FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER 5TH MAY 2017

Gore High School

"Learning, to make a difference"

Rector John McKinlay BSc, Dip. Tchg.

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From the Rector's Desk

Greetings everyone Kia ora e hoa mä

The Benefits of Failure

This week at assembly we focussed on the idea that everyone experiences failures and that struggling to overcome difficulties is a normal part of what it is to be human.

I tried to present this in a positive light! It is not meant to be a negative message.

So much of what we see and read about success and successful people focusses, quite naturally, on the endpoint. It would be easy then for our youth to believe in fairytale outcomes. Some knowledge of the 'backstory' behind successful outcomes is necessary to balance up our perspective.

There are countless examples which can be used, and the one we looked at was the story of J K Rowling, author of the Harry Potter series.

J K Rowling presented the commencement speech at the 2008 Harvard Graduation Ceremony. She decided to talk about 'the benefits of failure' and the 'crucial importance of imagination'.

As a divorced solo mum J K Rowling was struggling. She was jobless, penniless and suffering from bouts of depression. But she had NOT YET finished her novel. She had NOT YET given life to the big idea she had in her mind and her desire to be a novelist. So somehow she struggled on.

Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone was turned down by all twelve of the major publishers in the UK. Just imagine how she must have felt, receiving those rejection letters as she held on to this last thread of her dream. Of course now we all now know of the success of the Harry Potter series; the biggest selling book series of all time.

She advised the Harvard Graduates that:

"Life is difficult, and complicated, and beyond anyone's total control, and the humility to know that will enable you to survive its vicissitudes."

And one final quote which I think worthy of a moment's contemplation:

"It is impossible to live without failing at something, unless you live so cautiously that you might as well not have lived at all – in which case, you fail by default."

If you are interested in her other theme, that of the crucial importance of imagination, then I encourage you to look it up. A video of the speech is available on YouTube at (https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=wHGqp8lz36c), and the transcript is available at this tinyURL: bit.ly/1zeUPfA

Warm regards, Nga mihi John McKinlay



J.K. Rowling









STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Andrew Allan Athletics- In April I was lucky enough to travel to America to compete in athletic events in California for 3 weeks. I travelled with Greg Lautenslager a Nelson coach who takes a team away every year.

The day after I arrived in California I had training at the local public high school. It was amazing to see the facilities the school had. There was 8 tennis courts with the proper surface, 3 proper baseball diamonds and an artificial grass football field in the centre of the track. There were reasonably sized grandstands on both sides of the track. It was pretty cool to see what an average high school over there had.



Christian Taylor, World and Olympic Champion

Arcadia Invitational was the first competition. It is regarded as a very prestigious High School meet with schools from all over the USA competing. I met world long jump record holder Mike Powell, as he coached one of his athletes in the heptath-

lon the day before the invitational events started. Evan Jager and Omar McCleod were also there, both Olympic medallists. I was entered in the triple jump and was put into the invitational competition. It was challenging having the run up and jumps measured in feet, and also not having my coach there to tell me what I need to do. I was lucky to have a fellow Southlander track side to give me a hand with it. I had a good start with a 13.90m jump, but couldn't improve on it. I was happy with the jump, it was a good first competition in America, something to build on. I finished 8th which I was happy with considering the size of the competition.

The next week we went to some of the local attractions like Knott's Berry Farm and Crystal Cove Beach. The next event was the Bryan Clay Invitational. This was an open meet so it was mainly Colleges competing there. Christian Taylor, World and Olympic champ was jumping there. It was awesome to see him jump and grab a photo with him. I was entered in just the triple again. I struggled for rhythm in my run up so had two fouls to start with. I managed to put out a 13.69m jump in the third despite jumping well behind the board. I was disappointed not to get another 3 jumps but that happens some days and I couldn't do much about it. The next week we went to Santa Monica Pier, Hollywood and Laguna Beach.

The last meet was UC San Diego Triton Invitational. I was entered in the long and triple jumps. My long jump didn't go particularly well, with a 6.14m, a foul and 6.15m jump. Triple jump didn't go much better with 13.33m my best, well below the 14m I was hoping for. However, I got to meet Olympic triple jump silver medallist Will Claye, so the day wasn't all bad.

The trip was a great experience for both the athletics and the tourist side of things. I would highly recommend it to anyone wanting to compete overseas.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR CLASSROOMS

Drama

This week we were lucky enough to have the Anzac Eve performance come to Gore High School. Written by Dave Armstrong and directed by Jamie McCaskill, this performance followed four Australasians on their 'OE' who find themselves at Gallipoli to attend the commemorations the night before Anzac Day. The performance showed students different perspectives of World War One and the Gallipoli campaign. Through the combination of humour, romance, history and politics, the complex themes and ideas became relatable to the students. After the performance, the senior Drama students attended a workshop with the actors. The students spent time asking the actors questions, and then the actors ran a devising workshop using themes from the performance. Anzac Eve was a fantastic opportunity for students to think critically about the meaning of Anzac Day and the strong relationship between Australia and New Zealand. **Miss Hazlett**



Senior drama students attend a workshop after the performance.



SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

Cross Country was a well-organized event and we were glad to see so many pupils participating. Many pupils dressed up in their house class colours. The weather was on our side and gave us some sun. A lot of pupils tried their hardest and didn't give up, which was great to see. It was also great to see students socialising with their friends and classmates. It was a good experience to be so independent and do something on our own, also to make and learn from our mistakes. We were happy with the turn out of the Year 11 P.E organized event. We hope that next year the Year 11 P.E class will enjoy planning Cross Country as much as we did.

Charlotte Orlowski and Kelsey Sandford

RESULTS:

Under 14 girls

- 1. Summer Hadley (42.48)
- 2. Natalia Hamilton (42.52)

Under 14 boys

- 1. Finn Hurley (24.35)
- 2. Ben McCall (24.46)
- 3. Oliver Stark (24.46)

Under 16 girls

- 1. Laura Graham (26.30)
- 2. Jenna Graham
- 3. Paris Dyer

Under 16 boys

- 1. Rory Robertson (23.38)
- 2. Max Watson (24.09)
- 3. Hayden Michaels (24.20)



Over 16 girls

- 1. Kate Johnston (26.19)
- 2. Hope Rae (27.59)
- 3. Alice Wyatt (30.40)

Over 16 boys

- 1. Luke Hillis (23.48)
- 2. Mark Gardyne (24.25)
- 3. Morgan Craig

House Points

1st McNab 178 points 2nd Anderson 125 points 3rd Hunter 123 points 4th Cargill 102 points

FAREWELL TO

At the end of term 1 the school farewelled Sarah Cross our Sports Co-ordinator/Assistant Careers Support after 5 years of service to the school community. Sarah is now working at Gore Main School as their School Secretary. We would like to wish her all the best in her new role.

AND WELCOME TO

The School would like to welcome Sarah McKinlay as her replacement. Sarah McKinlay has been working at the school as a Teacher Aide for a number of years and is moving into the position left by Sarah Cross. Many of you will know Sarah McKinlay from her involvement in sports in the community.

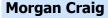


YEAR 13 P.E. CAMP

The Year 13 PE students went to Wanaka for their fitness camp in April. The camp is part of their internal assessment. The camp was organised by the students themselves and they took part in activities such as paddle boarding, indoor rock climbing, "have a shot", biking, hiking and paint balling. A good time was had by everyone. A high-

light of the camp was paddle

boarding as everyone had a good time and learnt new skills. Many thanks to Drew McIntyre for being a parent help and taking part in all the activities with us and Mr Dungey being an all round good sort.





Careers

Southland Youth Futures

Allison Beckham from Venture Southland brought 6 local employers within the Agricultural Industry to talk to our year 10 students about opportunities available within the Agricultural Industry.

Each speaker spoke for about 10 minutes about the industry they were in and their career journey in the industry they represented. Students were shown the diversity of jobs in the primary sector in Southland.



Martin Conway talking about the various jobs available at Fonterra.



The students gathered around each speaker and then moved to the next speaker at the sound of the air horn

FACEBOOK PAGE

Gore High School now has an official Facebook page. We plan to use this page to post photos of recent school events and advise of upcoming events. If you have Facebook we encourage you to click below and "like" us or find us @gorehighschoolofficial.

https://www.facebook.com/Gore-High-School-1375026559221490/?ref=bookmarks







GHS Foundation Seeking New Members!

Also seeking a Secretary for our forward thinking, dynamic group.

What we do: Manage a Trust Fund that supports Scholarships in each year level & worthy projects within the school. Manage a database of ex Pupils. Circulate a Newsletter to our database once a year. Have an annual Dinner & Art Auction as a Fundraiser that contributes to our next Fund target of \$500k.

We meet: Usually 4 times through the year in the GHS Board Room. Meetings are approximately $1 - 1 \frac{1}{2}$ hours in duration.

Our Committee includes past pupils, the Rector, a Staff Rep, PTA Rep, & a BOT Rep to keep us in touch with happenings at Gore High School.

Next Meeting: Thursday 18 May at 5.15pm

Come along, we would love to see you or contact Susan Dale for further information. sdale@ispnz.co.nz

UNIFORM SHOP

The uniform shop is open normal hours on Wednesday next week from 12.30pm - 2.00pm. If anyone has any second hand uniforms they wish to sell please bring them to the uniform shop and we can sell them on your behalf.



SPECIAL ASSESSMENT CONDITIONS

If parents have any questions or concerns in regards to Special Assessment Conditions for NCEA can they please contact Mrs Dickson in the Learning Hub. She can be contacted by telephoning the school on 208 9130 or via email ldickson@gore-high.school.nz.

SCHOOL HEALTH NURSE CLINIC

Public Health Nurses Stacey (Tuesday) and Maria (Thursday) will be available for appointments at the school 1.30 – 2.00 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you wish to see them, please book an appointment time with Ms Campbell at Student Reception, or telephone Stacey on 027 445 2931.