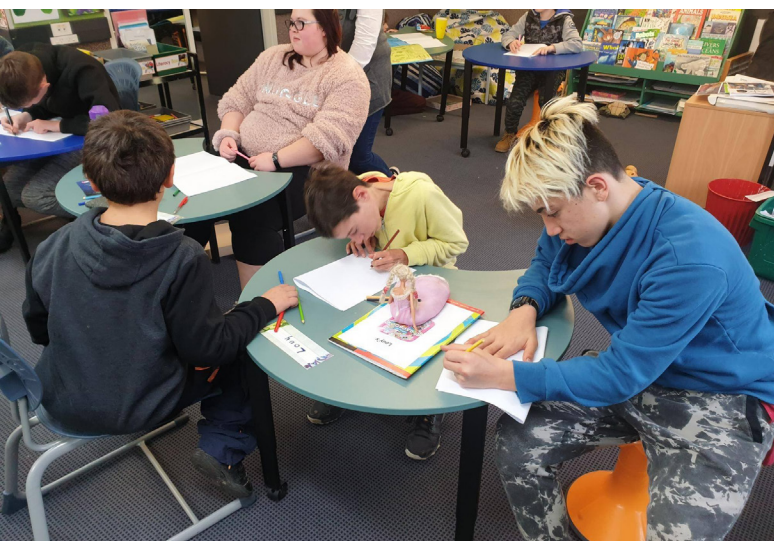
As well as our usual school work, we have been doing some work on the Zones of Regulation. The students can describe the zones and the behaviours and emotions that might fit into these zones. Then we talk about what we can do to self-regulate and get back to the calm, ready to learn, green zone.





MANE AKE

Mana Ake began their five-session programme on 2 August. They spent time with the students teaching friendship and wellbeing skills. Mana Ake promotes a Stronger for Tomorrow for students by providing support for children aged 5-12 years old across Canterbury. They work with schools to support teachers, families and whanau when children are experiencing ongoing issues that impact their wellbeing such as anxiety, social isolation, parental separation, grief and loss and managing emotions.



IMPORTANT DATES

NEXT BOARD MEETING

NOVEMBER

01

TERM 4: TRAVEL IN DAY

OCTOBER

14

TERM 4: TRAVEL OUT DAY

DECEMBER

19

