



WESTERN SPRINGS COLLEGE

A highlight of recent weeks has been the school leaders' initiative **Orientation Week**. With the aim of highlighting all that Springs has to offer - the stalls, activities, music, atmosphere and student involvement was electric.

The Arts Leaders' took sign-ups for the Arts Committee 2016 and promoted upcoming events with Seussical and Sheilah Winn. They also had a selection of senior art work showcased, live music each lunchtime and media films being screened. It was wonderful to see students engaged and interested in life at Springs.

Arts Leaders' – Ariane Lenihan, Dione Tay and Sebastian Rice Walsh have selected their Arts Committee.

Congratulations to the following students on being selected for their efforts in the Art, Dance, Drama, Media and Music - **Cato Refiti, Maia Thompson, Georgia Menhennet, Hattie Salmon, Ria Sionetali Rattray, Sharn-Konet Reitsma and Oscar Barber-Wilson.**

Another fantastic achievement this time in Media – congratulations goes to Zac Johnson (Y13 – 2015) on his new job success at Weta Workshop – Wellington.

Finally, keep an eye out for new artwork around school! The Art Department have added new work to the rotation of artworks on display.

Thanks to Catalina Nunez-Elevancini – 13Art Design – for the ArtsNews Heading in this issue.

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Kirsty Britton – Arts Coordinator



ARTS @ ORIENTATION WEEK



ARTS LEADERS

ARTS COMMITTEE 2016

Thank you to everyone who applied for the Arts Committee, we are so fortunate to have had so many great and passionate candidates interested in the arts.

Congratulations and welcome to the Arts Committee:

Oscar Barber-Wilson, Cato Refiti, Sharn-Konet Reitsma, Maia Thompson, Hattie Salmon, Ria Sionetali Rattray and Georgia Menhennet.

Each student selected has their own exceptional skill set in the Arts which will help us leaders throughout the year. Oscar Barber-Wilson is experienced in music, playing the piano and guitar. Cato Refiti is passionate about visual arts and design, and is currently taking Level 3 Art Design. Sharn-Konet Reitsma has a passion for filmmaking and has been involved in the creative work of the 48 hour Film Festival. Maia Thompson is enthusiastic about the visual art of photography. Hattie Salmon is a passionate drama student, taking any opportunity to be involved in the performing arts. Ria Sionetali Rattray is an experienced drama student, performing on live television both singing and acting. Georgia Menhennet is a passionate dancer and is currently choreographing a hip hop dance for Street Dance New Zealand where a group of our students will compete against other secondary schools.

This year we hope to make a sustainable leadership team where our younger students can learn from their experience in the Arts Committee and become incredible leaders for the future.

PLANS FOR THE YEAR...

We have come up with loads of ideas for the Arts this year and are really excited to get things moving at meetings. We look forward to planning showcases at Ponsonby Intermediate Arts Week, Talent Quest, also assisting where we can with the school production and upcoming musical performances. To add to our portfolio we would also like to plan and coordinate other events to get students more involved with the Arts.

Our first plan of action is to look into 'Music in the Quad'. You have had a taster of this seeing Finn and Frankie playing a guitar set at Orientation Week - but our plans are to be even bigger and better! We would love to get bean bags and set up the bands outside so that more people can enjoy it and eat lunch whilst watching.

We've also thought about starting Zumba and dance classes which we'd plan to schedule once a month. We have pitched this to some students and they were all super keen to get involved, so we are planning to get that going in the near future! We want to get more international students involved, as so many are really talented!

We also talked to the events leaders who suggested it would be wicked for arts students to get involved in school design initiatives: design the ball posters, tickets and leavers' posters.

Finally, we are really keen to team up with the eco-wise panel as well as the maori mainstream leaders to create a culturally diverse upcycling event.

These are only a few that we can get started soon, but we have many more that we can hopefully get done before we leave!

We feel very privileged to have been granted this wonderful leadership opportunity and we are extremely excited about the things to come and we hope you are too!

Ariane Lenihan, Dione Tay and Sebastian Rice Walsh – Arts Leaders 2016

DANCE

TAPAC 2 is a hive of activity with dance students sweating it out in the heat as all classes learn physical, challenging routines.

13 Dance students are buzzing after working with guest tutors Chrissy Kokiri and Chris Ofanoa from The New Zealand Dance Company. Students learned a male sequence and a female solo as excerpts from Rotunda, a larger work we are studying as an 'artist model' for our own choreographies. It's wonderful to see the infusion of energy in the class with some of our male students in particular really 'stepping up to the plate'. We hope to welcome Chris back as a guest choreographer on year 13 later in the year...

Yr 12 Dance students have lots on the go learning a Flamenco dance with complex rhythms with Chloe while also mastering Melanie Turner's 'Closer' which explores non-verbal communication through focus and choreographic interpretations of sign language.

Yr 11 Dance are working hard learning a contemporary sequence alongside their breakdance set with Laurent Dunningham. Both sequences get students off their feet and in some cases upside down, and it's wonderful to see the students rising ably to the challenges presented!

Yr 10 Dance did a great job of learning a challenging hip-hop dance from Joash Tu'ugamusu with lots of isolations, level changes and complex rhythms. 9 Dance enjoyed learning a brief sasa from Joash and are now diving into the 'Hip-Haka', a fusion dance.

SDNZ I progressing well. We have an awesome line up of contributing choreographers working in the studio most lunchtimes. It will be exciting to see what they produce!

Melanie Turner – Acting HOD Dance

DRAMA

Rehearsals are under way for the University of Otago - Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival. We have six groups entering the festival, all directed by students or ex-students. Due to our students' busy schedules we have had to enter the Auckland West Regional Festival. This will be held at Hobsonville Point Secondary School, 70 Hobsonville Point Road in the evening of 12th April. This is a great venue at a brand new school and we will need parents to ferry the students so let us know if you can provide transport.

To celebrate the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death the National Festival will be held at the Michael Fowler Centre in Wellington. Let's hope some of our very talented young performers are selected from Auckland for this final in Wellington.

Cherie Moore of Last Tapes Productions has been holding auditions for Seussical. We had over 100 students turn up for the initial audition which was followed by auditions for lead roles and chorus in the last week of February. Final core cast call backs are on Monday March 7th and the first rehearsal is Wednesday March 9th. Seussical opens in week four of term two so the cast will be rehearsing all holidays. It's going to be a fabulous show so keep an eye out to be sure you don't miss out.

On Tuesday March 8th at 12 noon, Year 11 and 12 drama students are going to see Romeo and Juliet at the Pop-up Globe. This is a wonderful opportunity to experience authentic Elizabethan Theatre. The trip will be of direct value for their NCEA internal and external assessments, not to mention a great experience in theatre.

On Wednesday 10th March we host Class Comedians. There is a free comedy show at lunchtime in TAPAC studio 2 and a free workshop/audition after school. If chosen from this audition the student will attend an intensive comedy workshop in the holidays and perform in the International Comedy Festival. Eammon Tee was chosen for this opportunity in 2015 and Jack Dadson and Lucy Cacciopoli in 2014. These students loved this opportunity.

Robert Pollock - HOD Drama

MEDIA

Welcome to all the new and returning students in the Media department for 2016. We're looking forward to another busy and creative year up in the corner of D Block!

We've started the year with the exciting news that 2015 Year 13 students Benjamin Zambo and Olly Clifton were both awarded a Media Scholarship. Congratulations to these two lovely talented fellows.



It's always a delight when we hear about former students taking on wonderful opportunities. We are, therefore, very proud of Zac Johnson, who has found work at Weta Workshop on his days off from Uni.

Several of our lovely students have gone to Victoria University this year, and it was lovely to receive this photo of some of them in their very first Film Studies lecture. Lorna Ferrall, Matilda Boese-Wong, Jimi Frizzell, and the aforementioned Zac Johnson have clearly not forgotten their roots!

Deb Thompson - HOD Media

VISUAL ARTS

Extended Greetings

At the time of writing it is week five on the calendar and the Art rooms are starting to become a buzz of activity as students are settling into their practical and theory based work. The Y13 painters Tape Art work is being displayed at the Maritime Museum and will feature in the White night programme of the Auckland Arts festival (which we will feature at a later date). The seniors also have a number of formative assessments approaching that will form the basis of their upcoming reports and assist in feeding forward to completing their Art work. The junior programmes are also working hard, with a number of Y10 students being selected to attend a Watercolour workshop later in the term.

The department would like to acknowledge the efforts of our own Judy Chiang with her recent appointment as treasurer of ASATA (Auckland Secondary Art Teachers Association), with our school hosting an upcoming meeting on established practise and Artists as models in the near future. Also a special mention regarding the Arts Promotion around the school by Kirsty Britton (assisted by Selwyn Watford), which is an integral part in maintaining a culture that values and celebrates student success.

A must see are the newly framed works of a few of our Visual Arts **Outstanding Scholars** – a new and permanent feature to the school art collection. Congratulations to the following students for having their work selected and added to the exhibition of artwork in the Admin Block - **Annabelle Bruce** (2015), **Amy Matthews** (2013), **Isabella Van Der Leden** (2015) and **Sienna Mark Brown** (2014) for their efforts in Art and Design. With their success will be a record of their achievement as our school grows and changes. Keep an eye out for new work in years to come as the collection grows. There is also portfolio work by L3 Design student Isabella Van der Leden and L3 Painting student Annabelle Bruce on display in the staffroom and a selection of 2015 junior work being exhibited in the Library.

Also, by way of acknowledging alumni success - 'Postcards from beyond the gate'; a number of ex-Springs students have been excelling in their chosen Art fields. Ex-student Dirk Peterson and Sally Bollinger in their individual publishing of Zines; Sophie Blazey designs on fashion house Kate Sylvester accessories. And congratulations to Claudia Jowitt who was recently announced as the 2016 winner of the Dunedin Artist in Resident.

Lastly, a reminder to all students who undertook 11Art, 12Art Design, Painting and Photography that External folio boards can now be collected. Also, thank you to all those who have paid Art fees for the year, our ability to provide the appropriate technical and specialised resources for the year is dependent on your continued support. Any outstanding fees for Art and Art History (Y10-13) can be made at the school office, thanks in advance.