



# Phoenix

June  
2006

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL



*"Take for example, Freyberg High School, which has significantly raised the numbers of students achieving Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy."*

*(Steve Maharey, Minister of Education, "Manawatu Standard" 17 April 2006.)*

Kia ora koutou, te whanau o te kura o te pou hoia.

Many of you would have seen the "League Tables" which compare the results of various schools in NCEA examinations. At Freyberg in 2005, 57.3 of Year 11, 56.8% of Year 12 and 42.7% of Year 13 students achieved full NCEA qualification, which is an improvement over 2004. The percentage figure is based upon the percentage of students who obtained NCEA Level 1, 2 or 3 Certificates and on the number of students who were enrolled on July 1. This involves all our students who were at Freyberg High School on July 1. As you know, statistics can be construed to mean anything, so I want to indicate our emphases in terms of NCEA assessments. A full analysis of our NCEA results will be discussed at a future PTA meeting and I'll highlight key issues for our school in the next Newsletter.

Our Vision Statement speaks of offering a balanced education, where students take responsibility for their learning. As a school we must justify our educational outcomes and aim for every student to achieve his/her academic potential. We do not want a laissez-faire approach from our students which condones laziness and students not achieving their potential.

There is a tension between being an assessment-driven school and an in-depth teaching/learning institution that focuses on a love of learning and how to access knowledge. We are not obsessed with examination results (especially those based on July 1 rolls) and/or how our school looks. **We are about education, not training.** We do not want assessment to drive the curriculum.

Our emphasis needs to be on continuing to improve our pass rates for NCEA Literacy and Numeracy and the percentage that leave our school with qualifications. It is essential that we offer appropriate courses for our senior students where they are challenged and gain success. This may well involve more emphasis on internal assessment where students can achieve to their full potential and work consistently all year.

**Michael McMenamin**  
PRINCIPAL

## CANOEING



During Easter Weekend, there were clear skies, glorious sun and a fast flowing river in a forest setting in Hawkes Bay. This was the location for the 2006 New Zealand Open Nationals.

Competitors from all over the world gather (New Zealand, Australia and England) to participate in a down river race. The aim is to navigate the course in the fastest time possible, while manoeuvring through both upstream and downstream gates. Simple as that!

Competitors get two runs in which to complete the course in the hope of winning. My first run wasn't exactly perfect, resulting in me rolling (going upside down and coming back up again), but my second run more than made up for it, resulting in me getting the New Zealand Gold and an overall third (to two Aussies!).

James Stewart. Congratulations James. Well done!!

*Pictured: James Stewart winning the 2006 New Zealand Open National Canoeing Championships.*

### School Office:

Our school office will be closed in the first week of the school holidays – July 3 to 7.

### Uniform:

At Freyberg High School, "school shoes" means shoes that have laces and take a shine.

We apologise for any misunderstanding.

## STAGE CHALLENGE

The Regent,  
June 23.  
Freyberg  
rocks!



Richard Warnock and Nathan Ram paint the set

**Freyberg High School Newsletter**

Freyberg Street, Palmerston North. Phone 358 4971, Fax 357 5377. Email office@freyberg.ac.nz

## SCHOOL CHESS CLUB



All students are invited to join the school Chess Club. We meet at lunchtimes in J6, where competitive play and coaching are available. Chess has been shown to develop a player's memory, improve concentration and develop logical thinking, as well as improving students' mathematical ability. Most of all, it is fun to play.

## MUSIC

The Freyberg High School Stage Band took the title once again at the Manawatu International Jazz Festival Secondary Schools' Competition. High school jazz bands from the country performed over Queen's Birthday weekend, with the Freyberg band winning the shield for the best from the Manawatu for the third consecutive year.

A number of students have competed in the Manawatu Performing Arts Competitions, successfully gaining places in both vocal and instrumental sections.

Katie Isaacs, Rachel Evenbly, Matthew McEwen and Caitlin Hapeta are among the successful competitors. There may be more results from this competition that we haven't yet heard about.

The concert bands recently performed at the after-function of Massey Graduation ceremonies. Two busloads of keen musos hit the Square and gave a fine outdoor performance on the City Council's portable stage.

Also in the Square, our school rock bands performed at a high school rock concert on 20th May. They acquitted themselves admirably and we wish them well for the forthcoming RockQuest competition.

The Big Sing (NZ Secondary Schools' Choral Competition) is also coming up this term, and once again our Bella Cantare is performing. All the best to Kirsten and her students.

In August our concert bands are travelling to Auckland for the National Concert Bands' Festival. It is 4 years since we last participated, and this year our own Dr McLaurin is chief adjudicator.

**The next end-of-term concert is on Tuesday, 27th June, in the school hall at 7.30pm.** Last term our dancers and musicians played to an overflowing hall of families and supporters. Everyone is welcome.

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## INTEGRATED STUDIES

Term one went by really fast, as there were a lot of things happening. Year 9 classes all went to the Ashhurst Domain to learn about the way we use resources – in particular how the Domain has been used over time.

My class (9KG) was one of the three that were visited by Andrew Boyle from the City Council. He wanted our feedback on what we want Palmerston North to look like in ten years time. We were each given a sheet of paper and some fake money. We were asked to write down what things we wanted for Palmerston North and then stick on how much money we were willing to pay.

We were also visited by Alan Fielding, who talked about waste minimisation and what kinds of things we can do with recycled resources. As part of this we had a competition to see what kind of original things people could make from recycled materials.

They also had to be something useful. That was really fun. All in all, it was a GREAT term. I hope this term will be as enjoyable. Tui Tubby, Year 9.



**Kate Buchanan**  
Asst. HOD Integrated Studies.

## PACIFIC ISLAND FESTIVAL

Just an update on some of our students and various events that they have participated in to date:

Rongomai, Lewis, Darcy, Teaomana, Kelcie, Terewai, Teresa and Moana - participated in the Hui Aranga held in Flaxmere over Easter. They took part in various competitions - Speeches (English & Maori), Netball and Tennis, Choral and Kapa Haka. Lewis and Kelcie came 2nd in their respective categories for speech comps and Moana 3rd.

Rongomai was narrowly beaten by the 60+ champ in Tennis and came 1st in the solo Choral section. They came back with 8 trophies all up for various Kapa sections and an aggregate for religious expression. Their tutor was Rawiri Tinirau (lecturer at Massey) and parents who went to tautoko were myself, Ros Bartosh and the Tipene whanau.

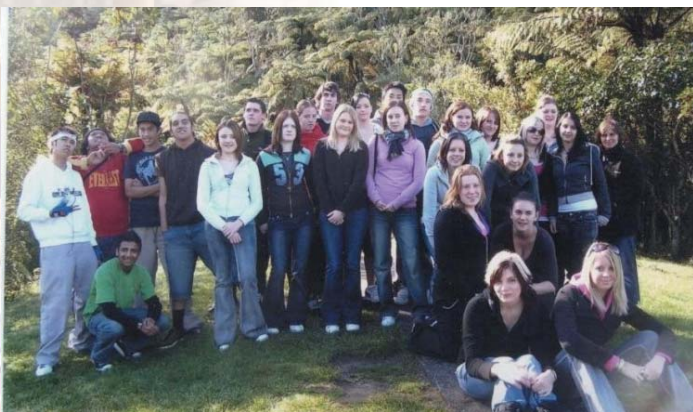
The Secondary Schools Pacific Island Festival - Students from Freyberg were placed 2nd in the Cultural section - 15 schools took part. Also 3 of the Samoan students were placed 2nd in the talent section.

Finally, senior students (15) from the Te Piringa Group were selected to participate in the Ceremony to honour Maori Graduates of Massey University last Friday. They were given the honour of welcoming the graduates into the Regent Theatre with a haka powhiri. They also supported our kai karakia, Rev. Kahu Durie and kai korero Charles Matenga - with waiata. They provided a 10 minute entertainment programme and were privileged to lead the procession to the Graduation marquee in The Square - in the rain. They sang all the way, and also entertained the hundreds in the tent.

Senior staff and whanau alike were highly impressed with the presentation, behaviour, and singing of the students. They did us all proud.

I must say that I have been very proud to have been with our kids at all these events, and that they have been excellent ambassadors for the school and for their whanau.

Kia ora ra  
Naku noa  
Whaea Julia Taiapa



## YEAR 13 TOURISM TRIP

The tourism trip – what can I say? Rotorua smelt but it was AWESOME! The tourism classes went on a trip to discover tourism in NZ.

We all went on a number of tourist activities including the Polynesian Spa, the luge; we strolled around the buried village and had an amazing time at the Grand Tiara Hotel. There we indulged in a beautiful hangi before being entertained by a wonderful Maori concert.

Overall, the tourism trip was wicked; the teachers were full of life and if I had the chance to do it again I would, but I'd remember to take some cutlery.

## SUPPORT MATHS

Support Mathematics runs every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon in E1 and Day 3 and Day 6 at lunchtimes. There are four teachers involved in the after school sessions and three in the lunch time sessions.



All levels are catered for and it helps students to achieve to their potential and beyond!

Support Maths will give you the opportunity to:

- Prepare thoroughly for assessments
- Consolidate concepts learnt in class
- Get help with homework
- Catch up on missed work when you have missed class for some reason
- Take part in the Yr 10 accelerated programme (by invitation)
- Take part in Excellence workshops
- Prepare for Scholarship
- Have the opportunity to do reassessments (senior school)

We look forward to seeing students in Support Maths and being able to work with them in a much smaller teaching ratio than we have in a regular classroom.

### GRAPHICS CALCULATORS

The external assessments for NCEA assume that students are complement users of Graphics Calculators. As students move through the levels of NCEA, the benefits gained by using a Graphics Calculator become greater. Students in the junior school who intend to move through the traditional Maths classes in the senior school are advised to develop competence in the use of a Graphics Calculator before they enter Year 11. The Maths Department recommends and is able to supply Casio fx 9750 Plus Calculators for \$80.

Robert Elder, HOD MATHEMATICS  
Karen Lee, ASSOCIATE HOD MATHEMATICS

## SPORTS ACADEMY

**Sarah Brooks** – 6th in NZSS 2000m Steeplechase  
2nd in both Steeplechase and 400mH at the National teams' Final.

4th in the MISS 2000m Steeplechase  
1st in the Freyberg Cross Country and the MISS Cross Country at Foxton

Winner of the Hastings Steeplechase.

**Keeley Butler** – Winner of the Freyberg Y9 Cross Country  
7th at the MISS Cross Country at Foxton  
Athletics Manawatu team to Inter-provincial teams Championships in Auckland

**David Burr** – Selected for New Zealand at the World Junior Tae Kwon-do Championships  
1st U18 at the Wellington Championships for "Special Techniques."

**Royden Burt** – Selected for the Manawatu U15A Hockey team.

**Tama Christensen** – 1st Open Men's Napier Triathlon  
Selected for World Age Group Championships

1st Manawatu Open Men's Duathlon  
1st NZ Duathlon M16 to 19

ANZAC Relays fastest time by any athlete

1st Freyberg Cross Country  
1st MISS Cross Country by over 60 seconds.

**Lisa Anderson** – Athletics Manawatu/Wanganui team to the NZ Inter-provincial Athletics.

**Emma Finlay** – 5th MISS Cross Country at Foxton  
Selected for NZ Swimming Development Squad  
Qualified for NZ Age group Championships in 400m I.M.

**Steven Greenblatt** – 1st U13 Plate at Wellington  
Table Tennis Autumn Open.

**Jason Geange** – Northern Tennis Club Senior Boys' Champion.

**Luke Harrington** – Marist Tennis Club Champion  
A representative player, he has been selected to play A Grade Inter-club in the 2006/2007 season.

**Paige Lowe** – At MISSA, 1st High Jump 400m, 800m and 1500m  
Set a school record of 1.48m for High Jump  
Represented Manawatu SS and Athletics Manawatu/Wanganui  
1st MISS Cross Country by over one minute.  
2nd Hastings Steeplechase.

**Grace MacPherson Newton** – Selected for Manawatu U21 Touch and Manawatu U 17 Basketball

**Josh Munn** – Manawatu/Wanganui U17 Quadrangular Golf team – winning all three matches  
A member of the Manawatu Elite Squad, Josh has a 0.6 handicap.

**Freya Newton** – Manawatu U21 Mixed Touch team  
Manawatu U15 Women's Touch  
Manawatu U15 Basketball (as Captain)

Golf – a 0.8 handicap.

**Cam Rogers** – Manawatu U18A Hockey.

**David Scott** – Moto Cross.

1st overall in Wanganui Triple X over three rounds.

**Nikki Scott** – Moto Cross.

1st Women's Open Wanganui Triple X series.

**Abbey Thomas** – Manawatu U17 Girls' Basketball team.

**Jordyn Thomas** – 7th MISS Discus 31.53m (Freyberg record)

1st MISSA Shot put

2nd MISSA Discus

3rd MISSA Hammer Throw

Manawatu U17 Basketball team.

**Renee Van Nistelrooy** – Manawatu U15 Netball team

**Janna Vaughan** – Selected for the World Muay Thai Championships in Thailand.

**Amie Whiting** – Invited to the Royal NZ Dance Workshop in July.

**Lorena Gledhill** – 1st MISSS U13 50m Breaststroke

1st MISSS U13 100m Breaststroke

3rd MISSS U13 50m Fly.

**George McConachy, Director, Sports Academy.**

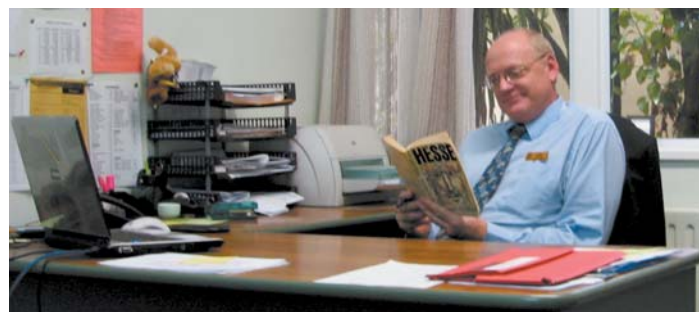
## EXAMINATION FEES

NZQA fees are now due and should be paid to Freyberg High School.

Financial assistance is available for families who are in low income brackets or receiving a benefit. Please contact the school for more information.



## ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL'S NOTEBOOK



As part of our focus on literacy at Freyberg we are using staff and students to provide examples of what they are reading here in the Newsletter. It seems only fitting that we begin with the editor of the school's Newsletter, Associate Principal Peter Brooks, to tell us what book he is currently reading.

I am reading "The Herries' Chronicles" by Hugh Walpole. This is particularly interesting to me because it is set in the Lake District in England, where I was born, so I recognise many of the places it describes.

It is actually a sweeping historical fiction which starts in 1730 and alludes to key historical events over the next 100 years but Walpole manages to spin a good yarn and keeps the pages turning.

### Sports Council 2006

Congratulations to the following students who have been appointed Team Captains of our First teams for 2006.

Jonnie Haddon	Volleyball – Joint President
Holly Lynch	Hockey – Joint President
Sarah Brooks	Athletics/Cross Country
Tama Christensen	Athletics/Cross Country/Triathlon
Adina Curtis	Volleyball
Grayson Harwood	Cricket
Milutin Kovecevic	Basketball
Tammy Nottingham	Netball
Jacob O'Neill	Hockey
Kelsey Riley	Soccer
Zane Robinson	Soccer
Cam Rogers	Hockey
Cameron Smith	Rugby
Jason Temara	Basketball/Touch
Kylie Winiata	Rugby

### Important Dates Term 3

July 17	Term 3 begins
July 22	Senior Ball (Carlton)
July 24	Year 13 History trip
August 1	Sports photos
August 2	Massey Open Day
August 4	Year 12 Tourism trip
August 10 – 12	Major Drama Production
August 14 – 18	Winter Sports Tournaments
August 14 – 24	Year 10 Marae trips
August 15 – 22	Senior Exams
August 21	Year 11 Drama Production
August 23	Year 13 Biology Trip
August 24 – 25	Year 12 Ski Trip
August 25	Victoria University Open Day
August 26	Manawatu Science Fair
September 22	Term 3 ends

**Peter Brooks, ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL**

# PEDCO

L.M.V.D.

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## SPORTS ROOM

### WINTER SPORT:

**Netball:** We have 20 teams to administer so once again we look for parent help in managing teams. Junior netball teams mainly have student coaches but Netball Manawatu expect an adult presence for each team. Please make yourself known to the coaches or contact the Sports Room if you can help.

**Practices:** Students MUST contact their coach if they are unable to attend a practice or game.

### SPORTING EXCHANGES:

**Kapiti (May 18).** We travelled to Kapiti College to play netball, hockey, rugby, basketball, soccer, squash and theatre sports. We have the added incentive of playing for a cup, but unfortunately, we were not destined to take the cup home this year - better luck next year! It was a great day, I am sure all the students had a good time and enjoyed the experience of going to a different school to play sports and meet people.



**Hawera (June 7).** Our student Sports Council members decided the exchange would be more exciting if we had a trophy to play for, and so a challenge shield was purchased and displayed to all before competition started. It was a sunny winter's day (fortunately) and all teams played with enthusiasm and great team spirit and did Freyberg proud. At the end of the day when all the results were in, we are delighted to say that the day ended up in a draw - so the trophy stays at Freyberg for this inaugural year!! Unfortunately, there was a last minute problem with the hockey turf being double booked by Hockey Manawatu so we had to cancel the hockey games, which was very disappointing as we traditionally win those games against Hawera so it would have surely been an outright win to Freyberg if these games had gone ahead. We trust that those couple of students who were injured are soon fully recovered. Thanks to all who helped out on the day and it was also great to see so many parents along to support Freyberg.

**Winter Tournament (14-18 August).** If you have a child involved in a sport that is planning on attending one of these tournaments, we would advise you to start planning for this as unfortunately there are costs involved for families. As soon as we have details, newsletters will be sent home to families.

**National Cross Country** Freyberg sent a team of 12 students to this event in Tauranga on 17 June. They were unable to return on Sunday because the Desert Road was closed and unfortunately missed school on Monday. Thank you to Mr McConachy for taking these students.

**Rosemary Barsanti, SPORTS CO-ORDINATOR**

### Junior Indoor Sports

Palmerston North Indoor Sports Arena is running Junior Indoor Netball/Soccer/Cricket competitions. The cost includes a free drink. All ages are catered for. To register as a team or individually, please contact us on: Phone: 356 2543, Fax: 354 8444 or call in at 180 Church Street.