



A few hours after sending our last newsletter to print, the Government announced a second lockdown due to Covid-19. Our Open Day, to be held the day following, was immediately cancelled – along with the much anticipated return to sport, our Dance Showcase, Cultural and Sports Blues

Evenings, parent teacher conferencing and many other activities planned for Term 3. Online learning again replaced onsite learning, and our social media and website posts once again became Covid-19 updates and alerts rather than celebrations of our people and our place.

Sometimes I can forget what a big ship our place represents; the many school families and community it connects – each also effected personally by current circumstances. I forget because in place we have such an incredible and capable team who are prepared and willing to step up and act as needed - even under difficult circumstances. That team includes you and all your families. While we have had more than enough of Covid-19 updates, at our place they stand to remind us of our manawaroa and atawhai.

Case in point is the accomplishments that have been achieved so far by our resilient and empathetic students over this unique year. It is a pleasure to have this precious opportunity to focus on and celebrate them.

Firstly, congratulations to Rachel McGuire who has been elected by our students as their new Student Representative on our Board of Trustees for the next 12 months. A big thank

you to Jowan Nute who has certainly fulfilled this role as Student Representative over the last 12 months. His absolute passion for the environment has come through very strongly and has made, what I am sure will be, a lasting impact on the future of our school.

Congratulations to our Dance students on outstanding results in the DanceNZMade Interscholar Auckland Regional competition. This year, rather than schools performing at Forum North, the judges visited each participating school to judge their performances. We had students entered into almost all categories and placing top in most; winning gold in six events, including the top award overall. Well done to Maja Plesko (Year 9 Solo), Amali Shore (Year 11 Solo), Kristel Davies (Year 12 Solo) Vanya Dunn (Year 13 Solo), Mia Martin and Isabella Gipps (Year 9-10 Duo) and to Open Team Champions Momentum Dance Company. We also had a 3rd place in the Year 12 Solo for Sophie

Mahady and a second place in the Year 11-13 Duo for Amali Shore and Anna Sollitt. Our sincere thanks to Dance teacher, Miss Woodfield, who has coached, encouraged and trained these students throughout both lockdowns, as well as in class, at lunchtimes, after school and during weekends.

Our congratulations also to Hoani, whose film 'A story for all' has been selected as a finalist in the Focus On Ability Short Film Awards. These awards are designed to encourage filmmakers to focus on the ability of people with disability. Winners will be announced early November. All the very best Hoani!

With all College Sport winter fixtures cancelled, our Sports Department decided to bring sport to our students, with a focus on our Year 9 and 10's. Since the beginning of September they have arranged 'Lunchtime Games' which have included Basketball, Futsal, Netball and Unihoc. There has been

great participation alongside lots of fun. We are keenly waiting to hear updates regarding a return to summer fixtures at Level 1.

Although our Open Day was cancelled, we have put together a 'virtual open day' on our website, with all the information needed for parents of students starting at Mahurangi College next year. We are sorry we haven't been able to welcome you in person yet, but we greatly look forward to doing so next year.

Senior exams will be held 13-21 October and NCEA exams from 16 November. We wish you all the very best. We are greatly looking forward to further celebrating your manawaroa and atawhai at our Senior Prize Giving assembly being held early next Term. For end of term dates and 2021 start dates please refer to our website calendar. Enjoy your well deserved holidays. Kia kaha.

David Macleod - **PRINCIPAL**





Our annual Dance Showcase looked a little bit different this year, as we navigate the restrictions on gatherings and events. Originally scheduled for August 27 and 28, the show was ready to hit the stage as we moved back into Alert Level 3. Students across all year levels at Mahurangi College were involved in the showcase, and had worked incredibly hard throughout the year to prepare their performances, so we held the Showcase across two lunchtimes at school. Performances in the showcase included assessment work from NCEA dance classes, along with each of our extra curricular dance groups: Momentum Dance Company, Impulse Dance Group, Dance Club and the newly formed Junior Troupe. Dance teacher Emily Woodfield is incredibly proud of the achievements of all dancers and would like to thank everyone for their support of the Dance Showcase.

OUR 2020 CULTURAL BLUE, MERIT AND SPECIAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

Our Cultural Blues were held during a small assembly, with Year 13 students and prize winners attending. Our jazz band and the Momentum Dance Company enjoyed the opportunity to perform. A Cultural Blue is awarded in recognition for achieving regional success (or its equivalent) in music, drama, visual arts, media studies, poetry, creative writing, debating, speech making, and in

Kapa Haka and Pasifika cultural groups. In addition to Merits and Blues recognition, special awards were also presented to Kaea Heke (Year 10 up and coming award), Nasia McLennan (Service to Culture), Ben McMurtrie (Technical Support), Michaela Powell (Choral Singing), Maxwell Meale (Dedication to Music and Performing Arts), Kristel Davies (Dedication to Dance), Nasia

McLennan (Dedication to Visual Arts) and Willow Whitham (Visual Arts Person of the Year). Congratulations to all our prize winners for your incredible efforts during such a difficult year. Photos have been uploaded to our Facebook page for those who couldn't attend. We will be holding our Sports Blues award assembly on Wednesday 28 October to acknowledge our elite athletes.



NAUMI TEINABO ACHIEVER OF THE MONTH

Academic Blue Excellence L1 NCEA
Cultural Blue 2019
Cultural Blue 2020
Mediator
Member of Senior Girls Volleyball
Member of Senior Open Debating

Pictured with Marius Muller Operations Manager Mitre 10 Mega Warkworth

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