



QUEEN CHARLOTTE COLLEGE



Newsletter to Parents, Caregivers & Friends of the School • 3 February, 2017

Welcome back. I trust you had a wonderful Christmas break and you are now ready to begin the 2017 school year with energy and enthusiasm.

NCEA

I am happy to report that our NCEA results lived up to expectation with some good Excellence endorsements and an overall improvement over the previous years' results. I look forward to continuing this trend in 2017.

New Staff

We begin the year with several new staff.

Sue Hayde

Fixed Term Technology

I am delighted to be part of the Technology team this year at Queen Charlotte College. I have lived in the Marlborough/



Nelson area since 1998. I have worked most of that time at Outward Bound, Anakiwa in the catering department. I look forward to meeting students and letting parents and whanau know how well their student is achieving.

Sally Hall

Fixed Term Technology/PE

Kia Ora

I am Sally Hall and have spent the summer in sunny Marlborough after teaching in the "City of Sails" since the Christchurch Earthquake of 2011.



Important Dates

Waitangi Day - No school
Year 7/New Student BBQ
Tabloid Swimming
Academic Awards Assembly
Life Education Bus Visit
Year 8 Camp 1
Peer Supporters Camp
Year 8 Camp 2

February 6th - Monday
February 8th - Wednesday (5.30pm)
February 9th/10th - Thursday/Friday
February 13th - Monday (2.30pm)
February 20th/21st - Monday/Tuesday
February 21st-24th - Tuesday-Friday
February 22nd - 24th - Friday-Sunday
February 27th - March 2nd - Monday-Thursday

Term Dates 2017

Term One 2nd February - Thursday 13th April
Term Two Monday 1st May - Friday 7th July
Term Three Monday 24th July - Friday 29th September
Term Four Monday 16th October - Thursday 14th December

I am a passionate foodie and teacher of Food Technology and Hospitality. I love nothing better than being with family and friends while enjoying this beautiful country.

Paula Pickles

Fixed Term English/
Social Studies

I moved to New Zealand in 2014 with my husband Shane, who joined the RNZAF. We have two children, Milly who is in Y8 at QCC and Christopher who is in Y3 at Waikawa Bay School. We were stationed briefly in the North Island but have been in Picton since 2015. I taught for over 20 years in England and still love teaching! I enjoy skiing, theatre and ballet. We all love living here in Waikawa and are delighted to call it our permanent home now.



Danielle Farry

Science, Biology,
Technology

Danielle returns after two years maternity leave and two children later. Great to have you back Danielle.



Kanaueha Wessels

Fixed Term Te Reo Maori

Kan arrives at QCC on Tuesday. We will profile Kan in the next newsletter.

Building Projects

This year there will be some big building projects at the College. Rooves are being upgraded, as is the staffroom and staff toilet block along with renovations currently being undertaken on the gymnasium bathrooms. This work will take most of the year and will be rather disruptive with staff and students being required to move out of affected areas but we are happy to finally have this started.

QCC Uniforms

We have been assured by The Warehouse that there are plenty of QCC uniforms in store in all sizes. There are also very cheap blue polo shirts, white blouses and grey shorts available at Postie Plus and secondhand skirts at Savemart, Blenheim for approximately \$6. Second hand

QCC uniforms are also for sale at Feebies in High Street, Picton.

The Ministry of Social Development has also published this article re assistance with uniform costs.

Uniform costs: help is available

While a new year often means extra stress for families in the form of uniform and stationery costs, many may not realise they are eligible for funding assistance from MSD.

The Ministry of Social Development's clients can now use MyMSD to apply online quickly and easily for help with school uniform and stationery costs, so they don't need to visit their Work and Income office. Applicants can upload verification of the cost, usually a quote from the supplier. If the cost is approved, they will receive notification by text or by email. The amount will be loaded to their payment card or paid direct to registered suppliers who can't receive payment cards. The applicant will need to pay back the money over time, using a repayment plan arranged with MSD. Please see link below.

<https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/eligibility/children/school-uniforms-and-stationery.html>

Stationery

All students will be issued with a stationery pack at the start of the school year, to ensure that all students have the necessary equipment to make a good and productive start to the year. Caregivers will be invoiced for this stationery as it is not a school donation.

BYOD's

QCC does not require all students to bring their own computers/devices to school. We do however strongly encourage those that have internet capable devices to bring them to school to aid classroom research and publishing. We have maintained computer suites and purchased some chrome books, but often it is much easier to work in class with your own device for rapid access to information and production. For advice on the type of device best acquired, please talk to staff members.

Bus Students

All students travelling on QCC buses, i.e., Havelock-Spring Creek-Tuamarina Bus, Blenheim buses, will be invoiced each term. The cost is \$5 per day per family. New bus students should ensure they have booked a place on their respective bus to avoid missing out. You can do this by seeing Mrs Lock in the Main Office.

Attendance

At Queen Charlotte College we endeavour to ensure that 'no child is left behind', supporting students to maintain attendance levels that maximise student achievement. Rigorous reporting, follow-up using wrap-around support mechanisms and early engagement of whānau are intended to ensure that students remain engaged in their learning at school. This approach recognises: the legal requirement that students attend school to the age of 16, the moral obligation we have to pathway students into further education and/or meaningful employment and the pivotal influence that attendance plays in student achievement.

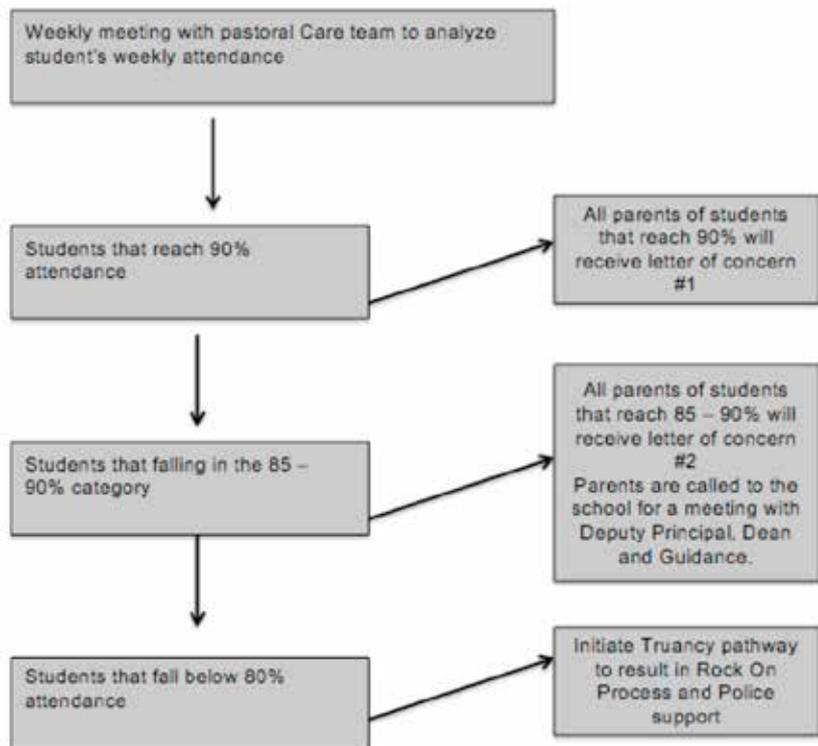
Students are expected to be at school with 100% attendance this year. We are monitoring attendance weekly and parents are encouraged to track their child's attendance and progress through the use of parent portal on Edge. It is vital that you contact the school as soon as possible if you are not able to log on as a caregiver / parent. There will be an opportunity to get assistance with this at the new student bbq on Wednesday 8th February at 5:30 in the Hospitality Room. However, you are welcome to come to the office at any time to seek support.

Attendance tracking to ensure that we can deliver the best educational support to our students is a school goal this year. Please familiarise yourselves with the attendance pathway we intend to follow when absences for students become of concern to us.

I want to reiterate that we are here to support you and your child and can be contacted at any time to assist you with this.

Frances Morton
Deputy Principal

Weekly attendance monitoring pathway: (Monday Morning Process)



Year 9 Camp

A reminder, that the Year 9 camp will also be early this year, held during the last week of March. Fees for the Year 8 and 9 camps are to be paid prior to attending camp and automatic payments may be set up with Mrs Kay Severne, the Executive Officer. You may contact her on 5736558, extension 861 for further information. Mr Hill, HOD Outdoor Education will be sending an information newsletter with details regarding these camps.

International Students

This year we welcome three new international students to Queen Charlotte College.

Simon Fritsch, 16 years from Unterbiberg, a suburb of Munich. Simon is passionate about skiing in the winter and hiking in the summer. He also enjoys tennis and riding his longboard.

Finn Seltmann is 16 years and is from Schwabish Hall, near Stuttgart. Finn enjoys fishing, skiing, archery and meeting up with friends.

Yuna Ikeda is 16 years and is from Saitama, Japan. Yuna is in NZ as part of her High School Programme where students travel to NZ to attend school. Yuna enjoys swimming.



Busy start to year

We have a very busy schedule in February with a BBQ for new students and whanau, Tabloid Swimming, Peer Supporters Camp, two Year 8 Camps, the Academic Awards Assembly and a visit from the Life Education Bus. Please see Important Dates.

Tabloid Swimming

Our Tabloid Swimming days on the 9th and 10th of February are important, in that it is an opportunity for students to participate, to gain confidence, for team building and to form relationships. This activity is part of the school programme and attendance is considered compulsory.

Swimming Champs

On the 15th of February we will hold our competition swimming champs and while not all students are capable swimmers, participation is strongly encouraged. We will be organising some alternative activities for non swimmers, so again, there is no excuse for non-attendance.

Year 7 and New Student BBQ

Wednesday 8th February

5:30pm – 7.00 p.m

Queen Charlotte College staff would like to invite you to attend the annual new student BBQ which will be held on **Wednesday 8th February from 5:30pm – 7.00 p.m.** This will be held at the pool if the weather is fine, or the Gym and the Food Technology Room if the weather is poor. Food will be prepared by the Student Council, Hospitality students and staff.

This is a chance for you to meet other parents of students and also an informal time for you to have a chat with the senior students, teachers and senior management about any concerns that you may have regarding your child's start at Queen Charlotte College, and for us to let you know of some of the activities that will be happening this year. We would also love to hear the positive side to your child's start to the year.

The first half hour is a meet and greet for parents, students and staff, with food being served at 6:00pm. To assist us with catering, could you please return the form at the end of the newsletter before Friday 3rd February.

There will also be assistance for parents to access the parent portal for our student information system, Edge, from 5.30pm - 7pm in the hospitality room. This session will give you important information about how to access vital data about your child such as reports, attendance and notices throughout the year.

Please indicate your attendance via the cut off form at the back of this newsletter. Thank you.

We are looking forward to seeing you there.

QCC Music Teacher – Local Hero

Introducing Marlborough's Kiwibank Local Heroes

FAIRFAX NZ

Linda Holdaway

Holdaway continues to give back to her community through her life-long passion for music. As a teacher, mentor, performer and vocal coach she has been heavily involved in the success of the Blenheim Musical Theatre.

Holdaway's teaching career began in 2009 as a keyboard teacher at Redwoodtown School and Bohally Intermediate. She moved to Picton's Queen Charlotte College to teach piano, singing and music theory in 2014.



In 2015, Holdaway formed a school choir as a volunteer singing coach, enabling her students to enter and participate in regional singing competitions, and she has participated in a variety of musical theatre productions for the Blenheim Musical Theatre over the past six years.

Interpreting NCEA Results

To support parents and their teens with next steps after receiving NCEA results we have launched a NCEA resource page on the Careers New Zealand website. The page features a video starring former All Black Michael Jones sharing his experience of supporting his children through NCEA, plus a range of helpful articles and an eBook.

The page helps parents understand NCEA and how to interpret their kids' results. Teens and parents can find practical advice and information on next steps they can take no matter what their teen's results.

Visit the page at careers.govt.nz/ncea

PE Department

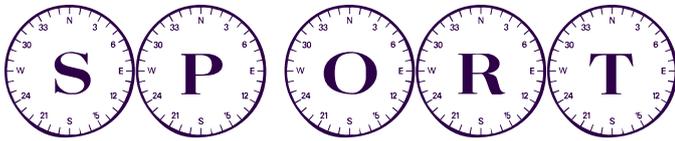
Junior Physical Education (Year 7-10)

All junior PE classes will have PE three times a fortnight. This term the focus is Aquatics and Athletics. All students are required to bring a change of clothing appropriate for physical activity. Uniform is not to be worn during PE classes. Running shoes are optional otherwise bare feet will be fine. For Term 1 while the weather is warm, could students also bring swimwear and a towel, so we can utilise our awesome school pool. Please ensure that students check their timetables and bring the appropriate gear on the right days to ensure they can participate in the class activities. If for some reason your child cannot participate in class, please supply a note to the teacher to explain and excuse them for that lesson.

Technology Department

The Technology Department is looking for donations of old clothes, materials, old costume jewellery, buttons, ribbons, cushions, stuffing, beads, and zips.

Please contact fatkinson@qcc.school.nz so that we can come and collect any donations.



QCC Athletics Day

Athletics Day will be held on Tuesday 7th March at QCC. Any parents willing to help supervise events on the day please contact Mr Timms on 5736558.

Salsa Dancing



In December, Emma Crossen travelled to Miami, USA to compete in the 2016 World Latin Dance Cup representing New Zealand in two team dances: the Salsa Children and Juniors Team where they were placed 1st and the Salsa Junior Girls Team where they came 2nd.

for that period will be \$10 for those with their own racquets and \$20 for those using the clubs. Helen Quentin-Baxter will run these sessions along with a visiting and very experienced coach. You can contact Val Maxwell on 5737036 for further details.

Nia Dance

Want to be fit without pain and with fun? Come and experience the pleasure and joy of dancing NIA.

It empowers people of all shapes, size and level of fitness. Every experience can be adapted to individual needs and abilities. Step into NIA and positively shape the way you feel, look, think and live.

Every Tuesdays 6-7pm at Redwoodtown Community Hall

Every Wednesdays 5.30pm-6.30pm at 207 Oakwood Lane, Blenheim

For more info contact Corinne: 035781756 / 0273245757

notices

Trophies

Could all trophies from the 2016 swimming and athletics sports days please be returned to school ASAP.

Picton Junior Badminton Club

Junior Badminton will begin on Monday 13th February in the QCC gym from 3.15pm-4.30pm and continue for at least two terms. The subs

School Uniforms

Feebies (Fee Busch) at 68a Upper High Street, Picton, is looking for school uniforms to sell. Uniforms can be in any condition as they will repair. They will also sell uniforms on behalf of the seller, so if you have any part of the uniform for sale, give them a call on 5736816 or 0211110820.

Donations of College Uniforms would be much appreciated!



Year 7 and New Student BBQ

Student's Name: _____

Caregiver's Name: _____

I will/will not be attending.

No. Attending: _____