



VERDON COLLEGE

Newsletter

1 May 2015



Tena koutou katoa

A warm welcome back to students and families for term two at the College.

This term has started with a his and a roar with winter sports all well under way and students involved in their preparation for our production 'Verdon Showcase' and Stage Challenge.

I have been very impressed with the effort of all those involved in the Stage Challenge group which will be performing this Friday. This event is student run with minimal staff or parental input. It has been a great example of how students can teach each other skills to great effect. A feature has also been the students support of fundraising activities such as quiz nights and a great example of the Verdon spirit in action.

I have also been so impressed by the vast number of students involving themselves in the Production 'Verdon Showcase' this year. This new format to our production has enabled so many more students to get involved and express their talent. Again, a feature of this production has been the willingness of students to share their skills with others and demonstrate their leadership skills. As part of this showcase we have groups putting on items from past Verdon musicals, the Stage Challenge performance, Panache and the Kapa haka and Pasifika groups as well as a number of other talented groups performing. I have seen some of the performances which are already at a pretty amazing standard and we are all very excited to see what the final product will look like in the next few weeks

I would like to thank the PTA and all those that supported and contributed to our inaugural Art Auction. This was a great success and a great night for all involved. The PTA raised around \$11,000 for projects to support student's engagement in the arts in the College.

We received the sad news of past, long term staff member, Wes Melvin's passing. We pray for Wes and his family and all other members of our community dealing with illness and loss of loved ones at this time.

God Bless
Jarlath Kelly

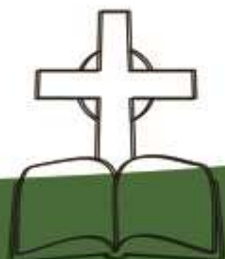
Rockhampton Grammar School Netball visit



Rockhampton Grammar School visited in the middle of the school holidays. As part of a South Island tour. The girls had left the previous week in 34 degree temperatures, and unfortunately struck the extremely cold weather when they arrived in Invercargill. The girls were billeted with our senior netball students mainly, and they were very appreciative of the hospitality they received.

They were blown away by the facilities of the complex and were delighted to see present and former Steel players wandering around. The games were competitive and played in a friendly spirit, with a win to each school. The Senior A and 10A were our representatives. The games were followed by afternoon tea, then time to enjoy the pre-match entertainment before the Steel-Magic encounter. The Rockhampton group had mostly not been to a live game at such a high level of netball, and the staff were just as excited as the students. Despite their uniform being the same colour as the Magic's they assured us they would be supporting Steel. Two of the Rockhampton girls were most excited to find that they had won the Photo Booth competition and after the game the team was able to get photos with the Steel players.

They claimed that their stay in Invercargill was their best experience on tour and they were very appreciative, as we are also, of the friendliness of their host families and the experiences they had here. They look forward to coming back in two years.



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www.verdoncollege.school.nz



From Father Martin

We are often dealing with the issues surrounding loss..... Especially the loss of people both close and far away. As a Verdon Community we are saddened by the death of Wes Melvin—a respected and long serving teacher at our College. Wes was a colourful and very knowledgeable person who will be sadly missed by both family and friends.

Our thoughts and prayers are also with people of Nepal at this time. Through Sir Edmund Hillary and others we have a strong connection with this mountainous country. I spent 21 days trekking through the Annapurna Mountains in Nepal back in 1985. The people were amazing—so friendly and hospitable. It is hard for us to comprehend such a huge loss of lives.

We ask God to strengthen our hope for all those grieving at this time.

God Bless
Fr Martin

COLOURS ASSEMBLY AWARDS

Merit Endorsement—NCEA

Level 1 2014

Kelsi Millar
Lily van Duivenvoorde
Clarke LeBreton
John Janerol
Kyle Brown
Meg Kissell
Matthew Boyle
Taylor Lock
Rachel Pocklington
Brayden Holland
Mileena Nathan
Mitchell Morris
Kate Kissell
Shelley Mitchell
Jean-Martin Fabre
Harrison Roderique
Hannah Keilty
Gert Janse van Rensburg
Bronte Adams
Patrick Turnhout

Zoe Dawson
Ariana Mirfin
Nola Cassidy
Niamh Duggan
Ainsley McDonald
Grace Brown
Sarah Mussen
Annie Watson-Kidd
Hazel Daleon
Krystal Birch
Rihitoto Albert
Kale Adamson
Ashleigh Wood
Toby Jenkins
Hannah de Groot
Joshua McGowan
Madison Brown
Blair Duthie
Cameron Crosswell

Merit Endorsement—NCEA

Level 2 2014

Miriyana Godsell-Slade
Kathleen Adams
Antonia Dobson
Melissa Escalon
Amber De Goldi
Samantha Nielsen
Patrick Armour
Duncan Murray
Alasdair O'Reilly
Ella Reid
Nicole Morgan-Bulling

Amy Liu
Emma Morton
Christine Procter
Daniel Hogan
Hannah McLean
Louis Earl
Jacob Gear
Sonia Khatiwada
Georgina Wright
James Moffatt

Merit Endorsement—NCEA

Level 3 2014

Halaevalu Maka
Brittany Calder
Adam Vanner
Zac Jackson-Barnes
James Humm

Beatrix Borrie
Natasha Frewen
Thyme Nawaphanarat
Jack King

Excellence Endorsement—NCEA

Level 1 2014

Timothy O'Neill
Travis Oudhoff
Lucy Brown
Alexander Marshall
Liam Cullen
Briar Kilsby
Olivia Thornbury

Joshua Pagan
Liam van Eeden
Maggie Harrington
Andrew Reid
Michael Walker
Charlotte Frampton

Excellence Endorsement—NCEA

Level 2 2014

Kendal Cosgrove
Toni Shierlaw
Tina Wright
Sarah MacManus
Lachlan O'Driscoll
Hannah McIntosh

Imelda Wilkes
Hannah Arnold
Chelsie Grindlay
Hannah Lieshout
Meg Kelly
Katherine Robertson

Excellence Endorsement—NCEA

Level 3 2014

Ashlyn Gallagher
Gabriel Winders
Kameron Corbin
Jordan McKenzie

Daniel Boyle
Brenna O'Neill
Shaun Swain

College Colours Award

Jackson Whaanga
Tiffany Allen
Sam Hogan
Liam Cullen
Brayden Holland
Olivia Thornbury
Sam Thornbury
Lachlan Baird
Matthew Rooney
Joshua Meulenbroek
Laurent Edwards
Andre Keen
Ariana Mirfin
Xavier Wright
Joseph Riwhi
Fabian Scott-Russell
Kupa Hawea-White
Khyla Matiu-Watson
Sahdina Anderson
Timothy O'Neill
Sam Cullen
Xavier Wright
Abby Humm
Aliyah Dunn
Tyra Dunn
Blair Duthie
Michael Walker
Maggie Harrington
Tina Wright
Lucy Brown
Andre Keen
Claudia Baird
Travis Oudhoff
Liam van Eeden
Angelina Nikora-Wilson
Sam Cullen
Daniel MacManus
Eli Winders
Ruby Laidlaw
Rachel Pocklington
Caitlin Peters
Tarryn Black

Athletics
Athletics
Athletics
Athletics
Mountain Biking
Triathlon
Triathlon
Triathlon
Triathlon
Triathlon
Triathlon
Triathlon
Waterskiing
Rowing
Rowing
Basketball
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Basketball
BMX
Swimming
Film Making
Film Making
Netball
Music
BMX
BMX
BMX
St John Youth
St John Youth
Swimming

College Colours Awards Continued:

Kaitlyn Calvert-Shandley	Netball
Patrick Turnhout	Football
Connor Douglas	BMX
Terry Thurlow	Softball
Alex Thurlow	Softball
Olivia Thornbury	Athletics

Year 12 Triathlon

The Year 12 students participated in the recent Ascot Park Triathlon on Sunday the 19th of April. They have been training for this event since halfway through Term 1 as part of their Bio-physical Training and Performance unit. All students who started the course finished it as well, which is testament to the hard work and dedication that the students have put into their training. Congratulations to Liam Cullen who was 3rd in the Junior Male section, and Brayden Holland, Cameron Crosswell and Mitchell Morris were all in the top ten placegetters. The Junior Female section was contested only by Verdon students. It was won by Olivia Thornbury, with Ariana Mirfin, Maggie Harrington, Lucy Brown and Hannah Orlowski making up the top five. In the Duathlon, Lachlan Baird was first in the Junior Male section.

At the prize giving, special mention was made of Verdon College as the only Southland Secondary School to enter students as part of an achievement standard. It was also noted how polite the Verdon students were to the course organisers and traffic controllers around the course. Well done to all students who participated.

Any students or adults wishing to participate in the upcoming Winter Series Duathlon or Multisport events, which will be held monthly from May, see the Southland Triathlon and Multisport website for details. First in the series is on 17 May, held at Tere-tonga.

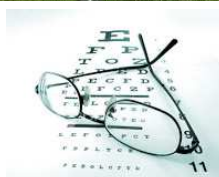


Vision screening for all Year 7's

All year students will be tested on Wednesday 27 May. (Please Note: Your child will not be screened if he/she is under the care of a specialist and /or optometrist) Students will be tested for:

- Colour Vision for Year 7 male students
- Parents/caregivers will be notified if further assessment is required by an Optometrist

If you do not wish your child to be screened, please notify the School.



4 May	Chess Tournament
6 May	College Games
8 May	Stage Challenge
13 May	Southland Cross Country
18/22 May	Production Week
23 May	School Ball
26 May	Southland Orienteering
29 May	TEACHER ONLY DAY—Students are not required at school
1 June	Queens Birthday
3 June	ICAS Science
4 June	Chamber Music Contest
10 June	Big Sing
12 June	Manu Korero Speech Competition
15 June	ICAS Writing
16 June	ICAS Spelling
17 June	Southland Badminton Championships
21 June	Rockquest
25/26 June	Year 11 Retreat
29 June	ICAS English
30 June/ 1 July	Career Fest
2 July	Interhouse Music Festival
3 July	End of Term Mid Year Report Posted

HPV vaccination survey – participants wanted

Parents and caregivers of children and young people aged 9 – 23 years are invited to participate in a survey investigating knowledge and attitudes around HPV vaccination. The survey is anonymous and should take 5-10 minutes. Please access the online survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9K657Z7parentscaregivers> or request a hard copy by calling 04 979 3106.

The researcher is a PhD candidate at the Centre of Public Health Research, Massey University. For further information please go to <http://publichealth.massey.ac.nz/home/research/recruiting-projects/hpv-human-papillomavirus-vaccination-study/> or contact k.page@massey.ac.nz.

“Verdon College the right choice”

Cross Country

On the last day of term 2, the Verdon College Cross Country was held at Elizabeth Park. Luckily for everyone involved, the rain held off until the completion of the event. There was a fantastic amount of students taking part in the event, with many happy, yet tired faces on the bus ride back to school. This event was also used to determine who will be going to the Southland Secondary schools event with the competition very tight at times. The results are as follows:

Senior Boys

1st Liam Cullen
2nd Callum Swan
3rd Daniel Hogan

Senior Girls

1st Olivia Thornbury
2nd Maria Sutherland
3rd Tina Wright

Year 9 & 10 Boys

1st Jack Leadley
2nd Callum Knight
3rd Sam Cullen

Year 9 & 10 Girls

1st Abby Humm
2nd Nellie Boyle
3rd Amy Crosswell

Year 7 & 8 Boys

1st Joseph Riwhi
2nd Lachlan Baird
3rd Connall Breen

Year 7 & 8 Girls

1st Jessica Spain
2nd Hayley Thurlow
3rd Charlotte Collie

- Checklist
- Catholic education
 - High expectations
 - Gifted & talented
 - Smaller classes
 - Family feel

BMX National Champs

Congratulations to the following students who competed in the National BMX Championships held in Christchurch over Easter break: Ruby Laidlaw, Andre Keen, Harlam Heydon, Connor Douglas, Tessa McNaught and Jacob Crooks.

Ruby was the only one of the group who made it through to the semi finals. She did extremely well and claimed the National title for 12 year Girls and has earned selection for World Champs in Belgium.



“Superior
educational
outcomes”