



## Newsletter No 4 - May 2010

### Principal's Message



Tena Koutou Katoa

Welcome back to the second term. In 2009 we returned to school at the beginning of Term 2 amid national and global concerns about swine flu. Travellers, including secondary school students were returning to New Zealand from the Northern Hemisphere sparking concerns about the possibility of a pandemic.

This year we have returned to school with some staff and students unable to return to New Zealand from the Northern Hemisphere because of the backlogs caused by the closure of air space. In New Zealand our global connections are stronger than they have ever been. Our connections are stronger than they have ever been. Our actual and digital relationships tie us to the international community in significant ways.

The Curriculum at Wellington East Girls' College prepares students to consider a future in an international context in new ways. We are providing opportunities to gain knowledge which is internationally transferable.

We value this learning, these contributions and the possibilities afforded by our diverse community.

### Sally Haughton - Principal

The April meeting of the Board of Trustees was the final meeting of this board. A new board will meet for the first time in May after the election.

At the April meeting we had a report from Ros Cameron, HOD of the Art Department. It highlighted the high level of achievement in 2009, when students succeeded in gaining five scholarships in the Visual Arts and six scholarships in Art History. Overall the results in the Arts are meeting or surpassing our targets. Although these results are very impressive, Ros outlined a number of strategies to continue to develop the teaching of Art. Ros displayed a sample of students' work and also showed us the new Spectrum Gallery, which provides a professional display of students' work. Please visit this space on your next visit to the school.

The Board also approved an increase in the suggested parent donations and ICT donations. The Board recognises the vital importance of parental support through donations, but we need to try to cover the increasing costs of operating the school. From 2011, the suggested parent donation will be increased by \$25 to \$225 and the suggested ICT donation will be increased by \$25 to \$125. These donations are tax deductible.

At our final meeting the Board farewellled three trustees, who are not seeking re-election. Simon Tyler, has served the school as chairperson during the transition of a new principal and provided wise and calm leadership. Sandy Jones has served both as a co-opted trustee and an elected trustee, including a term as deputy chairperson. Sandy has always provided insightful and experienced views which have been invaluable to the Board. Carole Anderson, the staff representative, has given us the teacher perspective with honesty and good humour. The school has been fortunate in having such high calibre trustees. We wish each of them well.

### Term 2 Dates

May	4-7	GE200 Trip to Tongariro	June	1	Samoan Parents' Meeting - 6pm	
	5	Vocal Studies Recital -Room 1 - 7pm		3-7	Shailah Winn Nationals	
	7	BOT Voting - closes noon		7	Queen's Birthday	
	13-14	HPV Immunization - Dose 2		8	African and Migrant Parents' Meeting - 6pm	
	13	Swimming Sports - 9-11am - Swim		9-10	Choral Festival	
	14	Merri Only		17	Open Evening - 7pm	
	14	Self Formal - 7.30-10pm		18	Reports issued	
	18	Whanau Meeting - 6.00pm		22	Whanau Meeting - 6pm	
	20	Parents' Assoc Meeting - 7.30pm		23	Winter Sports Exchange @ WEGC	
	22	Rockquest 40 hour famine - weekend		24	Senior Report Evening - 4-30- 7.00pm-Hall	
	24	Music Department Concert - 7pm - Hall		29	Board of Trustees meeting - Performing Arts	
	25	Board of Trustees Meeting - Health and Physical Education		30	Junior Report Evening - 4.30-7.00pm-Hall	
	26	Parenting Teenagers and Living to Tell the Tale - 7-9pm		July	2	End of Term
	27	Stage Challenge - TSP Arena - All day				

### Board of Trustee Elections

You will have received in the post voting papers for the five parent vacancies for the Board of Trustee Elections.

Enclosed with the voting paper is a three page document offering background information on the ten candidates standing for election.

The voting paper needs to be completed and posted in the addressed envelope provided. If you wish to deliver the voting paper to the school, please ensure it is received before noon on Friday 7 May in the envelope.

Your vote will not be counted unless it is returned, or delivered to the school in the addressed, reply paid envelope by noon on Friday 7 May.

### Old Girls' Association

A reminder that there will be a one day "mini-reunion" during Labour Weekend to celebrate 85 years of Wellington East's contribution to the lives and times of thousands of Wellington women.

There'll be year-group gatherings, a fun assembly, a special cake, formal and informal photos, and a cocktail function. For more information and/or a registration of interest form, please email [oncewereaest@wegc.school.nz](mailto:oncewereaest@wegc.school.nz).

### From the Office

#### School Uniform

Winter school uniform is to be worn in Terms 2 and 3. Black leather lace-up school shoes are to be worn. Black canvas shoes are not regulation uniform.

Uniform detentions will be incurred by students wearing incorrect uniform unless a reasonable written explanation in the form of a signed note from home is supplied.

#### Absences

The school is continuing to monitor students' lateness and absences from school.

School begins each day at 8.45am with Period 1. However, Wednesdays has a late start - 9.30am.

If you know your daughter is going to be late or absent, could you please phone the school and leave a message on our ATTENDANCE LINE (385 8514 extension 1).

Your daughter must sign in at the office if she is late.

Below and right: Photos from Year 12 PE camp



Students who do not sign in, but arrive late, will be entered on the computer as "absent", and therefore parents may receive a text.

There are consequences for persistent lateness, which include detention, letters home, interviews with senior staff and possible further action.

When parents email an absence to their daughter's form teacher/dean, would they send a copy to the Attendance Officer on [absence@wegc.school.nz](mailto:absence@wegc.school.nz).

### Qualification Entries 2010

FEES FOR QUALIFICATIONS  
The National Qualification Framework (NQF) fees, including NCEA, for 2010 have been set by NZQA as:

Student entry fee =	\$ 75.00
Foreign Fee Paying students	\$375.00

Scholarships (up to 3 subjects) inclusive in NCEA fee. More than 3 subjects will cost an extra \$75.00 per subject. Scholarship for FFP students \$100 per scholarship subject additional to NQF fee.

#### FEE PAYMENT

A statement for your daughter's exam fees will be mailed to you mid year. Payment can be made by instalments or by direct credit to the school, as well as a one off payment.

#### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Financial forms are available from the school office. You can apply for financial assistance if your family receives a benefit or if there is more than one student in the family entering for National Secondary School Qualifications. The forms must be returned to the office by Monday 2 August.

#### Parent and Student Cars

Please help us to keep our students safe. We ask parents not to drive into the school grounds when dropping off or collecting students, except in an emergency.

We also ask that you observe the yellow no-parking lines at the school entrance and not park in such a way that puts students at risk as they enter and leave the school. Please arrange to meet your daughter further away from the school gates.

#### Entertainment Books

The school office has a small number of 2010/2011 Entertainment Books for sale. These are available from the school office at \$60 each. \$12 from each book sold comes directly to the college and distributed to a needy cause.



### Homestays Wanted

Homestay families needed for short term visit from a Japanese school.

Kojimachi Cakuen Girls' High school is sending about 24 students to us from 28 July to 9 August. Families are paid for hosting. If you are interested, please contact Annette Cumming on 385 8514 Extension 836, or Leonie Burke on 562-7389. An email can be sent to [international@wegc.school.nz](mailto:international@wegc.school.nz) and we will contact you.

Annette Cumming  
Director of International Students

### Tutoring for Parents in Computing Skills by our Komputer Kooks

Wednesdays from 3.40 pm-5.00 pm.

In 2010 the Komputer Kooks, a student computer club, are offering parents the opportunity to learn computer basics. This could be learning to type, manage files, or develop competence in programs such as MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Internet Explorer, Photoshop, Dreamweaver or Flash.

If you are interested, you could:

- email [cris.roughton@wegc.school.nz](mailto:cris.roughton@wegc.school.nz)
- ring Cris on 04 3858514 ext 854

### Air New Zealand Sister Cities 2010 Awards

Congratulations to WEGC students Nileesha Parbhu and Janoo Patel for being runners up in Category One: Youth, Education or School Project. The girls' entry was based on a project they did in Year 10 Information Technology. For the project they video-skipped with students from Warrandyte High School in Victoria, Australia, to create a website on social networking and the impact it has on students' lives and motivation levels. See article on the school website for links to their work.



### Debating

Senior Certificate debating team won their first round debate against Marsden. They successfully negated the moot "That alcohol should be banned!" Congratulations to Yvette Coyle, Louisa Marschner and Ziming Liu.

Premier B debating team of Rowena Woodhams, Anna Rigg and Millie Rowan had a very convincing win against Kapiti College in their first debate. They negated the moot "That the hiring and firing of employees by employers should not be influenced by information found on social networking sites" and were awarded first, second and third speaker of the debate.

### Sport

#### Diving

Kate Irving won three golds and a bronze at the Autumn National Champs in Auckland and has now qualified for both Australia's Junior Elite Champs in July and the World Junior Diving Champs in the USA in September.

#### Yachting

Last week, Jamie Middleton and Elise Brimer sailed at the National Secondary Schools' Teams Racing Nationals in Taupo. They were part of a six member combined girls' team from Wellington which included sailors from three other schools.

The girls had had very little experience with teams racing and minimal coaching. However, they managed to win their round robin on the second day, giving them the opportunity to sail off for the fleet above. Despite a great challenge, they remained in their fleet. They were unlucky not to make the semi-finals.

#### Waterpolo

Zephyr Herriot has been selected to play in the NZ U15 girls' team. The team will compete at the Pan Pacific Water Polo tournament against the Australian team in July in Auckland.

#### Netball

22 teams have now started the netball season for 2010. A big thank you to adult and student coaches and managers.

The draw is available on the Netball Wellington Centre website each week, [www.netballwellington.co.nz](http://www.netballwellington.co.nz)

Games are played in all weather but if the weather is very bad cancellations will be notified via the following media:  
! broadcast on Newstalk ZB from 7.30am onwards  
! published on the Netball Wellington Centre website [www.netballwellington.co.nz](http://www.netballwellington.co.nz)  
! a message updating cancellations will be left on the game manager's phone (04) 386 0942 from 7.30am onwards.

There are no games on 5 June (Queen's birthday weekend), 10 July and 17 July.

If your daughter is unable to play please make contact with her coach. A default fee of \$100 and the loss of two championships may apply to the team if a late default is made.

Player in teams 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 are required to umpire this season. It's a good idea for players to purchase their own whistles to use for the season. Other teams need to provide an umpire for their own game.

#### Uniforms

All students must wear the correct sport uniform. If not, teams may receive fines from the sporting body in charge of the competition.

Outstanding uniforms are still an issue. Please can you make sure that students don't have any school sports uniforms or gear at home that they are not using. If they do please return to the sports office ASAP. If uniforms are not returned a replacement fee will be charged.

Most teams wear the school PE uniform. Skins can be purchased from Elliott in the sport office if students prefer to wear a skirt. Track-suits and hoodies can be purchased from Champ Sports, Left Bank, Cuba Mall. Players are encouraged to wear correct sports shoes; thin canvas shoes offer little support for feet.

Any concerns, email or phone Elliott in the sports office [elliott.brookes@wegc.school.nz](mailto:elliott.brookes@wegc.school.nz).

### YWCA Leadership Programme

YWCA Discover™ is an awesome group of people who are committed to helping young women develop into leaders who can inspire and positively influence those around them.

So far, we've completed three workshops, an activity day and an activity. First we had to meet our possible mentors. We spent a day getting to know many of them and talking with them about their jobs, their travel and their lives.

Our first workshop was on leadership. We learnt how to realise leadership skills, what leadership skills we all had and how to use them. We looked at how to be a positive leader, and how to use our own skills to influence and inspire others. Our second workshop was on personal and cultural identity. This was even better for getting to know the others in the group as we got to understand others' backgrounds and how it affects them now. Our latest workshop was on goal setting. A message that really helped was that you don't have to meet a whole goal to be successful - it's what you do in the process and the experience you have through that counts.

When we had been paired with our mentors, we had our first activity day with them. We had to do an Amazing Race tour around Wellington and create an itinerary for teenage tourists coming to Wellington. We had just over an hour to get ourselves from the south end of Cuba Mall, through the city to Civic Square and back again, as well as answer questions and find suitable things for the tourists to do while in Wellington.

We meet with our mentors roughly every fortnight for a get-together and chat. Our mentors are chosen to suit us and our expectations, and are great people who find amazing ways to communicate to us and help us with everything possible.

Lili is an awesome programme leader, and someone that everyone in the programme can relate to. She makes us feel comfortable and welcome, and is a very positive, inspirational person.

Congratulations to the following students in Year 13 who are in the programme: Kelsey Breden, Jean Feary McKenzie, Grace McNicholl, Rorie O'Brien, Kirsey-Lee Tanuvasa-Lui, Ana Popovich, Sliiga Tinilau and Cecilia Rakuraku-Ranapia.



### Free Workshop for Parents

Parenting Teenagers and Living to Tell the Tale

For parents of 12 - 14 year olds



Lead by Margaret Ross  
Adolescent Behaviour Consultant

WEGC Wednesday 26th May  
7pm to 9pm

Come to a two hour workshop on practical skill training with discussion opportunities in a teenage free environment, and leave wishing you were going home to double the number of teenagers in your house!

Spot the difference between normal and worrying teenage behaviour.

Learn to negotiate, to problem solve, set and carry out consequences with those in your house who either shout at you or are not talking to you any more!

Experience the opportunity to network with other parents.

Supported by Karori and Capital Primary Health Organisations

To book your place  
Phone: 04 978 4366 or  
Email: [rachel.harrison@capitalpho.org.nz](mailto:rachel.harrison@capitalpho.org.nz)  
Just come along on the night.

### Juniors Take on Film Competition

When everyone else spent the last weekend of the holidays worrying about going back to school, a group of a dozen Year 10 students were stressing about missing the 7pm deadline. We only had two days to write, shoot and edit a seven minute (or under) film for the 48 Hour Film Festival.

In late February, we got our team together and contacted businesses around town for support. By the end of term one, we had raised \$450 and we had a camera from school, tripods and Zeal as a downtown base.

On Friday night, the crew gathered at Zeal and waited for word on the elements and the genre - which was ghost movie. The result was an alternate universe concept. Instead of ghosts tormenting humans, we opted for a human unknowingly disturbing an innocent family of ghosts' lives.

Saturday morning was spent scouting for cheap props, especially sheets. We filmed outdoor and indoor scenes and ended the night at 11pm. Sunday, we reunited for the reshoot and the editing process began. After six hours spent sitting through two days of footage, we pieced together a six minute short. The laptop was with us in the car on the way to the hand-in, while the disk was burning. Time ticked, the progress bar progressed. With the envelope and disk in hand, we leapt out of the car and got our film in at 6:25pm.

The next day, everyone resumed their lives after a weekend of being an actor, a musician or a director. For a first-time, we did well enough to get a good audience response. We've still got three more tries during our time at East, so fingers crossed.