



NEWSLETTER

Issue 09/16

21 OCTOBER 2016

SENIOR PRIZEGIVING FRIDAY 4 NOVEMBER AT 11.00 A.M.

Parents and Caregivers of our Year 12 and 13 students and of our Prizewinning Year 11 students are invited to attend our Senior Prizegiving on Friday 4 November.

This is always a very special occasion on our school calendar when we acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of our senior students.

All Year 12 and 13 students must attend Prizegiving. Year 11 Prizewinners must also attend. All other Year 11 students are welcome to attend but they must be in full school uniform, alternatively, they may choose to spend the day studying at home.

Friday 4 November is the last day of school for our Year 11, 12 and 13 students.

Senior students will receive their final reports

for the year on Wednesday 2nd or Thursday 3rd November.

Prizegiving is always very well attended. Some parking will be available through Gates 2 & 4. Parking is always at a premium for Prizegiving so we recommend you get here early. The event is not suitable for small children and babies.

There will be no school for our Year 9 and 10 students on Friday 4 November.

School buses will run at the normal times in the mornings. There will be no school buses in the afternoon of Prizegiving day and students will need to find their own way home after Prizegiving. We expect that Prizegiving will last approximately 2 hours.

NCEA AND SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATIONS

External examinations start on Wednesday 9 November and run until Friday 2 December.

Your daughter should now be revising each evening and on the weekends. Subject teachers will also be providing lunchtime tutorials and other revision and study opportunities. Please encourage your daughter to attend these.

Please make sure that you go through the Examination Booklet and the examination timetable with your daughter and that you keep them both in a handy location.

The NCEA external examination timetable is on the front page of the AGGS website www.aggs.school.nz under important reminders and on the back of this Newsletter.

The **i-Centre** will be open every school day during the examinations from 7.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is an ideal place if your daughter wants a quiet place to study with access to resources and technology.

Students are also reminded that they need to return any library books to the i-Centre before the examinations start.

Important Examination Reminders

- **Check the timetable to be sure of the date and start time for each examination.** Morning exams start at 9.30 a.m. and afternoon exams start at 2 p.m.
- Students should **arrive at least 20 minutes before**

the start of each examination.

- Students who arrive more than 30 minutes after the exam has started will not be allowed to enter the exam room. Missed examinations cannot be done at a later date
- **Allow plenty of time** to get to each examination – *being stuck in traffic is not an acceptable excuse for being late!*
- **Students must take their admission slips to every exam**, which must be face up on the desk during all exams.
- If lost, students can reprint the admission slip by logging onto their learner login on the NZQA website. This must be signed by Ms Lamberton **before** students will be allowed to sit the exam.
- **Students must also bring photo ID to each exam**, such as a school ID card, driver's licence etc.
- **Students must bring their own pens, pencils and calculator** (if approved). Students must not bring any blank or refill paper into the exam room.

Our Founding Day this year was another very special occasion where, in an AGGS tradition that began in 1992, we honoured two of our high achieving 'Old Girls' who returned to share their achievements with us at an assembly on 13 October. As a surprise on the day, we also paid a special tribute to our Principal, Liz Thomson, who, is retiring at the end of this year.

Our Founding Day guests this year were Nirvana **Health Group director, Ranjna Patel QSM**. The Nirvana story began in 1977 when Ranjna and her husband Dr Kanti Patel took over a solo GP clinic in Otara. Today their brand of health provision is delivered through affiliated general practices, urgent care clinics, specialist centres, occupational health clinics and pharmacies. Nirvana Health Group has more than 55 sites across New Zealand and Australia, and serves over 1 million patients and customers a year. Outside of business hours, Ranjna is a strong advocate for her community. She and her husband funded and built the Shree Swaminarayan Hindu temple in Papatoetoe that over 500 people regularly attend. One of Ranjna's other initiatives is the creation of Gandhi Nivas in 2015 - a programme focused on ending domestic violence. The programme (the first of its kind in the country) provides a safe place for the men to stay, so that the women and children do not have to leave the home.

Ranjna has won many awards for her work including being named 2016 NZ Entrepreneur of the Year in the Masters Cat-

egory. The first ethnic woman to receive this award.

Our second Founding Day guest was the just as inspirational, **Human Rights Lawyer, Golriz Ghahraman**. Golriz graduated from Oxford University in 2011 with a Master of Studies in International Human Rights Law, with Distinction. She has worked for the United Nations as a lawyer on international criminal tribunals in Rwanda, Cambodia and the former Yugoslavia. She is a member of the Executive of the NZ Criminal Bar Association and has been involved in designing and delivering professional education programmes including the NZ Criminal Bar Associations' conference and public lecture on '*Human Rights and Criminal Justice*'.

She is a Policy Co-ordinator for Action for Children and Youth Aotearoa and is on the Consultative Committee of the NZ Centre for Human Rights Law, Policy and Practice and the Refugee Co-Group of Amnesty international NZ.

In addition, three current students in Years 11, 12 and 13 were awarded scholarships of \$500 each provided by the Old Girls' Association. **Congratulations to**

Eseta Tupouniua, Year 11

Scarlett Parkes, Year 12 and

Bisma Maryam, Year 13



L to R Tamiel Tagalao, Head Girl; Nina Santos, Deputy HG, Ranjna Patel, Ms Thomson, Golriz Ghahraman & Tamkeen Saied, Dep-

Year 10 ACTIVE LIFESTYLES

On 7, 8 and 9 December all Year 10 students will take part in an Active Lifestyle Programme. This event involves 3 days of recreational and outdoor activities. The students were given their first information letter to take home to parents last term.

This is just a reminder that forms and payment for the activities are due by **Wednesday 23rd November**.

It is important that parents follow the payment instructions outlined in the letter carefully. If you have not seen the letter yet, please ask your daughter as the 3 days are compulsory for all Year 10 students. If she has lost her letter she can collect another one from the P.E office during interval or lunchtime. If you have Any questions please contact Kerrie Holmes (09) 3074180 ext 839

SPORTS AWARDS

Thursday 27 October—1.20- to 3.20 p.m. in the DWC

We will be acknowledging the sporting achievements of our students at our Annual Sports Award Ceremony on 27 October. Our guest speaker will be Alex Pledger member of the successful Breakers Basketball Team, four times champions of the Australian Basketball Competition and a NZ Basketball representative.

You are warmly invited to attend this special occasion, especially if your daughter has represented AGGS in a Sports Team this year.

VISIT TO BECA NZ

The Asia New Zealand Foundation (Asia:NZ) is a non-profit organisation dedicated to building New Zealand knowledge and understanding of Asia. In 2011 Asia:NZ embarked on a programme to pair businesses with schools with a view to increasing schools' knowledge of how businesses really work and their place in the wider Asia-Pacific arena. Since 2012 Auckland Girls' Grammar School has been partnered with Beca, a large engineering consultancy firm.

Four girls- **Vivian Chhan, Vaishnavi Adi, Salma Sanad and Rebecca Jones** from AGGS went on a day trip to BECA recently. They met with architects, structural engineers, urban planners and geotechnical engineers.

In their own words

Vivian Chhan : *All the presentations/conversations were very fascinating, but I was especially drawn to the tales of geotechnical engineering. It sounds amazing, and the vibe of the place is definitely what I wouldn't mind being in while working. I*

think that after the trip, I'm 90% sure that I'll be doing engineering

I think it's a trip that the school should try to run every year, if that's not what's happening already (even if it's to different companies).

Vaishnavi Adi: *My experience at BECA was amazing, because it changed my perspective on how I saw engineering with design. Although they were very specific and told us about different types of engineering and how it is in a work environment, and how to get there from university. I personally took away from this visit that you learn to problem solve and work with all types of people, so you aren't limited to what you can learn even after you've picked your specialization. Also that architects 'put out their visual concepts' and the engineers 'create that idea physically'. Even as an engineer you can design, but also make calculations, its a bit balanced.*

I've had a talk with Ms Hames, and she said that Architecture at UoA is minimum 16 credits in Physics, from table A. Today was super exciting because it was more helpful than going to a careers and courses day. IT WAS AWESOME!!!



Starting third from right, Rebecca Jones, Vaishnavi Adi, Salma Sanad, and Vivien Chhan,

SINGULARITY UNIVERSITY WORKSHOP

Understanding cutting-edge technologies and how to utilise these to positively impact billions of people.

Invisibility or the ability to fly? This question literally and figuratively divided a room of teenagers at the *Singularity U Workshop*. We spent one day of our holidays learning about innovation and technology, and we found that technologies such as Driverless cars, cars controlled with people's minds, 360 cameras and less expensive space travel are not just the stuff of science fiction anymore.

Also, the number of people with a Facebook account make it the largest country in the world which gives us the ability



Losaline Matapa, Brianna Tran, Gwyneth Parallag, Vienna Trainor; Front: Yamin Cook, Violet Jeffrey, Scarlett Parkes, missing

to access billions of people - an ability we can use to make a difference.

As young people we often hear that we are the problem, so it was reassuring to hear that we are the solution!

We were inspired to see so many people with an interest in solving the world's problems, just like us! We split into groups based on topics of interest including shelter, governance, disaster resilience, food, environment and more, and were guided through envisioning a solution to a mission we were given. After brainstorming for most of the afternoon, inspired by examples of people who made their ideas a reality, we presented our solution to a smaller group. Overall the day was a lot of fun that opened our minds to the ever-changing, multi-faceted opportunities of technology.



Francesca Evangelista, Alexandra Sychova, Victoria Murphy

AGGS PREMIER BASKETBALL TEAM PLACES THIRD IN THE NATIONAL COMPETITION

During the first week of the school holidays our Premier Basketball Girls Team competed in the National Secondary School Basketball Competition in Palmerston North.

The week got off to a bit of a shaky start with the team's flights being cancelled the night before and with no other option of making it down in time, the girls flew to Wellington and then drove up to Palmerston North. The whole day was a mad rush to ensure we got there in time for the Opening Ceremony. The tournament started with a bang and the girls played exceptionally well during pool play to make the Top 8. The team progressed through to the semi-finals where they played against Mt Albert Grammar School, some of the best basketball they have ever played. With everyone on the edge of their seats, it was anyone's game but eventually the victory went to MAGS. The team fought back the next morning to beat Westlake Girls and finish 3rd in the country.

Congratulations to **Elianna Tuaiti and Mele Latu** who were named in the Tournament Team.



THE AGGS HEALTH CENTRE

Construction work on our new Health Centre, on the ground floor of A Block is well advanced and the Centre should be up and running before the end of this term.

Welcome to our New Nurses

We have two new nurses in our Health Centre this term, Tamah McLean and Ellie Stringer. All We also have a school doctor, Dr Fiona Bell, who is on site on Mondays. All three women have wide experience in a variety of health related fields. Here is a message from the Health Centre:

1. We will be getting back into doing HEADSS assessments with Year 9 students, who weren't seen earlier this year, after seniors have left. Adolescence is a time of rapid growth and development which occurs within the domains of physical, cognitive, emotional and social development and this will give us a picture of the health and well being of our Year 9 students. A letter about this was sent to all Year 9 parents in May this year. If however you have any questions please e-mail nurse@aggs.school.nz.
2. We love to see students drop in, especially with their green permission slips for any health need. The Health Centre is open Monday to Friday 8 a.m. till 4pm.
3. Seniors can still come to see us until the end of exams 2nd December, same drop in times apply
4. We are also here for the free Kickstart Breakfast club every morning at 8am

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

At it's September meeting the Board welcomed the new Student Trustee, **Chant'e Leafa** to her first meeting. Chant'e replaces out-going Student Trustee, **Foa Samuelu**. The term of the Student Trustee on the Board is one year and all students voted to elect the new student trustee in early September.

Board meetings are advertised on the school's website and are usually held on the third Tuesday of each month at 5.30 p.m. The October Board meeting will be Tuesday 26 October and the November meeting on Tuesday 22nd.

Parents and members of the public are very welcome to attend Board meetings as observers. You can read the rules governing visitors at Board meetings on our website www.aggs.school.nz under *Welcome to AGGS (top of the home page) - and then drop down to Board of Trustees*.

The agenda for each Board meeting will also be posted here at least three days prior to each meeting.

LIFE ON THE HIGH SEAS

Two more students set sail on **The Spirit of Adventure** last Thursday which means that we have had 5 fully funded and 1 part funded scholarship for our girls since September. Equivalent of \$13,000 of funding from the Spirit of Adventure Trust so far. The five lucky girls have all agreed to do fundraising for the trust after their exams.

Ms Padfield in the Science Faculty is the teacher in charge of this programme and students who are interested in finding our more about sailing on the Spirit of Adventure should go and see her and she may be able to assist them with getting funded places for girls who would benefit from the experience. They must be over 16 but not yet had their 19th birthday.

Vienna Trainor, far left in the picture has recently returned from a 10 day voyage and this is what she wrote: *Giving up 10 days of your holidays (especially in Term 3) is a pretty tough decision, but the Spirit of Adventure made it all worthwhile. Everyday began at 6:30am with a morning swim in the ocean, no matter the weather. During the voy-*



age, we were presented with a range of challenges such as navigating our own way from the Coromandel to Auckland, climbing up the ship's mast (which is equivalent in height to a building of seven stories) and leading a group of strangers (who would soon become close friends); these various challenges made us step outside of our comfort zone and enabled us to learn more about ourselves and grow in confidence.

2016 Examination Timetable						
Day	Date/Time	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Scholarship	
Day 1	Wed 9 Nov	9.30am				Drama
		2.00pm				
Day 2	Thurs 10 Nov	9.30am	English	Spanish		English
		2.00pm		Earth and Space Science	Biology	
Canterbury Anniversary Day Weekend						
Day 3	Mon 14 Nov	9.30am	Science	Classical Studies	Agricultural and Horticultural Science	History
		2.00pm	Agricultural and Horticultural Science	Agricultural and Horticultural Science	Making Music	Chemistry
Day 4	Tues 15 Nov	9.30am	Economics	Physics	Latin	Economics
		2.00pm	Physics	Economics	Physics	French
Day 5	Wed 16 Nov	9.30am	Geography	Dance	Geography	Japanese
		2.00pm	Dance	Geography	Dance	Physics
Day 6	Thurs 17 Nov	9.30am	Mathematics		Spanish	Statistics
		2.00pm		English		Biology
Day 7	Fri 18 Nov	9.30am		Biology	History	Spanish
		2.00pm	History		Accounting	Music
Weekend						
Day 8	Mon 21 Nov	9.30am	Home Economics	Chemistry	Home Economics	Geography
		2.00pm	Chemistry	Home Economics	Chemistry	Te Reo Maori
Day 9	Tues 22 Nov	9.30am	Accounting	Art History	Classical Studies	Chinese
		2.00pm	Te Reo Māori	Accounting	English	
Day 10	Wed 23 Nov	9.30am	Biology	History	Art History / Calculus	Agricultural and Horticultural Science
		2.00pm	Chinese / German	Latin	Music Studies	Samoan / Te Reo Rangatira
Day 11	Thurs 24 Nov	9.30am		Mathematics		Art History
		2.00pm	Spanish		Statistics	
Day 12	Fri 25 Nov	9.30am	Business Studies	Samoan / Te Reo Rangatira	Business Studies	Calculus
		2.00pm	Music	Business Studies	Economics	Earth and Space Science
Weekend						
Day 13	Mon 28 Nov	9.30am	Health	French	Health	Latin
		2.00pm	French	Health	French	
Day 14	Tues 29 Nov	9.30am	Latin	Media Studies	Chinese / German	Classical Studies
		2.00pm	Media Studies	Chinese / German	Media Studies	
Day 15	Wed 30 Nov	9.30am	Samoan / Te Reo Rangatira	Social Studies	Samoan / Te Reo Rangatira	Accounting
		2.00pm	Social Studies	Music	Earth and Space Science	German
Day 16	Thurs 1 Dec	9.30am	Japanese	Te Reo Maori	Japanese	Media Studies
		2.00pm	Classical Studies	Japanese	Te Reo Maori	
Day 17	Fri 2 Dec	9.30am	Drama	Education for Sustainability	Drama	
		2.00pm	Art History	Drama	Social Studies	
Weekend						