



Verdon College

4 August 2017



Kia ora koutou katoa

It has been a great start to the term and there is a fantastic positive buzz around the College.

Term three is "the business term" for senior students. Students will be focussing on planning for their mock examinations in week six of this term while continuing to finalise internal work. Support from mentors, deans and senior staff are available to assist students with the planning of work.

All students are doing well, however, at this time of year some students become a little anxious about progress. It is important for students just to take a breath and relax looking at the positives of achievement rather than what they have yet to achieve. Often taking time to see the positives and plan out work that needs to be achieved in small steps, in a positive fashion this helps alleviate any such worry for students.

I would continue to encourage students to strive to be the best that they can be and set goals towards excellence and merit endorsements both at the subject level as well as overall NCEA. Staff are always available to assist in discussing the next step in learning for all students wishing to achieve these levels of success.

We are continuing to receive a significant amount of enquiry about entry to the College. We, unfortunately are not able to provide a place for all students that enquire about entry to the college. Our focus is on ensuring placement for Catholic families and students with family association within the College as a priority. I would encourage people to remind friends and families wishing to attend Verdon in 2018 to ensure applications are in as early as possible.

God Bless

Open Day

Sunday 6 August
1.00pm—3.00pm

There is a significant amount of enquiry for enrolment at Verdon College for 2018. It will be important for those wanting to enrol at the college to get applications in as soon as possible and prior to the closing date for enrolment to avoid any potential disappointment.

Enrolment closing date: Friday 1st September

Upcoming events

Year 7-8

17 August—Inter-house Drama
12 September—Sports & Cultural Photos

Year 9-10

11-13 August—Bishop's Shield Kavanagh College Dunedin
17 August—Inter-house Drama
12 September—Sports & Cultural Photos

Year 11–13

11-12 August—Jazz Festival
11-13 August—Bishops' Shield Kavanagh College Dunedin
17 August—Inter-house Drama
28-31 August—Senior Exams
14-15 September—Year 12 Retreats

General Reminders

23 August—Polyfest
1 September—Teacher Only Day

Congratulations to Molly Batt who was successful this month to be selected for the ILT Art Awards. This is a national Art competition run at the City Art Gallery on Don Street Invercargill. The competition has one of the South Islands biggest art prize pools with \$14,500 in prize money to be won and reaches out to artists all throughout New Zealand. Her work was selected alongside some well recognized New Zealand artists with only 117 pieces being selected for the exhibition.



Her work titled: "Happy" created in Colour pencil is on exhibition at the City Gallery until September 2nd. Go along and vote for the people's choice award and check out the work on exhibition. You have done an amazing job Molly, well done.

Me a matou ki te Toroa ki te rerenga me te whakapono ki te Atua tuturi

We can all be uplifted as the albatross if we have faith and Rely on God

Year 11 Retreat

The theme for this year was service. 2017 year 11 retreat began well with the realisation that being part of a Powhiri enabled students to get some credits. It also timed in well with year 11's social justice efforts for Caritas that has raised around \$1000. Our own Maori students trained and explained to their peers protocols and helped calm many nerves. Te Tomairangi as always treated us with awhi (care) and made us feel special. We have been going to this marae annually for 8 years and began going in the 1990's.

The Kaikaranga was made by Jan Riwhi and replied by Hehita Judith, which made for as always an emotional entrance, Mr Brian Forde did the Kaikaranga with Mr Buxton doing the reply. After morning tea we learnt about the carving and Tupuna of the Marae and had an interesting discussion on service.

Next, in the Whare Kai Mr Buxton lead a reflection "Stranger on a Bus" a service as Jesus explains it and we sang Karioki style "What if God Was One of US".

Time ran short for the Thursday group, we played balloon stomp then had Lunch provided by our own year 11 cooks.

The Friday group then developed short skits showing service and did balloon stomp after lunch, staff included.

The first part of the afternoon was based on a Karakia "Hutia te Rito", respecting creation and our youth. This involved learning to make a gift to present to someone you do not know. We need to thank Koka Angela for her expertise and suggestions.

It was all good fun that had a message and led to Mass with Father Hook reinforcing the whole point of the day. Pupils are still talking about this day. We pray that we remember the truths it made us think about.



Southland Incubator Programme



A group of Year 12 & 13 Verdon College students took the opportunity to look around Southland hospital as part of the Incubator programme, this is for students who are looking at a career in medicine.

This session we were shown around ED, taught manual handling and how to use the hoist. After this we went to the Education Centre and learnt CPR and to use an AED with Kirsty, Jake Neurobs, and Jan listening to breath sounds on Annie the manikin.

Queen Elizabeth Grammar School Tour

In the school holidays we had Queen Elizabeth Grammar visit us from England. It was a very positive experience for both Verdon College and QEGS. QEGS Loved the haka and games even though they weren't close. We would like to thank everyone who helped make this visit a success.



Rugby League

Congratulations to Kiedis Thompson and Josh George who represented Southland at the South Island U15 Rugby League tournament in Christchurch during the recent school holidays.

Archery

On the 22nd & 23rd of July Jamie Algar competed in the South Island District Archery Associations Indoor Championships (SIDAA) in Dunedin. This was Jamie's first Archery competition and he shot very well.

He was shooting in the Men's Compound Intermediate division and came second, He shot over 200 arrows for the weekend. His scores were as follows:

Saturday morning	476 out of 600	Saturday afternoon
	491 out of 600	
Sunday Morning	507 out of 600	Total 1474

Well Done Jamie



Hokonui Maori Endowment Fund

Applications are invited from tertiary and secondary school students Year 9 onwards for the Hokonui Endowment Fund. This Fund is an education fund for applicants who can trace their whakapapa to the original Maori Owners of Rakiura/Stewart Island. Applicants must be a Southland resident. Applications are available from the school office. A hardcopy of the completed application form needs to be received for processing by Saturday, 30 September 2017.

Netball News

The Verdon Junior A travelled to Christchurch in the first week of the holidays to compete in the 20th year of the Junior South Island Secondary Schools Netball Tournament. The team played in the Combined Year 9 and 10 grade and consisted of the following players – Emily Calvert, Emma Hurley, Jan Janerol, Kathy White, Tarryn Black, Distance Takamori, Ashleigh Brook- ing, Ella McCabe, Emma Matiu-Watson, Emily Stodart and Ruby McDonald. The team was coached by Rosie De Goldi and managed by Kirsten Hurley.

The first two days were played in lovely sunshine, still a bit chilly but the girls adapted to outside play very well winning 2 of their 3 games. They backed up the next day with 3 well fought wins, including a quarter final win over Blue Mountain Col- lege.

The team woke up on day 3 to freezing conditions and hail on the ground but that did not faze anyone. The semi-final against Kavanagh was played in atrocious conditions but the team stuck to the game plan and came out on top winning by just one goal! That was enough to earn a final against Geraldine High inside at St Margaret’s gym. This was where the team dug deep and played an outstanding game winning again by just one goal! A big thank you to all the family members who came along to support the team and helped provide livestream coverage on the Verdon Facebook page so supporters back home could watch these outstanding young ladies represent the school proudly and successfully. It was testament to the team’s values that they were able to get over the line in trying conditions – these girls definitely had SOUL!

Results:

Vs Villa Invitational	W26-22
Vs St Andrew’ Invitational	W35-18
Vs Ellesmere	L35-23
Vs Menzies College	W27-24
Vs Golden Bay	W35-17
Vs Blue Mountain (1/4 final)	W25-23
Vs Kavanagh (semi)	W24-23
Vs Geraldine High (final)	W34-33!!!



U21 Netball Champion

A massive congratulations and welcome home to Aliyah Dunn!! Our very special member of the victorious U21 New Zealand Netball Team at the World Championships in Botswana!!

