



Phoenix

June
2007

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

OUR OPEN NIGHT IS 1 AUGUST



To meet the demands of the future, the Government is trying to raise academic standards, but the mistake can be to define standards in a narrow way. "McDonalds" standards of excellence are about sameness and prescription in the restaurant business and this is not what we are about.

Today's key industries are communication, information, Science, Technology and entertainment. These businesses require people who are innovative and who have the ability to communicate, work in teams and change direction as quickly as the landscape is moving around them.

Why do so many people think they're not clever? It usually dates back to their time at school. Instead of finding out what they could do, they found out what they couldn't do. Our system puts a huge emphasis on academic ability, and rewards go to those who show it. Such ability is important but it shouldn't be confused with intelligence. The danger of emphasising academic ability alone is that it downgrades other intellectual abilities that are equally important. There is much more to human intelligence – reasoning which enables us to design, compose music, paint, write poetry, compete in sport and to dance. Human intelligence is creative and diverse.

Now more than ever it is vital to encourage all areas of young peoples' intellectual and personal capabilities, and to recognise this is not at odds with academic development. The greatest disincentives to achievement are low self-esteem and lack of motivation. The students at Freyberg who started this year will retire in 2050 (or thereabouts) – we don't have a clue what the world will be like then but we know that creativity and innovation, along with literacy and numeracy, will be essential skills. This is very relevant as we begin to implement the new National Curriculum (see also Associate Principal's Notebook).



Leah Gallie has been selected in the New Zealand U17 Football Team to play in the Australian National Youth Championships in Coffs Harbour in July. This is the first of a number of international fixtures planned as part of the NZ preparation for the U17 FIFA World Cup to be held in New Zealand in 2008. Leah plays for Freyberg High School and Massey University Central Women's team.

GAIN IS COMING BACK TO FREYBERG



Get Alternative Information Now is a practical, activity-based programme designed to help teenagers and their parents address every-day issues and further develop their communication skills. Mr O'Sullivan and a person from Parentline will offer the GAIN programme next term over five Thursday evenings. Those who have taken part in a previous programme have been very positive about its value.

Numbers will be limited. Please phone the school office to register your interest or seek further information.

Dates: August 9, 16, 23, 30 and September 6, 7-9 pm

The Inter-school Build It Challenge, sponsored by Mitre 10 Mega and UCOL, was won by three Freyberg students: Drew Beattie, Chris Mason and Eru Tait-Jamieson (pictured).



A Cup and a monetary prize was presented to the boys.

Congratulations lads, you did the school proud.



Pictured: Tawhiri Wallace receiving a Principal's Award from Mr McMenamain in recognition of his excellent progress.

PTA

The next PTA meeting is to be held on Tuesday August 7 at 7.30pm in the Staff Room. All welcome.

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE 22nd and 23rd NOVEMBER

REMINDER: As part of Year 10 Integrated Studies students are expected to undertake two days' work experience in a career they are interested in. Early preparation ensures exciting and challenging placements can be found.

FREYBERG FM DEVELOPMENTS

The PTA has made a donation to enable us to purchase a studio-grade computer and transmission equipment, for which we are extremely grateful. Committees and management teams are being formed to ensure the station is run professionally and with sound business principles. Administration and technical systems are being developed and a programming schedule is in the planning stage.

We now invite students, parents and staff to approach us with any ideas they may have regarding any aspect of the station: its content, technical issues or its day-to-day running.

Please contact Alan Selway by email at selwaya@freyberg.ac.nz.



INTEGRATED STUDIES

Year 10

The Year 10 classes have all been out on Technology trips this term, ranging from Capital E to Southwards Car Museum and Parliament. The purpose of the trips was to support and investigate relevant changes in types of Technology. Many students spent a lot of time using the computer labs interacting with the Capital E website to prepare them for their time at their TV studio. Feedback from teachers and students was that the trips were jam-packed full of fun and lots of learning opportunities.

Year 9

The Year 9 classes went to the Ashhurst Domain in Term 1. The purpose, in conjunction with the Science department programme, was to learn about the way we use resources – particularly the

Ashhurst Domain and the Manawatu River. The trips were very successful and students loved them.

Term 2 has seen our students step back in time by using the computers to link to case studies such as Victorian Britain and Early Settlers in the Manawatu. This term also brings the second round of trips where students learn about the pioneering times of Palmerston North. We have introduced a new element this year which adds a focus on the Rangitane people and their history in the Palmerston North area.

**Tangi Utikere
Jill Wilkinson**

Assistant Heads of Integrated Studies

MUSIC NEWS

Barbershop

Both Freyberg Barbershop Quartets won the Secondary Schools' Regional Barbershop Competition. The Boys' Quartet, comprising Tevita Fifita Tovo, Amos Ponga-Fou, Sonny Watson and Rongomai Taiapa-Aporo won with a superlative performance that was musical, witty and highly entertaining. The Girls' Quartet – Victoria Mailo, Kelsi Te Peeti, Moana Tipene and Teresa Tepania – also sang beautifully, winning the Girls' Quartet section of the contest. Both groups go on to the national finals in Christchurch in August.

Vocal Competitions

Mary Flemmer (Year 11) gained three first places in the recent Manawatu Performing Arts Competition Society Vocal Festival.

Instrumental Competitions

Lisa Kennerley gained a 2nd and Holly Tate a 1st on Flute in the Restricted Class. Katie Isaacs gained a 1st and 2nd in the Open Under 18, and also the Moberley Rosebowl for aggregate. Freyberg Stage Band took part in the High Schools Competition at Queens Birthday weekend. Bella Cantare took part in the Big Sing Choral Festival.

SPORTS@FREYBERG.AC.NZ



We have 20 Netball, 4 Rugby, 3 Hockey, 5 Soccer (Football), 5 Basketball, 1 Table Tennis, 4 Badminton, 3 Squash, 1 Small Bore Rifle Shooting, and 2 Canoe Polo teams running at the moment. A huge thank you to all coaches and managers who are involved with these teams.

Recently we had our annual sports & cultural exchange with Kapiti College. They travelled to Freyberg on the 23 May - the one day that week that we had rain – and it poured!! Our two

schools are very close in ability and so the day is always a close contest, but this year Freyberg came out on top and now hold the cup that is contested for each year. Well done Freyberg - a great day's efforts under trying conditions.

The annual winter sports tournaments will be held in August again and we will have two basketball, two soccer teams and one hockey team attending tournaments this year. Please contact the Sports Room if there is any problem with payment for these tournaments. We do have facilities for these fees to be paid off.

If you are new to school and would like to be involved in a sports team, come to the Sports Room in C Corridor (past all the building alterations) during interval or lunchtime.

Sport – a great way to keep fit, make friends, learn teamwork, get more skills and have fun doing it!!!!

Rosemary Barsanti

SCIENCE SPOT

The school's Science & Technology Fair is going to be held at the school on Wednesday 15th August. All students are invited to enter a project in this year's fair. The best exhibits will then be entered into the Manawatu Science & Technology Fair to be held on Friday 31st August. All students in Year 9 extension classes are expected to enter the school fair. All other students are encouraged to enter, in particular senior students who are doing investigations for NCEA should consider converting this into a project for entry. As in previous years, we have a great range of prizes for section winners.

There are some important points to consider when planning an investigation, especially investigations that involve animals or people, as these may require ethics approval. Please talk to your science teacher or look at the flow chart at <http://www.nzase.org.nz/ethics/guidelines.html> for an indication as to whether ethics is needed. If it is then visit <http://www.nzase.org.nz/ethics.html> for more information. This process may take a bit of time so it would pay to get on to it straight away.

The school holidays would be the ideal time to get a science investigation started and even completed!

Happy investigating,

Craig Steed
HOD Science

DRAMA



The Drama Department are looking for donations of curtains to make costumes from. We would prefer curtains that are robust, and thick enough to make into period skirts, capes and bodices. Donations will be gratefully received and can be brought to the school office.

Tamzin Darragh
Acting HOD Drama.

VIETNAM TRIP

Sin Chow (Hello)

After a long flight on Singapore Airlines and a short stay in Singapore, we finally arrived at our destination. We touched down in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, in the afternoon of April 1st. We got off the plane and were met by a sea of Vietnamese faces.

In Saigon it was very crowded and hot with 4 million odd scooters and motorbikes. We spent our time canoeing down rivers such as the Mekong Delta and swimming in the South China Sea. We ate many different exotic foods and delicious juicy fruit.

It was a history-focused trip so we spent lots of time at museums learning about the history of wars in Vietnam. We got to participate in many activities including crawling through the Cu Chi tunnels and seeing Ho Chi Minh's body in his mausoleum.

We travelled up the coast of Vietnam by bus, taking in the beautiful scenery on our lengthy bus rides. We met many friendly people and took every opportunity to experience the unique culture of Vietnam.

Eleven Freyberg students went on the trip and all had a fantastic time. If another opportunity like this comes up, I would recommend students to take it up.

Morgan Curnow
Year 13

SPOTLIGHT ON GEOGRAPHY

The Year 11 have been to Himatangi Beach investigating how coastal dynamics operate. Year 12 have just returned from Waitomo, learning about the limestone environment and experiencing wild caves and the Year 13 were in the Tongariro National Park in Term One studying volcanic processes.

Maatangi Whenua Competition – The New Zealand National Geography Competition: In late March a talented team of three year 11 Geographers participated in the Manawatu regional round of the Maatangi Whenua Geography competition. The team was Sam Sturgess, Chris Charlton and Luke Harrington. The competition consisted of 10 activities each with a different theme and related to Geographic skills and knowledge. Some activities involved the use of play dough to construct a model and others were about Geography in the news. By the half way point the team wasn't doing very well at all, but the last rounds saw the Freyberg Team surge to second place.

Yr 11 Coastal processes: Everyone was excited by the opportunity to go to the beach. The weather almost did a job on us, providing plenty of wind, but thankfully no rain. This was good, because the students could actually see the Manawatu dune system in action as sand was blown inland off the beach and onto the sand dunes.

Students completed activities such as field sketching, model making and sampling plant and insect species in order to understand the interconnected nature of this amazing coastal system.

Yr 12 Waitomo Natural Landscapes: Thirty-two Students jumped into five minivans on the Monday morning and in beautiful weather drove the five hours up to Waitomo.

The highlight of the trip is the adventure caving that occurs on the Tuesday and Wednesday, some groups not venturing underground until well after sundown and only making it back to the lodge around midnight. These were a real challenge, wading through water up to your neck in places, negotiating squeezes and some difficult climbs; all designed to challenge the students and give them an appreciation of the delicate nature of the cave systems.

Yr 13 Geography and Biology Trip to Tongariro National Park: The year 13 students went to the Tongariro National Park in week four of Term One in order to study how various interacting natural processes operate in a volcanic landscape.

The next three days consisted of walking the Tongariro Crossing to observe the volcanic nature of the landscape, gathering some data on the plant life in the park on the slopes of Mt Ruapehu and rafting the mighty Tongariro River.

SPORTS ACADEMY

Students of the Sports Academy continue to excel. The highest this term have been...

Josh Munn NI Golf – 3rd U17; Intercollegiate Districts Secondary Schools – 2nd; Tauranga Pro-am – 13th Amateur. Ranked 5th U23 in NZ

Jordyn Thomas MISS 2nd Shot, 3rd Discus and Hammer; NISS 6th Shot. Manawatu U18B Hockey

Eliza Buckland Gold – World ITF Tae Kwon Do Championship
Freya Newton Manawatu U15 Touch, Captain Manawatu U21 Mixed, Central Districts U15, NZ Elite Academy, Manawatu U17 Basketball

David Burr One Gold, two Silver and a Bronze medal at the World ITF, Tae Kwon Do Championships

Ariana Blackwood, School discus record 27.06m, 3rd MISS X country

Emma Finlay MISS Swimming – 1st 100m Breaststroke, 1st 50m Breaststroke, 1st 100m Fly, 3rd 50m Fly

Adele Costello NZ Junior Inline Hockey team which defeated Australia

Tom Hughes 10th NZ Moto cross

Hinerangi Temara Manawatu U15 Netball Development Team
Charlie Watson Manawatu Basketball Rep

Grace McPherson-Newton NZ U18 Koru Basketball Team, Captain Manawatu U17 Touch

ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL'S NOTEBOOK



Curriculum Review:

The Ministry of Education will shortly be releasing a new curriculum document to guide schools and communities.

Our school community will need to review our school's vision, principles and values so that our school leavers are able to "fully participate in and contribute to a sustainable, enterprising and socially just society" (Ministry of Education 2007).

What does this really mean?

Our current educational model was set up in the 19th Century to meet the needs of the industrial revolution and this created a series of systems and hierarchies which that society thought desirable.

We are currently on the cusp of a technological revolution that has seen the greatest rate of change in the history of mankind and experts are telling us this is only the beginning. Nobody

knows how this will affect our society in ten, twenty or thirty years' time when our current students will be in the workforce.

Ken Robinson, speaking at the International Educators' Conference, believes that we need to recognise that in this time of change, **creativity** is as important as **literacy**. He goes on to argue that our current school system is educating people out of their creative capacity.

- Should music, art, drama and problem-solving be at the core of our new curriculum?
- How do we prepare students to rapidly adapt to increasing rates of change?
- What role has the school in developing core values?
- How do we match these ideas with the requests for more students to move into the trades?
- How do we ensure "unmotivated" students stay at school longer and improve their futures?
- How can schools lead communities when they continue to be under funded?

We will be setting up a number of forums through which you can have your say over the next twelve months but I would love to receive your comments and ideas. (brooksp@freyberg.ac.nz)

Term 3 Dates

16 July	Term 3 begins
28 July	Senior Ball (Novotel)
1 August	Open Night
6 August	Mufti Day
7 August	Hawera Exchange
8 August	Y9/10 interviews
13-23 August	Y10 Marae trips
23/24 August	Y12 PE Ski trip

24/25 August	North Island Concert Band Festival
27-31 August	Winter Tournament Week
4 September	Sport and Cultural photos
5/6 September	Y12 Drama productions
14-21 September	Senior Exams
23 September	Term 3 ends
8 October	Term 4 begins
10 October	Senior Report interviews

Peter Brooks, ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL

REMINDER - EXAM FEES

NZQA fees are required to be paid to Freyberg High School by 31 July 2007.

CAREERS

DATES FOR TERM 3

16 July: Semester 2 courses start at UCOL; 19 July Meat and Wool Careers Day (Yr11-13); 26 July Tertiary Information Evening, Speirs Centre, PNBHS (Yr12/13); 1 August UCOL Open Day, Massey Open Day (pm only for FHS); 2/3 August Step Up programme in Palmerston North (some Yr13 students); 4 August Massey Open Day (Saturday everyone welcome); 16 August: Otago Health Sciences presentation, Speirs Centre, PNBHS (Yr12/13); 24 August: Victoria and Massey(Wellington) Open days (Yr13); Early Sept: University Halls applications due to Mrs Green; 17 Sept: ESITO 4 week work experience opportunity (Yr 12/13); 24-28 Sept: NZ Army work experience opportunity (Yr12/13).

Helen Green, Careers Adviser

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2006 has been completed and the financial statements audited. A copy of the Report is available for inspection at the school Office.

Atholl Leask, EXECUTIVE MANAGER

PEDCO
L.M.V.D.

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ROCK ON PROGRAMME

Freyberg High School is involved in the ROCK ON programme. The agencies involved are Child Youth and Family (CYFS), The Ministry of Education, Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMHS), The Truancy Service, The Police, appropriate Youth Service Providers and of course, the school.

The programme aims to reduce truancy, which includes condoned truancy and increase engagement in education.

Truant students who have not responded to the school's intervention are referred to the ROCK ON programme. What follows then is a step-by-step approach that will lead through to holding a Care and Protection Family Group Conference and eventual prosecution if the truancy continues.

As a school, we are pleased to be involved in the programme.

Wendy Jochem, Assistant Principal

CHESS

The school Blitz Chess Tournament was played recently, with 12 players from the school battling it out in J6 during lunchtimes.

Players only had 5 minutes each to make all of their moves, so it was a race against time for many. Sam Lamb (the speedster) and Alex Kesala (the thinker) completed the 5 rounds on 4 wins each, so an extra game had to be played to find the winner. Alex gained an early advantage and quickly won the game – leaving him with the title of Blitz Chess Champion for 2007.

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