

Marsden Newsletter

Papa pānui rorohiko

Term 1 Week 7
12 - 16 March 2018



SAMUEL
MARSDEN
COLLEGIATE SCHOOL
WHITBY

2018 Term Dates

Term 1 Wednesday 31 January – Friday 13 April
Term 2 Monday 30 April – Friday 6 July
Term 3 Monday 30 July – Friday 28 September
Term 4 Tuesday 16 October – Thursday 6 December

Virtue: Respect

One of the most sincere forms of respect is actually listening to what another has to say.

Bryant H. McGill

Forthcoming Dates

All term dates and key dates are located on the Marsden School Calendar on [Marsden Whitby Calendar](#). Please check for your activities. The Calendar will be updated weekly prior to the Newsletter coming out. Where applicable Calendar entries will show the year groups they relate to. You can choose day, week or month views.

Forthcoming School Trips and Events

Saturday 17, from 3pm/Sunday 18 March, concludes 9am/Rāhoroi 17-Rātapu 18 Poutū-te-rangi

Relay For Life

Monday 19 March/Rāhina 19 Poutū-te-rangi

School Photos

Tuesday 20 March/ Rātū 20 Poutū-te-rangi

Marsden Whitby Parents' Association AGM, 7pm, Staffroom

Thursday 22 March/Rāpare 22 Poutū-te-rangi

Swimming Sports

Friday 23 March/Rāmere 23 Poutū-te-rangi

School in Action Day, 10am-2pm

Tuesday 27 March/ Rātū 27 Poutū-te-rangi

Y9 Pukeahu/National War Memorial trip

Wednesday 28 March/Rāapa 28 Poutū-te-rangi

Junior Parent Teacher Interviews, 4.00-7.30pm

Friday 30 March/Rāmere 30 Poutū-te-rangi

Good Friday – School Closed

Monday 2 April & Tuesday 3 April/Rāhina 2 & Rātū 3 Paenga-whāwhā

Easter Break – School Closed

Thursday 5 April/Rāpare 5 Paenga-whāwhā

Senior Parent Teacher Interviews, 4.00-7.30pm

Paremata Regeneration Project Y7 & 8

Friday 6 April/Rāmere 6 Paenga-whāwhā

Paremata Regeneration Project Y10

Monday 9 April/Rāhina 9 Paenga-whāwhā

Paremata Regeneration Project Y9

Friday 13 April/Rāmere 13 Paenga-whāwhā

Term 1 ends

Message from the Director

We had the most wonderful Student Leader Commissioning Assembly this week and our seniors welcomed Ms Umbers formally to the school community for the first time. They welcomed her in a number of different languages, and with a short video, but the quote Head Girl, Liri Salz, picked spoke volumes to me about the joy, privilege and wonder of being a teacher, which can sometimes get lost in the day-to-day hustle and bustle and minutiae.

“The teacher who walks in the shadow of the temple, among his followers, gives not of his wisdom but rather of his faith and his lovingness. If he is indeed wise he does not bid you enter the house of his wisdom, but rather leads you to the threshold of your own mind.”

-On Teaching/Kahlil Gibran

Just as it is a reward, a challenge and a privilege to be a contributing member of a team, so it is to be a teacher.

I am looking forward to two key events next week. The Parents' Association hold their Annual General Meeting on Tuesday in the staffroom, 7pm. Please do come along, meet fellow association members and hear about what is happening in the school. Wine and cheese provided! Then, on Thursday, it is school Swimming Sports. I look forward to seeing some long-standing records being broken and the excitement of the house participants.

Parents, if you are running late to collect your child from school or from an after school practice of some kind, please ensure they come up to the School Office and wait there. That way staff can be certain of their being collected.



Anne Winnall

2018 Student Leadership Commissioning

This week saw a very special event in the Whitby calendar - the commissioning of our 2018 Student Leadership Team and of the Y13s. It was even more notable as it was the first time that Ms Umbers met the entire student community. The Student Leaders welcomed her to Whitby in six different languages and we were delighted that so many parents were able to join us. Thanks as always to Dan Bain for the photos!



Junior Parent Teacher Interviews – 28 March

Year 7-10 Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on Wednesday, 28 March. Bookings will open the week prior on Wednesday, 21 March. Please see the attachment for full details on how to make an online booking.

School Photos – Monday 19 March

LC Scott Ltd will be in school on Monday morning to take class, individual and Leadership photographs. All students will have their individual photograph taken and will be issued with a shoot key by the photographers. Parents and caregivers will be able to view student photographs online with the option to purchase.

All students must be in full formal school uniform. Shoes should be polished, hair tied up and male students should be clean shaven.

Career Information Evening 2018 – Karori Campus

Every year we hold a career information evening at the Karori campus for Year 10 to 13 students from Whitby and Karori. This year I surveyed the senior students to ask if there were any particular career areas that interested them. Their answers included science research, biomedical science, music, art, photography, classics, project management, international business, genetics, astronomy and veterinary science. If you think you may be able to share your knowledge of careers in any of these areas, or if you know of anyone whom you think may be able to help, please contact susan.binns@marsden.school.nz. I would also love to hear from anyone who would like to take part, or has suggestions about speakers in other fields. The evening will be on 17 May from 7.00pm-8.30pm, at Marsden Karori.

Student Absences and Appointments

If your child will be absent for any reason please notify the school before 8.30am. This can be done via email absences@marsdenwhitby.school.nz or by phoning our absence line 04 234 1070 and selecting 1 to leave a message. Alternatively you can notify us of an absence via the school app. If you do not already have the app, instructions on how to download it can be found under the Resources list located on the right hand side of the Weekly Update page on the Ultranet.

If your child will be in late or leaving early for an appointment please notify the office in advance.

Paremata Regeneration Project

This year we will continue our service to the community through the Paremata Regeneration Project. For parents new to the school, this project, in conjunction with the Department of Conservation, focuses on regenerating the land to the seaward side of Paremata Railway Station to return it to its original flora and fauna. We are now in our seventh year. The school's aim is to provide a consistent and ongoing contribution to the community where the students develop a sense of achievement, which comes from a regular commitment over an extended period of time. We would also welcome any parents who would like to get involved. Please see the letter attached for more information.

Careers Information

Please see our [Careers Information page](#) on Ultranet which is updated weekly for the latest details and the dates of the upcoming events. This week there is new information about UMAT preparation for those students considering medical degrees, an information evening for students interested in applying for sports scholarships to the USA, and WelTec Petone's open day.

Gifted and Talented Programme

Wherever possible students are supported within their classes with extension programmes. In addition to a range of extra-curricular activities, students are given the opportunity to participate in the following:

Kids Lit Quiz
Kiwi Science, Maths and English competition
ICAS competitions
Epro8
Robocup
Science Crest Awards
Spelling Bee
Essay and Speech Competitions
Tournament of Minds
Model United Nations
Commonwealth Head of Government Youth
Innovative Young Minds
Royal Society events

We also love to hear about any other opportunities that are available for our students. Please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss the needs of your child.

Mrs Keenan megan.keenan@marsdenwhitby.school.nz

University of Otago Y7 and Y8 Maths Problem Challenge

This is a competition run by the University of Otago Maths Department and is open to students from Year 7-8 and the cost is \$5. There is more information and previous competitions available on their website, <https://www.maths.otago.ac.nz/pc/PCdetails.php> If your child is interested in entering this competition please complete the form attached to this update and return to the school office by Friday 23rd March. If you have any questions regarding this competition please contact Mrs Keenan megan.keenan@marsdenwhitby.school.nz

EPRO8 Challenge and Robocup

Entries are welcome from Year 7 - Year 10. Final date for entry is Monday 19 March. EPRO8 is a science and engineering competition. The aim is to complete as many challenges within the 2.5 hours to gain

points. Teams of up to four students welcome or sign up and we will assign you a team. For more information look up <http://epro8challenge.co.nz/>"

Robocup is an annual robotics competition. We are keen to send multiple teams competing in either Rescue, soccer or theatre. If you are keen please sign up or contact Mr.Vaz by Monday 19 March. For more information look up <http://robocupjunior.org.nz/> "

Readers and Writers for Schools at the Arts Festival

On March 8, the Year 10 classes were privileged to go along to attend the Readers and Writers Festival event for schools at the Michael Fowler Centre in Wellington; a session to bring together Wellington students and leading book creators. It was an all day workshop filled with fun experiences, as well as interesting stories and people from a wide range of backgrounds, some coming from Australia.

We met with some globally famous authors such as R.A. Spratt, author of the 'Nanny Piggins and Friday Barnes' series, who was extremely funny and entertained us with her anecdotes about being an author, and Sarah Laing, a professional comic book writer, author of 'Mansfield and Me', who introduced us to the art of comic writing. We also saw Mandy Hager, and she showed her books 'The Nature of Ash' and 'Ash Arising', teaching us how a good page-turner should be written.

These authors made great speeches documenting their lives as authors and the making of their books. We also got to hear some reading from some bestselling novels to see what the ideal book would be like. All the while we learnt handy tips and tricks to help our writing skills, including the process of making a book, where the ideas come from, and how to make a book or story that people will find interesting and be hooked on. Some of us were also invited along to an experienced writers' workshop with R.A. Spratt, where she explained how all stories are structured with a call to action, problems, helpers, and a key to solving the main characters' problems. We got to draft up some sample characters, locations and interesting character traits.

Overall, we thoroughly enjoyed this workshop and will now have better writing skills to use in the future, and will be better acquainted with the book-writing process.

By Cassidy Abbot & Kyle Chung (10TN)

Debating Club

This week we had four teams compete in the Wellington Speaking Union debating competition. The Senior Premier B team debated against Marsden Karori at Wellington College on Tuesday evening, debating the moot 'That race and class should be considered mitigating factors by judges when sentencing'. We negated this moot and, while we lost the debate, the team put up a great fight and made a very positive start to the season. On Wednesday the Year 10 Junior Certificate team competed against Kapiti College. We negated the moot 'That freedom camping should be banned'. We won this debate and Cassidy Abbott was also Speaker of the Day.



Debating the same moot the two Year 9 teams both lost their debates, one to Kapiti and one to Tawa, but again made a great start to competitive debating, many of our students debating for the first time. Impressive was the Speaker of the Day awarded to Lara Zampese. So it's onward and upward for the Marsden Whitby debating club for 2018!

Sports

Hockey

A fantastic conclusion to the summer hockey season for Marsden Whitby! A nail-biting final match which saw us neck and neck with Tawa College until the final five minutes, when they snuck past two goals to win 15-13. Everyone tried their very best and you could see the improvements people had made over the season. An excellent summer series and we are all looking forward to the winter games. A special thanks to David Mackay for his coaching assistance.

Relay for Life Car Wash Fundraiser

Our fundraising team raised \$191 and all proceeds go to the Cancer Society.



Student News

Our student achievements, school activities and pictures are found on our news page at [Marsden Whitby News & Events](#).

Community News

Wellington Curtain Bank are now open for the season, offering free lined curtains to low-income homes. More information is available here: <https://sustaintrust.org.nz/pages/free-curtains>