



## Principal's Message



### Dear Parents and Caregivers

One of the most pleasing aspects of my role as Principal of One Tree Hill College is when we acknowledge the success of our students and staff.

One of our targets this year was to achieve a 100% achievement rate for NCEA Level 1 numeracy. This means that all Year 11 students will achieve a minimum of 10 numeracy credits. This is a critical component of achieving NCEA, as without these numeracy credits, you cannot be successful with this qualification. I'm very pleased to report to you, that on Thursday last week, we achieved our target of 100%. This a wonderful achievement for our students and staff.

This achievement would not have been possible without the dedicated and high quality staff that we have at One Tree Hill College. Students can achieve literacy and numeracy credits across a range of subjects, they are not solely from English and Mathematics alone, although this is still where the majority of these credits come from. This is proof, that when a team comes together, with high expectations and a relentless pursuit of a target, anything is possible (for your information, to date, 96% of our Year 11 students have also achieved their 10 literacy credits).

As NZQA examinations come to a close, I would also like to congratulate all our senior students who have tried so hard to gain further NCEA credits and course endorsement.

It is also my pleasure to inform you of a number of other recent One Tree Hill College student successes:

- Junior Girls Softball won the Auckland Championships and remain undefeated for the last 3 years
- Junior Boys Volleyball finish 4<sup>th</sup> in the North Island Championships
- Junior Girls Tag won the Auckland Championship
- Junior Girls Cricket won the Auckland Blitz Cricket Championship

On an individual level, I would also like congratulate Year 12 student, Losana Tuiletufuga, who was recently nominated as a finalist in the Auckland Sports person of the Year Awards in softball. Losana will attend a formal function at Eden Park on Saturday along with Auckland's other top secondary school sportspeople.

Finally, I have had the privilege recently to preview the 2016 One Tree Hill College Yearbook. It is a fabulous publication which collates the highlights and happenings of the year. It is packed full of photos and memories of student events and achievements which have been compiled by editor, Mr Langdon. Can I please remind families, that only students who have paid their school donation are eligible to receive a yearbook. This wonderful publication will be available and be distributed during the last week of the school year. If you have not paid your school donation and wish to purchase a yearbook you can do this by paying \$15 to the Student Services Centre.

Have a great weekend,

N Coughlan  
Principal



### Upcoming Events

<b>28-30 November</b>	Tongariro Experience
<b>28 November</b>	REP Graduation
<b>1 December</b>	Teacher Only Day

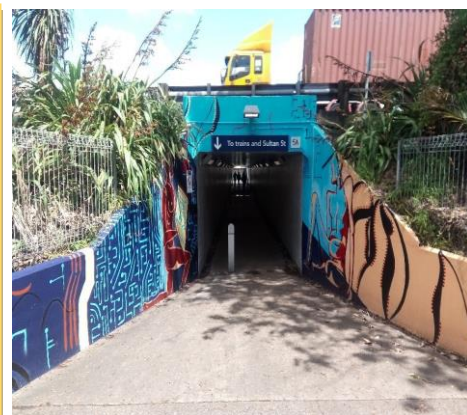
<b>2-6 December</b>	Prefect Camp
<b>7 December</b>	Junior Activity Day
<b>9 December</b>	Junior Prizegiving, 10:00am

## Ellerslie Tunnel Art

For the last 2 months a selection of OTHC art students have been collaborating with a number of UNITEC students to design and apply a mural to the Ellerslie entrance of the motorway tunnel. The design incorporated the history of Ellerslie/Waiatarua, the connectivity of Ellerslie with the presence of the train station, the use of bright colours, and two guardian type figures for safe passage. Then, over the course of a weekend, the students painted the mural they designed.

Some of the history the students learnt, included the understanding that the local Maori gave the name 'Waiatarua' to the site which later became the Ellerslie Racecourse. Translated as 'two songs', the name refers to a waiata or song that emanated from the underground caves. It was believed that this 'singing' was created by water and air blowing from a larger cave into a smaller passage, making a vibrating sound. In the 1960s a new grandstand was constructed at the racecourse and the caves were filled with concrete to create a seal. This was not wholly successful, and it is said that the singing could be heard coming from the caves.

As you can see in the photos, on the left of the tunnel is a pattern representing the connection of people via the train station and the development of technology. The character is welcoming and protecting the area. The circular forms allude to another passage where the Waiata or singing emanates from. On the right are feminine forms singing into the passage way.



## Auckland Champions

The Junior Girls tag team were crowned Auckland Secondary School Tag Champions on Tuesday 15 November at Auckland Domain. Captain Milania Cairns and stand out performer, Jane Aerenga, led the team very well, especially in the close games when the pressure was really on.

The team played with an entertaining brand of tag football and displayed some brilliant skills to beat all their opponents. With some great individual performances from Tegan Amani and Ariana Rusden, who scored crucial tries when the team needed it, the team won game after game on route to the title.

## End of Year Junior Activities

As you are aware, all junior students have the opportunity to partake in a wide range of co-curricular experiences on Wednesday 7 December. These experiences include in school and out of school activities. Activities have limited spaces and entry is on a first come, first served basis. All students are expected to partake in an activity. Students who do not wish to partake in an activity will have a normal school day.

## Junior Social

On Friday 25 November the Junior Social was held in the Auditorium. The event was organised by the Junior Leadership Team and was a fun evening, with great music and lots of dancing. A special thanks to all the teachers who gave up their Friday evening to support the event, especially Mrs McKnight and Miss Mulcahy.

## Teacher Only Day – Thursday 1 December

On Thursday 1 December students will not be required to attend school. Staff will be undertaking a programme of professional learning and development. Please ensure adequate supervision is provided for students at home.

## Junior Prizegiving & Last Day of School

An invitation is extended to all families to join us celebrate the achievements of our junior students in 2016 at our annual Junior Prizegiving on Friday 9 December, starting at 10am in the Auditorium. Students will be able to go home following the event which will conclude at approximately 11:15am. All school buses will run at the earlier time of 11:30am.

