



# Phoenix

March  
2007

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Nga mihi nui ki te whanau o te Kura o te Pou Hoia.

Greetings to the learning community of Freyberg High School.

More and more we are asking students to step up and take responsibility for managing themselves – to be self-determined and self-motivated. One of our teachers talks about the “P” factor – the postponement of gratification and the ability to set goals and work towards them.

Today a teacher relies much more on the power of influence than on the power of authority. Today we are trying to develop a school culture which is supportive and relies on building positive relationships between the teacher, the student and the parent.

I am concerned that the efforts of some media are most unhelpful and every individual who has had a bad experience at school gets the opportunity to sensationalise and exaggerate that experience. In my own experience, the majority of teachers are highly professional; much more so than when I began my career. They are dedicated to meeting the needs of their students. Yet their professionalism is being undermined and underplayed at the very time we need partnerships between home and school to maximise learning for our students.

Recently, NZQA released national comparative figures on NCEA and school achievement. We need to be very cautious about how this information is used. Standards-based assessment is about individual achievement – it is not about normative comparisons.

Freyberg High School is about making sure that every single child learns – not just the ones in the top half. NCEA is about what programme we can put together for your child that meets his/her needs. We mix and match Unit and Achievement Standards as we and the student see fit, which allows us to develop different assessment practices according to the needs of students. Because of the variety of NCEA practices, it is not appropriate to use them as a performance indicator for schools. Standards-based assessment is to be used for personalising achievement. If it is used as a comparative tool, then schools are forced into the moral dilemma of what is best for the individual student versus how do we make our school look good?

**We can show the academic improvement individuals make in our school.**

Recently, I shared our NCEA results at the PTA meeting. Highlights for us were:

- 1 10 Scholarships (7 last year)
- 2 79% gaining University Entrance (63% last year)
- 3 74% gaining Level 1 Literacy (54% last year)

I am happy to email or post to any parent the NCEA Report for Freyberg that has been presented to the Board of Trustees.

**Michael McMenamin**  
PRINCIPAL

## ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The Freyberg Environment Committee were invited by the Mayor to perform their recycling rap at the official opening by the Prime Minister of the Awapanui Recycling Depot.

**Genevieve Bryant**  
Teacher  
Special Education



## ACC AND POLICE AWARD

Chris Charlton received an award from ACC and the NZ Police in recognition of the high quality design work he produced while on Year 10 Work Experience in November last year.

Chris was working with Cathy Glentworth of Glenty Design on a project aimed at reducing driver fatigue.

**Helen Green**  
CAREERS ADVISOR



## MUSIC NOTES

### YEAR 9 PERFORMANCE MUSIC OPTION

Some students who have chosen this option have not yet selected their performance instrument or begun tuition. Students in this option are required to choose a concert band instrument and begin lessons through our itinerant music tutors at school. Please see Mrs Hewetson in the Music Department immediately if you are yet to enrol.

### MUSIC TUITION

Places are still available in some instruments for students to learn a musical instrument at school. Tuition is free for Year 9 students, and costs only \$200 per year for Years 10-13. Information about obtaining an instrument is available from the Music Department – these can be rented at affordable rates from several suppliers. See the Music Administrator, Mrs Hewetson, or your classroom music teacher.

We encourage all students to enrol to learn a musical instrument while they have this excellent opportunity. Freyberg High School has one of the largest music programmes in the country – we acknowledge the difference that playing music makes.

## STOP PRESS!

**Music Notes** The Senior Concert Band, under the direction of Don McLaurin, played at the inaugural Hawkes Bay Bands Festival on 25th March. The adjudicator, upon awarding them a Gold medal, said he had never heard a school concert band play so well, or to such a high standard. We are indeed fortunate to have on our staff a leading world expert in Dr McLaurin!

## THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME AT FREYBERG

An invitation is extended to students to join the Scheme.

### What is the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme?

It is a programme of activities designed to challenge the individual's achievements. The rewards gained are the rewards of knowing that students have set themselves goals and have achieved them.

It is not competitive. There are 3 levels of Award which students at Freyberg have completed successfully in the past, starting from the age of 14; Bronze, Silver and Gold.

At each level, students are required to do some form of activity in each of the sections – service, expedition, skill and physical recreation.

The Award programme is recognised nationally and internationally – equally the Award is seen favourably in students' Curriculum Vitae.

I encourage and invite more students to participate. The cost is \$20 for materials, badges, certificates and booklets and is co-ordinated by me at Freyberg High School with the overall assessment of activities done by the Wellington office.

**Ms Paine**  
Teacher/Co-ordinator of  
The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Freyberg High School is very proud of the students who gained Scholarships last year:

Daniel Lamb our Dux gained three scholarships. Naomi Herbert

## MISSA RESULTS

### FIRST (14)

Ariana Blackwood	800m JG	2-31.35
	1500m JG	5-17.13
	Shotput JG	8.79m
	Discus JG	24.86m
	Javelin JG	19.48m
Paige Lowe	400m IG	62.19
	80mH IG	14.22
Crystal Stewart	800m SG	2-51.54
Sarah Brooks	1500m SG	5-30.28
	3000m OG	11-14.30
Michael Horne	3000m JG	10-43.96
Andy Kruy	Long Jump IB	6.29m
	Triple Jump IB	12.61m
William Liuvaie	Hammer OB	32.89

### SECOND (12)

Jess Skipper	High Jump JG	1.30m
Abbey Mahon	Javelin JG	18.88m
Paige Lowe	100m IG	14.15
	High Jump IG	1.45m
	Discus IG	24.42m
Abbey Thomas	100mH SG	19.28
Reenee Watene	Shotput SG	9.44m
Jordyn Thomas	Discus SG	28.03
	80mH JB	13.67

Dallas Sims  
Pele Tuapawa, Jess Skipper,  
Savannah Trubshoe,  
Leisha Neumann

4 x 100 JG

### THIRD (12)

Kim Nottingham	1500m JG	5-42.75
Rebecca Pitt	70mH JG	14.70
Leisha Neumann	Long Jump JG	4.16m
Jess Skipper	Triple Jump JG	8.37m
Kate Philpott	Triple Jump IG	8.67m
Abbey Thomas	Shot Put IG	9.23m
Mirren Haylock	Javelin IG	20.42
Jordyn Thomas	Hammer OG	25.54m
Andy Kruy	100m IB	11.78
Strahan Moynihan	3000m IB	10-24.87
Tatendo Musopero	Long Jump SB	5.69m
James Buchanan	Triple Jump SB	11.12m

## PTA

The PTA will meet in the Staff Room at 7.30pm on 15 May and 19 June. On 15 May there will be a presentation from staff in charge of Special Education. Are you interested in finding out what we do at Freyberg with our "special" students? The PTA has invited the Principal to speak at the 19 June meeting. **What is the state of Freyberg High School? This promises to be an interesting meeting, looking at the issues facing our school. This is a chance to ask the questions with other parents present.**

So far this year the PTA has financially supported the following:

- PTA Dux Award
- Guitars for the Music Department
- Encyclopaedias for the Library
- Thesaurus for every classroom
- Radio Station
- Chess set

And the Volleyball team going to the Nationals.

PTA Chair Gaye Philpott can be contacted at [gaye@eatwise.co.nz](mailto:gaye@eatwise.co.nz)

gained 2 scholarships in English and Calculus as did Sajun Banjade in Statistics. We also congratulate Laura Velvin (English), Gad Erlangga (Calculus) and Kaydee Ferry (English)

## FROM THE SPORTS ACADEMY

### Kelly Black

Youngheart Manawatu U15 Football Academy

### Ariana Blackwood

NI Colgate Games  
1st 1500m, 3rd 800m, 3rd Discus  
Waikato Champs  
2nd Discus, 3rd 800m.  
Manawatu SS  
1st 800, 1500, Shot, Discus and Javelin  
Wellington Champs  
1st and Record 1000m Steeplechase  
2nd Shot, 2nd 800m  
NZ Champs  
5th W16 Steeplechase

### David Burr

Selected for NZ team for World Tae Kwon do Champs, Canada

### Royden Burt

Manawatu U18A Hockey team

### Keeley Butler

7th NZ Steeplechase W16

### Adele Costello

Manawatu Dragons Inline team  
New Zealand Junior Womens' Inline Hockey team

### Alex Cromie

Manawatu U15A Hockey

### Tadhg Delany

Selected for the Young Heart Manawatu Soccer Academy.

### Tessa Field

2nd Manawatu G13 50 Free  
3rd Manawatu G13 100 Free  
3rd Manawatu G13 200 Free  
2nd Manawatu G13 50 Fly  
2nd NI U14 100 Free  
4th NI U14 50 Free

### Emma Finlay

Manawatu Age Groups  
1st 50, 100, 200 Breaststroke, 50, 100, 200 Fly, 100 and 400m Free, 200 and 400 I.M.  
3 new school records  
NZ Age Groups  
3rd 200 Breast, 4th 100 Breast, 5th 50 Breast, 11th 400 I.M.  
NISS  
2nd 200 I.M.  
2nd 200 Breast.

### Lorena Gledhill

Manawatu Age Groups:  
3rd 100 Breaststroke  
3rd 50 Breaststroke  
3rd 50 Backstroke  
Broke 5 school records  
NISS  
5th 50 Breaststroke  
7th 100 Breaststroke

### Jan Hughes

8th NZ Motocross

### Paige Lowe

6th NZ W16 High Jump  
School Record 1.53m (Intermediate and Senior Record)  
MISSA 1st 80mH, 1st 400m, 2nd High Jump, 2nd 100m.

### Kim Nottingham

Young Heart Manawatu U15 Reps.

### Kate Philpott

Selected for Manawatu U15A Hockey team  
3rd in Triple Jump at MISSA

### Nicole Robertson

U16 Football Reps,  
Reserve Federation Cup team  
Youngheart Academy member

### Hinerangi Temara

Manawatu U15 Softball

### Jordyn Thomas

4th in Shotput NZSS  
5th in NZ W16 Shot

### Faz Torrence

Selected for Manawatu  
Selected in the New Zealand team

**George McConachy**  
Director, Sports Academy.

## SPORT AT FREYBERG

We have had school Swimming sports, Freyberg Athletics and Manawatu Secondary School Athletics days as well as summer sports running during this term.

Please note for those interested in swimming, that the Manawatu Inter-Secondary School Swimming Champs will now be held on the 2nd May at the Freyberg Pool. Any students from school who will be involved in this will receive a letter home shortly.

If your child is planning on playing a winter sport, we require the registration forms back urgently to ensure that they are not disappointed by missing out on a team place.

**We insist on all students involved in a sporting code being totally committed to their sport for the whole season. If students do not contact their coach or manager to advise that they are unable to make training or a game several times, then they could well be dropped from the team. We are determined that other team members and coaches will not be let down by unreliable students.**

As always, we are in need of coaches and managers for our teams for winter. PLEASE seriously consider being a coach (there are coaching courses available for free!!) or a manager of a team.

It is a great way to get to know kids well and they certainly do respond to someone being interested in their team and themselves.

Basketball and Hockey are sports in which Freyberg traditionally do very well; we are short of a couple of coaches here so please think about being involved. Please contact the Sports Room if

you are keen to help. A huge thank you to the wonderful parents who already help us - we do appreciate it.

ALL netball teams MUST have an adult present, especially those who are coached by student coaches. A letter will be sent home to all netballers asking for assistance here from parents.

If your child has achieved in representative or national level in their sport, PLEASE contact the Sports Room so that these achievements can be recognised.

**Rosemary Barsanti**  
SPORTS CO-ORDINATOR



## OVERSEAS STUDENT LEADERS



Anael Mouithys Michalad is from Congo and has responsibility for ensuring that refugee students at our school are well looked after. Anael has made a name for himself by welcoming all overseas students to our school.



Maaya Konagai is from Japan and has a high level of spoken English. Maaya meets with the other school leaders regularly representing the overseas students.

## ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL'S NOTEBOOK

### Property Notes:



- 9 new picnic tables have been installed in the student quad and are being well used.
- The soundproofing of the Music Studios is complete and that area has been considerably enhanced.
- Construction has begun on our new Administration and Performing Arts area which should provide much better access to our Office and Student Centre for parents and students in addition to providing raised seating for performances and assemblies.

- Construction on the additions to the Craig Centre and the Learning Support area will begin later in the year.

In total, over 2 million dollars of property development will take place this year.

### Key Dates – Term 2

April 23	Term 2 begins
April 25	ANZAC Day
May 3	School Cross Country (pm)
May 4	I.C.T. Teacher Only Day
May 11	Shimobe High School visit
May 16	Manawatu Secondary Schools Cross Country
May 21-25	Year 10 Technology trips
May 28-June 1	Year 12 Geography trip – Waitomo Year 9 Integrated Studies trip
May 28	Year 13 History trip
June 4	Queen's Birthday
June 8	Manu Korero Competitions
June 11-15	Year 9 Integrated Studies trip
June 13	Secondary School Chamber Music Competitions
June 20	Year 12 Geography trip (pm)
June 21	Year 12 Geography trip (pm )
June 22	Senior Reports posted
June 23	Cheerleading Regionals (Auckland)
June 27	Senior Report interviews
June 28	Cleveland High School visit
June 29	Term 2 ends.

**Peter Brooks**  
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL

## TEACHER ONLY DAY

This is notice that Friday May 4 is a Teacher Only Day and the school will not be open for instruction.

**PEDCO**  
L.M.V.D.

56 Bourke Street, PO Box 4627, Palmerston North  
Phone 06-355-4491, Facsimile 06-355-4497

## SCIENCE SPOT

The year has started well in the Science Department for 2006. Gail Porter, our Assistant HOD Science, was awarded a Royal Society Fellowship for 2007. She is studying tuatara on Soames Island in Wellington, and thoroughly enjoying the experience. Lucy Pearse has taken on responsibility for looking after Biology in Gail's absence and we welcome back John O'Sullivan to our team, after his year abroad.



At the end of 2006 Heather Jameson was selected to attend SciTech Forum 2007. She attended this 2 week course in January and described the experience as an awesome and unforgettable experience where she got to learn about the different science fields with like-minded students from around New Zealand.

Science combined with Integrated Studies again this year to run Year 9 field trips out at Ashhurst Domain. The Science component included activities studying the wetland area, the bush environment and stream studies. The following photo shows students investigating the health of the stream by examining the invertebrate life present.

**Craig Steed**  
HOD Science.



## SCHOOL HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS

During the school holidays, the school Office will be closed for the Easter week and will be open April 16 – 20. The Student Centre will be open on April 20 only.

## TOUCH TEAM

Congratulations to our Girls' Senior Touch team, who have qualified for the Nationals!

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