



King's Week

The weekly newsletter produced by and for the King's High School community, since 1992.

Building Men for Life

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For my final instalment in this brief overview of my overseas journey, I would like to share a few of my experiences at Harvard. One of the prerequisites of accepting the Woolf Fisher Fellowship was to agree to attend

a conference at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, focusing specifically on enhancing my capacities as a leader. This was not a difficult request to comply with.

I had managed to adjust my travel plans to arrive in Boston on the 4th of July so that I could enjoy the Independence Day celebrations, apparently the best in the United States. Unfortunately due to Hurricane Arthur the celebrations were held on July 3rd and all I managed to get on the 4th were delayed flights and, when I did finally fly, turbulence of the highest order. I staggered off the plane into torrential rain. This was followed by a bomb threat on the Harvard campus. Eventually the bomb threat was allayed and the rain subsided. From this point the trip just got better and better.

The course I attended was punctuated with great speakers, some of whom were familiar to me because I had read their material on leadership or educational theory. There were 200 other Principals from around the world and we quickly made great connections with one another because of our common bond and passion. The Harvard campus was amazing. It was like its own little town with everything you could imagine or want, available. We worked hard and we ate well. The culinary highlight was the Clam Bake on the last evening. The lobster was absolutely superb and there was a seemingly infinite supply. I think I over indulged.

I spent a lot of time reflecting on my own leadership, its strengths and its deficiencies. We were encouraged and, where necessary, forced to be candid and self-critical. While this is not the most comfortable experience it is one of the most rewarding.

The two sessions that really affected me were one of the first and one of the last. The first session was titled "Immunity to Change". The lecturer explored our immunity to change. He explained that each of us knows where we need to change and what that change would look like but we struggle to effect that change a lot of the time. He maintained that the reason that we do not change is because of US. We are holding on to some big assumptions, whether right or wrong, that drive our behaviours and prevent us from making change. He expertly helped us to unpack what those big assumptions were for us. For me it was quite revealing. The reason why I won't change is about me not someone else. Nothing like a bit of personal responsibility and accountability to make you squirm. The second session was around how to change and build the culture of a school. There were two parts of this session that stood out. One was a statement made that "everyone is influencing our school culture all the time". This is important. Our school culture is not dictated from my office but rather by the decisions and choices that each individual makes each day, student and teacher.

The second statement was directed at us as leaders and it was, "you will never change what you are willing to tolerate". How true that is. If we are willing to tolerate mediocrity then a drive for excellence will never prevail. If we are willing to tolerate disrespectful behaviour then a culture of respect will never dominate. If we are willing to tolerate substandard teaching then excellent learning will not be forthcoming. What we are or are not willing to tolerate will largely determine our school culture.

This truly was the trip of a lifetime. I have returned enthused about leading our young men and our superb staff. I am trying to address my own immunity to change and we will continue to work hard at developing the kind of culture everyone wants to be a part of and can be proud of.

Mr Reddix

Rector

INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES WEEK ENDS WITH A BOOM!

To finish off a week of celebrations surrounding International Language Week, the Otaiko Drum Group came and performed at school on Friday at lunchtime. The group performed several passionate and rousing pieces before running a workshop with some of the students on the mound.



Below; Chanse Peita proves that he's got rhythm by beating out a complicated piece on the drum.



NOTICES

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

THEATRESPORTS

...George Heather, Gray Gibson, Alessandro Pezzuto, Quinn Hawthorne and Sam van der Weerden who competed in the South Island Theatresports competition last weekend. This is the first time ever a team from Dunedin has been to this competition and the boys did an awesome job coming 4th in their heat.



RUGBY

...the following boys who have been selected in Otago Metro U13, U14 and U16 Rugby teams for 2014. Also Mr Belcher is coaching the U13 and Mr Alderton is coaching the U14 sides respectively.

U13

Josh Otto
Toby Evans
Josh Dolan (Captain)
Josh Cunningham
Nic McGrath
Henri Mitchell-Collie
Jordan Hand
Isaac Sutherland

U14

Martin Graham
Kory Cunningham
Eyso Kolman
Jack Addis
Lemanu Ma'asi
Nic Brosnahan
Ben Pringle
Jesse Young
Kieran Wheeler
Josiah Lesa
Max Aitchenson

U16

James Te Pairi
Rawiri Wereta

NCEA FEES – SENIOR STUDENTS

Must be paid by the 29th of August (next Friday)
Financial Assistance forms are available from the office.

Please pay before you incur a LATE FEE of \$50.00

MĀORI WHĀNAU HUI

For all whānau of Māori students and whānau interested in the Māori department at King's

Wednesday September 3, 5-7pm, Library.



CLOTHES, BOOKS, TOYS AND WHITE ELEPHANT CAN BE DROPPED OFF NOW

Saturday: 10am – 1pm

Weekdays : Monday – Friday 8.30 – 9.00am and 2.30 – 3.15pm

Or per arrangement. We can also organise pick up if necessary – please ring Rex Meiklejohn 0274347245.

The container is located at the South Car park, boundary to Queen's High School.

King's High School Sports Council Golf Tournament - Friday 10th October St Clair Golf Club

Donated prizes are welcomed.

All money raised goes back into Sport at King's.

“Youth Supporting Youth” Concert PAC Thursday Sept 11 at 7pm

Come along to the Talent Expo to raise funds for students of a local dance school to go to Nationals in Palmerston North in October.

More importantly, however, for King's students it's a chance to see again star acts such as the Acafellas' brilliant efforts in Big Sing, the Kapa Haka group's piece that they recently performed in the North Island, and other spectacular acts from around Dunedin. We have a couple of singers from the recent Les Miserables production, National Aerobics and Hip Hop teams, Gold Guitar winners, Contemporary Dance and Tap Solo Performances and Troupes and, to cap it all off, Kylie Price has also agreed to join in and present a couple of her recently released songs... it will be a fun night and all this for \$10.00!

Tickets can be purchased from the school office or by email contact to Bernadette Tenchi, ti@kingshigh.school.nz

Families Celebrating Father's Day Sunday 7th September 9am- 4pm

Forsyth Barr Stadium

“Our Community, Our Choice.
Stand up to family Violence.”