



FIORDLAND COLLEGE

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THURSDAY 07 FEBRUARY 2019

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Weekly Newsletter

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Welcome to 2019. I would like to express an especially warm welcome to all those new to the school and in particular, to Mr Steve Davison, our new caretaker.

We have had a great start to the year. The 2-day Year 13 Leadership training was fantastic. Year 7 students have had their first taste of Peer Support. We are looking forward to the Athletics Sports on Monday 11 February and the Academic Honours Assembly on Tuesday 12 February. Parents are very welcome to attend these events. We would love to see you here.

I want to congratulate our students on their NCEA results. 24 students will be awarded Fiordland College Academic Honours badges next Tuesday for their efforts last year. 29 students had their NCEA certificates endorsed with Merit or Excellence endorsements. At Level 1 27.3% gained an Excellence Endorsement. This represents the highest proportion of Excellence Endorsements at Level 1 for Fiordland College since the introduction of endorsements in 2011. At Level 2 we have a similar story, with 48% of students gaining a Merit or Excellence Endorsement. These are very pleasing results.

I have been most encouraged with the tone in the school and the positive way our students have settled into the daily routine. I am looking forward to seeing what doors of opportunity will open up to us this year.

E haere rā
Lynlee Smith

THE KAMAR APP

We have an electronic system at school, which enables parents and students to access some student information online and via an app on smartphones.

The information available is 'real time' information so you can access the latest attendance, the newest academic results, the current effort and homework grades and your child's timetable. The daily student notices are available and a list of groups/activities that your child belongs to.

All of this information allows you to help your child see their progress and to plan ahead.

Later this week a letter will be coming home with your child regarding the KAMAR app. It will have all the details you need on how to download and log in to the app.

SCIENCE

In January, I went to Auckland for two weeks, to attend the Rotary National Science and Technology Forum. 168 of us stayed at O'Rorke Hall, where we were warmly welcomed. We did two 3-hour lectures each weekday over a varying field of Science and Technology related subjects. My three highlights of the trip were Biomedical Engineering, Robotics and 3D/CAD.

Over the two weeks everyone totally immersed themselves in the early morning activities and competitive volleyball games. This trip really opened my eyes to the options available to me when I leave school and especially showed the Technology that we aren't necessarily exposed to coming from such a small town.

Overall, I came back motivated and excited for my future and I cannot recommend this opportunity highly enough for anyone looking to apply in the future. I would also like to acknowledge and thank Rotary as this was an absolutely life-changing experience that I couldn't have done without them.



Makenzie Wilson - Year 12

MICROSOFT OFFICE

FREE Microsoft Office 365 ProPlus

This is the full version of Office and includes student favourites, such as: • Word • PowerPoint • Excel • Outlook Under the schools' Microsoft agreement all students can download Office 365 ProPlus for free (on up to 15 devices - PCs or Macs per student).

Go here <http://www.microsoft.com/education/ww/studentadvantage/pages/default.aspx>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon	11 Feb	Athletics Sports Day
Tue	12 Feb	Academic Honours Assembly at 10.50am
Wed	13 Feb	Yr 10 Bike Camp Practice Ride
Thu	14 Feb	Life Education Bus - Yr 7/8
Fri	15 Feb	Life Education Bus - Yr 7/8 Lincoln University visit lunchtime

QUOTE OF THE WEEK



There is always something you can do, and succeed at." – Stephen Hawking, *The Theory of Everything*

REMINDER - Diaries to be signed and handed to form teachers on MONDAY!

PTO

Weekly Newsletter Continued...

Zayed Sustainability Prize

In October 2018, Fiordland College was named a Global High School finalist for the Pacific/ South-East Asian Region. As a consequence, a party of three; Sue Peoples (Zayed Project Co-ordinator), Jess Willans (Student Representative) and Tarn Willans (Guardian) were flown to Abu Dhabi by the Zayed Committee to participate in the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week and the Zayed Prize Presentation.

The Zayed Prize Presentation was part of the Sustainability Week's Opening Ceremony and was attended by a dozen or so world leaders/representatives along with His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, and His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum. The latter being the sons of the late Sheikh Zayed, the esteemed leader responsible for joining the United Arab Emirates and starting the Sustainability Vision for his people.

In front of an arena of 4000 guests and dignitaries, a photo of Fiordland College's Project Whitiki te Huarere was shown along with a brief description. Alas, we were not the winners of our region, but were very proud of being a finalist. The winners were Muntinlupa National High School, from the Philippines, who propose to build a solar-powered micro-farm with photo-bioreactors to promote efficient algae cultivation for algae products that provide feed for village livestock. Following the winners' presentations, and later the finalists' certificate presentations, we all went to the Emirates Palace for a gala dinner, whereby around 1000 guests were treated to a range of local dishes off golden edged plates.

Central to being part of the Zayed experience was the networking between the students, staff and supporting parents/guardians. We all made many contacts from around the world. Jess especially met other students from India, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Tuvalu, Fiji, South Africa, Tajikistan, Kenya, Australia, Croatia, Morocco... and learned a lot about the Emirate culture from our lovely hosts. Hearing the stories behind many of the projects was heartbreaking, some of the proposals being 'life changing' whereby the young people were trying to rebuild their lives and make a difference after genocide had destroyed their schools and communities.

For the rest of the week, the Fiordland Trio were able to explore Dubai by visiting the Green Planet, the Golden Frame Building and venturing up the world's tallest man

-made structure (830m high), the Burj Khalifa, to the 125th floor, just over half a kilometre from the ground. Back in Abu Dhabi, in addition to visiting local markets and malls, we toured the Sheik Zayed Grand Mosque, and had a desert experience which included; camel rides, local dancers, dune bashing in 4WDs and a BBQ. Lastly, we visited Masdar City, a city which relies solely on renewable energy and sustainable systems.

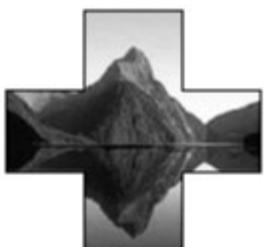
Overall, our Zayed experience was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity which we are all very grateful for. Our thanks to the Zayed Prize Committee for their amazing generosity and organisation. Thanks too to Jess Willans for being a great student ambassador for Fiordland College; every day presented new experiences and she coped with them admirably.

From Left, Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson (ex-President of Iceland, Chairman of the



International Renewable Energy Agency), Jess Willans, Dr. Lamyra Nawaf Fawwaz (Director of the Zayed Sustainability Prize)

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