

# Years 7 and 8 NEWSLETTER

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## IN THIS ISSUE

- A Warm Welcome
- Festival of Cultures
- Athletics
- Technology Challenge
- House Music
- Debating
- DanceNZ Made
- Hereworth Formal
- Social
- Zeebong The Storyteller
- Maths Fractions
- Short Stories
- Quad
- Pent Tournament
- Hockey
- TACS Hockey
- TACS Football
- TACS Netball
- Life Education Van

*Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whānau*

Who would believe that we are at the end of Term 3 already, this year is certainly flying by. The girls in the Intermediate Department have hardly had a minute to catch a breath with all the learning and co-curricular activities that they have been involved in.

There have, once again, been many highlights during Term 2 and 3. Some of which include the cross country, the Life Ed programme, the National Young Leader's Day, TACs netball, hockey and football, and the Hereworth Formal. It has been encouraging to read the girls' opinions, experiences and ideas on the different topics and outings that we have been involved in.

Thank you for your ongoing support, encouragement and involvement in their learning experiences at Woodford House. We are looking forward to another action packed and exciting fourth Term.

We wish you and your family a relaxing and enjoyable break and look forward to seeing everyone back, refreshed and ready for the new term ahead.

*Lorna Morice*  
*Intermediate Teacher*



WOODFORD  
HOUSE

# A Warm Welcome

## Starting at Woodford House

**Joining Woodford House in Term 2 has been one of the most exciting experiences of my life.**

Everyone was so welcoming and nice, especially the teachers. One of the biggest changes was the different classes. I like the idea of changing classes for every subject and all the subjects are really fun and interesting. I have already fitted in really well. I have already joined the hockey team. The team is really nice and supportive. The lunches are also really delicious and the kitchen staff are lovely. Overall it's a great school and I'm so glad that I came.

*Molly Kinnear*



## Coming to New Zealand

**This summer holiday, I went to New Zealand. I stayed in a little town called Hastings and met some new friends. I studied at Woodford House.**

This is Term 3 and my teacher is Mrs Morice. On the first day I met a girl named Shirley, she is from China too. Shirley told me she is the same as me, we are international students. She is in Year 10 and she is a boarder. Woodford House has four Houses, I am in Rouncil. Mrs Morice told me my class partner is a nice girl named Danbin. She is very funny and from China. She is interesting and her best friend is Miharu, and she is Japanese. They are all very good at mathematics. Miharu is good at English. After school they have badminton lessons. I joined the lessons too. We all think it is very interesting and we laugh all the time. Sometimes Miharu teaches us some Japanese. Danbin and I like Japan very much. We have a lot of things in common, that is why we became friends so fast. For example, we all love Miso soup and we all love art. I love my friends at Woodford House. Also I love Woodford house too! This is a perfect summer holiday!

*Anna Zhang*



The girls said goodbye to Anna with a special morning tea before her return to China at the end of August.

## Anna

**This term I am going to look after the new international student called Anna. I am going to be her buddy. She is from China too and we live in the same city called Shenzhen. So we can talk Chinese to each other. Anna is really young and smart, she is just 10 years old but she is good at English.**



On the first day of term, I took her to look around the school and told her what we do every day. I also took her to the Sports Department to choose a winter sport. She chose badminton, the same as me. At lunch time I introduced my best friend, Miharu, to her. They became really good friends because Anna likes Japanese culture.

On the Tuesday, we had badminton after school with Anna. This was the first time she had played badminton. So we taught her how to serve and she learnt really fast and she made progress.

We had a nice week.

Danbin Luo

## My New School

**Going to a new school and being a full boarder was a big thing for me. I had so many questions. Luckily, there were many people there to give me a hand.**

The people at Woodford House are so friendly and welcoming. It has taken me some time to find my way around the School and remember my way from class to class. With time, I've found my way and have made lots of new friends. I was a bit confused about the meal system and what you do after school but my buddy really assisted me. I have found lots of education opportunities and ways to keep myself occupied. The teachers and staff have helped me become very settled and are making the learning easy to understand. I have really enjoyed my first three weeks and I know I'll enjoy the rest of my time at Woodford House.

Nicole Mnyanyi





# Festival of Cultures



**On the 2nd of June, the whole school had Cultural Day. We did lots of fun activities and everyone dressed up in some incredible costumes. Some of the things we did were to taste food from different cultures, which the students made, learn how to make origami cranes, and more.**

It was really interesting to see everyone in different clothes from different cultures, and like a lot of other people, I dressed up as a Hawaiian. There were also prizes for the best dressed people.

My highlight of the day was tasting food from different cultures (as I like eating). The Year 10s cooked lots of delicious food in the gallery, which we got to taste. Some of the food that we got to taste was miso soup, spring rolls, cheesy potato balls (my personal favourite) Mexican fried rice, banana and cream, and lots more.

At the end of the day Miharuru taught the whole class how to make origami cranes. It took at least half an hour and it was a great learning experience. I learnt that making paper cranes was very hard and complicated and that I was terrible at making them.

Cultural Day was a fun learning experience for everyone and it was an opportunity to learn about all the different cultures we have at school. It was an enjoyable day and I can't wait until next year when we get to do it all again.

*Megan Wuisan*

## Festival of Cultures



A few weeks back the whole school decided to have a cultural day, this allowed the girls to dress up, win prizes and try foods from around the world including, Japan, China, France, Italy, Canada, and Greece. This was a day for the girls to socialise and create friendships with some of the international students.

When it came to lunchtime the Year 10 students organised a little food market for everyone to try foods from around the world. Some of the foods included crepes from France, potato pops and paella from Italy, pop tarts from Canada, deep fried prawns and honey soy chicken from China, and more. Trying these foods was an opportunity that we might not have experienced before. It was great and gave us an idea of what it's like around the world.

Cultural day was an awesome, fun packed day full of activities and prizes. Everyone enjoyed it and made new friendships. I hope that more students will get involved with other peoples' cultures and hopefully this day will be repeated throughout the years to come.

*Tamzin Buck*

## Cultural Day

Term 2 felt really long for me. There were lots of fun activities, but my highlight for this term was the Culture of Festival Day. It was great day to introduce my culture and for everyone to get to know other parts of my country, Japan. Lots of people think of Japan as a place where people eat sushi, only wear kimonos, and bow a lot. There are many more good things than this! We do eat other food than sushi, we do wear clothes like other countries wear. I hope people learnt new things about Japan on this day.

“Tomorrow is culture of festival day. So please wear clothes relating to your country,” said the prefect in assembly. People seemed really excited and started talking about the clothes that they would wear on Culture Day. Some people were going to wear the same clothes as their friends or clothes for the All Blacks. For me, I was going to wear my yukata. Yukata is a Japanese summer dress that looks like a kimono but is thinner than a kimono, and we wear it at fireworks festivals. I like wearing my yukata and I was excited. But there were two things that I had to do on the day. First one was singing a Japanese song in chapel, and the second one was to teach my class how to make a crane in origami. I love singing, but if people are looking at me... It becomes really hard. So I practiced and practiced.

The day had arrived. I was really nervous and finally it was time to sing in chapel. There were lots of people but I was lucky, because the people thought it was the video playing and didn't look at me singing! I failed a little bit but I was happy that I could sing in front of people without any big trouble. In the afternoon, I taught my class how to make origami cranes. It wasn't as hard as I thought it was going to be and I had lots of fun. Then the best thing was that people looked so happy after they could make the origami. I really enjoyed the day.

I've been living in New Zealand for about 1 year, but I like Japan and I still miss it. So I was really happy that people got to know more about Japan and like Japan as much I do. I came to New Zealand to learn lots of new things. So I hope people will learn lots of new things about Japan too.

Miharu Nagata



## Year 8 Mathletics 2017

Amy, Amelia and I giggled and talked to each other nervously while looking around at the parents chatting. We waited tensely for the competition to start, not knowing how hard or easy the questions would be. I flicked through some of the practice I had done in my head, wondering whether it would be enough to get a placing. Suddenly, a man walked onto the stage and welcomed everyone. He gave us the instructions on how to complete the individual section of the competition. "Begin."

I skimmed through the paper, trying to control my thoughts of; "This is way too hard, is this a Year 8 test? Oh, that one looks easy. Um, I've forgotten how to do this question right now." My hand flew across the page, working out sums and finding averages. I was so submerged in the paper that I jumped when the presenter told us we had three out of ten minutes left. I started to panic, with one question left. Soon enough, time was out and I scribbled down what I thought the answer was. Our marker collected the papers and handed us the next set of questions.

Amy took one look at the first question, nodded and threw an answer at the marker. Correct. We were off to a good start! From then on we passed answer after answer to the marker. We worked well as a group. Unfortunately, there were a few questions we didn't get in time.

The next section was timed. We had 30 minutes to complete 30 questions. I tapped my foot against the floor in frustration, while Amy bent very close to the paper. At last, time was up, we all breathed out happily. We had made it to question 17. After some technical difficulties, the scores were put up on stage. Everyone scanned the screen for their team name. I thought we weren't on the board until we saw that we were 14th! This was a lot higher than I had expected, so I was beaming inside. Taradale Intermediate had already won a lot of rewards so it was no surprise that they came third and second, Lindisfarne came first. I am very pleased with how we worked and I was very upset to leave.

*Claire Wallace*

## Year 7 Mathletics

**My heart was beating hard in my chest as the bus drove into Hastings Intermediate. Nervously, we made our way in ready to tackle mathletics. As we walked into the bustling hall we were instructed where to sit. Alex, Phoebe and I split from the rest of the group and sat down. We were ready.**

Before we knew it the questions were being handed around. We held our breath, waiting for instructions to begin. "Go." This section was individual so there was no help from the rest of my teammates. I rushed through the questions which didn't pay off for me because I only ended up getting 5/10. I was disappointed but eager to get onto the next round.

The group competition was definitely more laid back. We all tried our best and we thought we did ok. It was time for prize giving and we looked hopefully for our team's name on the board. It wasn't there. Even though we didn't get a placing it was still great fun and I would definitely hope to go again next year.

*Grace Haliburton*





## Tech Challenge

We walked into the hall at EIT, and I was left eyeballing all the pairs from different schools that had already gathered before us. We collected our name tags and kit and found a spot to work at down the back of the hall. A man in a suit introduced us and told us how the tech challenge would work and what the objective of the challenge was. We had to make a stick that could pick up ping pong balls from a metre and a half away and put them in an ice cream container without touching the ball.



When we were given the “Go,” Lily and I launched at the kit. We pulled out all the supplies and stared at what we had been given; A bunch of newspaper, a few straws, paper clips, a roll of tape, a shallow plastic cup, 3 cotton tip buds, a few metres of string, and a pack of M&Ms to eat later. We realised we didn’t have a plan and started communicating ideas between us. We decided to roll the newspaper around the string, support it with tape, and attach it to the cup which would have tape crossed over it to pick the ball up. After a long effort of constructing, we tested it out with the ping pong ball we had been given and wondered if it would be too sticky to get off. We spent a few seconds playing with the tape to make it slightly less sticky.

Finally, time was up and it was time to compete against the other teams. Lily and I exchanged nervous looks while the man explained that you had to pick up as many ping pong balls as possible and put them into the ice cream container. If the ball dropped or bounced out of the container it didn’t count. Whatever team collected the most balls won. We decided Lily would go first and I’d be there to help and then halfway through the three minutes, we would swap positions. We waited until we got called up and focused on attempting to break the record so far: 24. Lily threw the ball collector towards the bucket, cornered a few ping pong balls and quickly whipped them into the bucket. When we swapped, I tried the same strategy, but with fewer balls, it was harder to trap them and I collected one ball, Lily three, and in total we gathered a whopping 4 ping pong balls. We sat through the rest of the rounds and watched the high score go up to a truly awesome 33. At least we tried we tried our best, learnt lots, and had a fun night out.

*Courtney Woodmass*

**In August, Courtney Woodmass, Lily Mathers, Sonja Harris and I went to the Tech Challenge which was held at EIT. None of the girls including myself had been before so we didn’t know what to expect, although we did have some advice from the teachers as well as students who went last year. We had to make something which would grab a small ping pong ball but we had to be a metre and a half away from where the balls were. We got given a sheet of newspaper, scissors, 1 roll of tape, a small plastic cup, string, 3 cotton buds, 2 paper clips, and finally a packet M&Ms to snack on.**

Once we had begun Sonja and I didn’t have a clue how to make this invention work but we quickly came up with a rough idea. Our plan was that Sonja would be in charge of making the stem for the invention. I was in charge of making the grabber, but in the end we helped each other out. The overall winner was Puketapu School. They managed to pick up 33 ping pong balls! We didn’t end up getting any ping pong balls as we had quite a few problems, but we still enjoyed it. I would definitely say to those who go next year, that it’s not easy, but just give it your all and have fun!

*Jzilah Ridley*

## House Music

At the start of Term Two there was a big event that happens every year at Woodford called House Music. This event is where all four houses compete against each other. Each house has to present three music items. The first is any song from a musical, which will be a song and a dance. The next is a modern pop song that is on the radio. We also have to do a set song which was the Lord's Prayer in Māori.



A lot of practise and hard work went into this event. We had practises most days after school and sometimes even a few practises at lunch time. For the Maroon 5 pop song we did a few simple actions that were quite easy to learn, and for 'I Will Survive' we did a big dance that was quite difficult to understand.

On the final night, 'the big extravaganza', Tauroa went on stage and did well in our pop song, but in 'I Will Survive' we forgot a part of our dance! Overall it was a really fun night even if we came last. I can't wait to do it again next year.

Jess McNamara

## House Music

Last term we had House Music. We spent a lot of Sundays preparing for the main performance. We also had a lot of weekday practices after school. House Music took a lot of time but at last it was done and we were ready.

Finally, it was performance night. Frimley were the first to perform and I was very nervous, as it was my house. When we walked on stage everyone started cheering. First we sung the Lord's Prayer in Maori. Then we had to sing the other two songs that our house prefects had chosen. It was a great night and we were all so proud of our performances.

Sophia Wilton

## Debating

At Woodford House in the Intermediate Department we have a debating team, consisting of Lily Andrews, Amy Bagley, Rosa Mackenzie, and Claire Wallace.

This year we are part of the Radio Kidnappers 'Talk the Talk' Intermediate debating competition which has 11 local schools involved, with a total of 12 teams. The first stage in the debating competition is a round robin from which they take the best 2 scores from the three debates for each team. Then, whoever has the highest combination of scores goes into the actual competition. We have to write our own debates and decide the position each debater has. The moots we are given make us think and we learn a lot as we go along. Our most recent moot is 'New Zealand is far too politically correct' which we affirmed and we faced Napier Intermediate.

We met up twice during the holidays as a team, which really helped as we gained a lot of knowledge about New Zealand being far too PC. The judge also gave us lots of pointers on what to work on for the next debate. We will be ready to face Twyford School, debating 'Having pocket money teaches good habits', which we will be Negating.

Rosa Mackenzie and Amy Bagley



## DanceNZ Made

On Monday the 7th of August the junior and senior dance groups went to DanceNZ Made competition, at the Napier Municipal Theatre. The junior group included India, Wendy, Martine, Jess, Rosa and Me. Everyone was super excited to go. The juniors were dancing a Musical Theatre Number to Annie - "Hard Knock Life." The Seniors danced a Contemporary number to "The Greatest" by Sia. The junior boarders all woke up at 6:30 to get ready. We were running to get breakfast which was spaghetti and toast.

We left to go to the competition at 10:15 and arrived at 11:00am. The day started off with three workshops with Dean Mckerras. The workshops were one hour long and were Hip-Hop, Contemporary and Jazz. All of the groups that were competing had a time slot to practice their dance for 10 minutes on stage. We found the Juniors were last to practice! We had to wait for four hours to have our practice time, so we went to the foyer to practice, practice and practice even more!

After our practice time we ran as fast as our feet could carry us, in our dressing room we had pizza lying everywhere, and the room smelt like pizza very quickly. We were all starving so we were scoffing down the pizza as fast as you could say dance!

After dinner, we were all rushing to do makeup, hair and get into our costumes. We were all super nervous but yet excited to perform. Unfortunately, the worst that could happen, happened. The music wouldn't play out of the speakers but it played off the computer. Dean, who was running the competition, asked us to exit the stage. I knew something wasn't right. When we went on the second time the music started playing after ten seconds of waiting.

The judges must have liked our dance because we came 1st and we got into Nationals at Palmerston North! We really enjoyed the competition and are so glad that we got to experience this.

Amelia Ashby

## DanceNZ Made

On Monday the 7th of August, our two dance groups attended a competition. The competition is called 'DanceNZ Made'. It was a fun filled day; full of workshops, meeting new people, and dancing.

The day started off with us arriving at the Napier Municipal Theatre and we jumped right into the first workshop. In total, we did three workshops with our age group. All the workshops were during the day, with the performances later in the evening.

Woodford had a junior group and a senior group dancing. The senior group danced a contemporary piece to "The Greatest" by Sia. The year 7/8s danced a musical theatre piece to "Hard Knock Life" from the musical "Annie". Our group consisted of Martine Sandberg, Rosa Mackenzie, Jesse McCann, Amelia Ashby, India McIntyre, and I.

After a few quick rehearsals we had dinner and were then rushing around applying makeup and checking costumes. Soon enough, it was our turn to dance. With a little music mishap, we finished the dance and exited the stage happily.

Later it was prize giving. We got awarded 1st place in our category! That meant we had qualified for the nationals in Palmerston North.

Wendy Zhang



# Hereworth Formal

The night of the Hereworth formal would probably be the time when the girls from the Intermediate Department had a lot of nerves but also a lot of excitement. As soon as we arrived the boys were lined up ready to open the car door for us and walk us into a magical night in the Hereworth Hall. There was a red carpet and everyone was cheering as we walked in with our partners.

All the girls had to sit down and wait for a boy to ask them to dance. The first dance was with Year 8 boys and that dance was the cha-cha. Then the Year 7 boys got a turn. After a few dances we had a waltz competition then it was supper with pizza and lollies.

After supper we had the Year 7 waltz competition. Some girls got eliminated and had to go back to their seats. We waited for the microphone to announce the next dance. It was the electric slide and that was when the girls got to ask a boy to dance, but unfortunately we didn't dance with them but we had to dance next to them. Another dance like this that we did was cha cha slide.

The cha cha slide was very fun and I really enjoyed it. I loved the formal and I can't wait until to next year to make even more memories.

Isabella Grieve



## Social

This year our 2nd social was held in the Lindisfarne Chapel. When I arrived the music was already pumping through the doors, and there were lots of kids huddled into their school groups. The boys and girls were on two different sides of the building like every social I have been to. In the first 2 minutes my voice had already disappeared because of shouting to my friends over the deafening music.

Once the ice was broken between the boys and the girls it was easier to have fun and be ourselves. There were lots of big dancing circles that contained boys and girls from every school, shimmying away. When supper time came all the boys swarmed around the door to collect their mince pies and lolly cake.

Overall, the social was a great experience and lots of fun. It gives the girls a chance to make new friends from Iona and maybe from Hereworth and Lindisfarne. I know most of us had a great time. Next term we get to go to the Formal held at Hereworth.

Tessa Waldin

## Zeebong The Storyteller

As we sneaked out of chapel and into the hall, we could not hide our excitement. A storyteller, a real life story teller, was coming to our school. Girls muttered and whispered all around me, mostly about the storyteller. When we all found our seats and settled down the first thing we noticed was a quilt. This quilt was colourful, it was full of pictures and every patch on it was wacky and really eye catching.

Soon a man walked onto the stage; Zeebong. He talked to us for a while in his loud, projecting voice and told us how he got his name, then he asked if anyone would like to choose a patch on the quilt... nearly all the hands went up instantly. Then the story started. The patch that the girl had pointed to was one with four goldfish. They weren't proper goldfish but you could interpret them from the shapes that were on the quilt. After the same process and choosing more pieces from the quilt for a couple of times he had to go, so we bade him farewell and thanked him for telling us stories. We went to lunch early and some of the girls in the Intermediate Department (including me) went to MTG (museum, theatre, and gallery) to learn about Pania of the Reef.

*Caetlyn Greenwood-Beard*

## Maths Fractions

**Most people hate fractions,  
We know this is true,  
But fractions are something,  
That you and I can do,  
The number on the top is the numerator,  
Then the number on the bottom is the denominator,  
Here's a little trick  
We'll tell you in a tick,  
The line in the middle represents division,  
Is this starting to make sense?**

In class we have been learning how to simplify fractions and you have to divide both the denominator and numerator by the same amount. We have also been learning how to change fractions, decimals and percentages into each other. When changing a percentage to a fraction it's pretty simple because if it was 75% you would change it to 75/100 and then simplify that fraction which would then make it.

*Annabel Kerr and Amelia Ross*

## Fiji Fever

My toes melted into the smooth sand and the soft summer breeze swept through my silky blonde hair. I lay down to enjoy the hot blazing sun. Water splashed at my feet. Slowly, I rose, and edged towards the glistening ocean. I dived into the temperate aqua blue water. Tropical fish circled me and the colourful coral tickled my feet.

"Rosa, turn the hose off and get out off the sand pit, it's dinner time!" yelled my mother.

*Rosa Lowry*

## Movie Moment



It was a magical movie moment. My horse and I were galloping along the beach, hand in mane we flew. Tropical, salty water splashed up from the glistening blue lagoon into my emerald green eyes. Nothing could stop us. Suddenly, we were face to face with deadly sharp rocks. Like a unicorn with pure elegance and grace, Tuki flew over them.

"Bella!" shouted my instructor.  
"Concentrate, you've put the saddle on backwards!"

*Bella Ladbrook*

## Spanish

Hola! In Spanish we have been working on an exciting task. We had to research a Spanish speaking country, a traditional dress, and then had to make a puppet show from a country that speaks Spanish. We had to create a full Spanish speaking script that the audience could understand. All the puppet shows were really creative and we could understand the puppeteers really well. It's sad that we have to move on to a different language soon.

*Lily Mathers*



## Quad

In June a group of girls went to St Georges in Whanganui for winter quad. We were all billeted for the night and it was a great experience for everyone. Let the games begin!

At quad we played three games of soccer, against St Georges, Iona and Carncot. Each game was challenging as we had never played together as a team before. Our first game was against Carncot. It was a good game and everyone had a turn to learn which position they were the most comfortable in. We won 4-1; everyone played well as a team and passed the ball around fairly. The second game was also great, but we lost 0-1. The third game was our best game and we won 3-1 against St Georges. We were all tired but together everyone worked as a team to lift the spirit. That game put us in second place overall behind Iona.

*Alex Cave and Milly Waldin*



## Quad Tournament Soccer

I was tingling with excitement, but at the same time shaking with anxiety. This was my first time ever playing soccer, let alone playing soccer in a tournament for my school. I shivered in the cold morning air and watched the steam drift out of my mouth with every breath.

Taking glances at my team mates briefly, and then looking head on to the opponent team, I thought about what I had practised. As I waited with anticipation, everything was still. The umpire signalled to the other ref, and I took one last glance at my teammates. Butterflies were growing in my stomach, but I stood still ready to play.

Suddenly, I jumped into action at the squeal of the whistle. The ball was launched off the ground, like a rocket taking flight. I watched as the strikers in my team darted back and forth, trying to get possession of the ball. Staying in line with my fellow defenders, I watched as the ball rolled towards me. Promptly, all of my worries drifted away as I placed my foot on the ball. Looking up to see my teammates calling my name I kicked it as hard as I could and passed it to a striker from my team. Smiling, I watched her dribble the ball away from the clutches of the opposition team.

She passed it back and forth to other players from my team and made her way towards the goal. With one quick kick she took a shot at the goal. The goalie stuck out their limbs to try and stop it. Cheering, I laughed and looked at my friends. We had scored the first goal. Quad soccer promised more excitement to come.

*Scarlett Miller*



## Quad Competition

**I woke up in the morning and wondered where I was. I looked across the room in the dim morning light and underneath an All Blacks' poster, was Tamzin. We were at quad!**

When we arrived at St Georges we had quick catch-up with our friends and were out on the hockey turf. We quickly did a warm-up, (dodging the water cannons) collected our sticks, and huddled into a circle. All of us knew this game would be tough, as Carncot had beaten the Woodford team at quad last year. With our sticks in the middle, we showed Carncot what we were made of. "1, 2, 3, WOODFORD!"

The whistle blew, and it was on. We worked as a team and used the tactics Ms Dustin had taught us. Before long, the ball was in the goal. There was cheering from the side-lines, and our hearts were pounding. We zoomed up either side-line again and again, and there were many misses. There were breakthroughs from Carncot. But we kept at it, steadfast and determined. It seemed like no time at all had passed when the final whistle blew. Breathlessly, we jogged in and shook hands with Carncot. We had won our first game!

Then it was Iona's turn, as the whistle blew, the ball flew backwards, and up the opposite side-line. We pushed up towards the goal, and into the hive of defensive players. They buzzed around, always between the ball and the goal. Pop! Over a stick. Whizz! Between the feet. Bang! In the goal.

Smiling, puffing, and ready to go again it was no time before the last whistle finally pierced the air. Woodford was doing well and we only needed to win one more game to come home with the trophy.

The game started with a bang. Forwards raced up the field before the opposition knew the game had started, and we scored a goal. But just as fast, they zoomed down the field and scored as well. You could hardly see the ball it was travelling so fast.

Doggedly, we tried again and again, either missing, or being tackled. It seemed to go on forever. We were starting to flop, but suddenly, a breakthrough! As the ball hit the backboard we were overjoyed. We had run ourselves into the ground, worked as a team, and won the trophy. We were all exhausted, but we knew we had a long bus ride home to rest.

*Ella Simmons*



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## Billeting for quad

We finally got off the bus outside the St. George's school hall in Whanganui. Waiting very patiently for our billets to come and take us to their homes our names got called. I went with Bella and Johannah and Milly. Our family took us back to their house. When we got to there our jaws dropped as we saw their house, it was enormous.

After we had put our bags away and had a tour of the house we met their pets, a cat and a dog. We sat down and watched a movie. Then the mother said, "It's time to go and get dinner." I was thinking, "What would we be having for dinner?"

We headed off to McDonalds, and I was thinking in my head, "Wow, I have not had McDonalds in so long."

"Awww," I yawned as I woke up the next morning. We got up and out of bed quickly and got breakfast. We rushed to get ready for the day ahead of us. After we had got ready we walked outside and got into the car and headed off to St. George's school. We all said thank you and walked into the gym and our day at quad started.

*Lauren Ainsworth*

# Pent Tournament

**On Sunday the 26th of June the hockey and netball girls travelled to Ngatawa School in Marten. Once we had arrived we got into our sports' gear and headed to our first game. As the time flew by the intensity of the games grew higher and higher. Finally, after the game had finished we all celebrated the wins in the bus on our way to our next game.**

The next game we unfortunately lost by 2-1 to St Matthew's, but the netball team won against Ngatawa.

Once our 2nd games were over we travelled back to Ngatawa to meet the people that were billeting us for the night.

The following morning Woodford and Iona football girls had an early start, waking up at five to catch the bus to Ngatawa for their first game. Woodford kicked off at 10:30am and had an amazing win. During this time the netball and hockey girls were still busy winning their games too. The day sped past until it was time for the hockey girls to meet Iona. The whistle blew and the competition began. The game was very intense but at the same time exciting as we were winning 10-0.

Soon enough all the games were over and everyone gathered in the hall for prize giving and afternoon tea. All of Woodford's teams came in second place. Nervously, everyone waited as they announced the winning school. In fifth place was Ngatawa, Iona took fourth place and Samuel Marsdon in third place. It was down to the last two schools. Finally, they announced St Matthews in second and Woodford in first. Excitedly, Woodford cheered as they received their trophy. Overall it was a great experience and we think everyone enjoyed themselves very much. We can't wait until next year's Pent competition at St Matthews.

*Emma McDougall and Amy Kean*

## Hockey

**The 2017 Year 7/8 hockey girls are doing very well having played very strong opposition teams while having to learn the rules of hockey and play in their positions. Our team is only just starting to understand the positions and the players are working really hard as a team to play the best they can and have fun while learning. Our coaches are very supportive and helpful with the trainings and organizing getting us on the turf.**

We have an hour and a half practice on Mondays after school which helps to get the players' skills up. This makes us ready and prepared for the game on Tuesday. We have a large number of girls participating in hockey and two players each week have a bye, as there are too many subs. Woodford Year 7/8 girls have to hold their heads high and stay strong and show good sportsmanship even if we do have a loss.

It was a very interesting, educational and fun first half of the season and we are all ready to come back in Term three and hopefully have a powerful win or two.

Overall, Woodford has five hockey teams playing each week. Two of the Year 8s are in the 2nd X1 and also participate in the Year 7/8 team. Our Year 7/8 students have a lot of potential to carry on with hockey. Their hockey future looks strong as we are always willing to learn more. We can't wait for the Term three season to start back up.

*Harriet Mildon*





## TACS Hockey

**“Here Tamzin, up the line,” called my teammate.**

**“It’s coming, don’t lose it,” I screamed.**

**“Game over girls,” called out Fran from the side-line.**

We were having a great time at TACS Hockey. We were playing 20 minute games, seven aside (very small), against many different schools. This was a really fun tournament for us to socialise with girls from other schools, although it was a tournament (that we had to win), it was something to enjoy and have fun at. Woodford A was doing great; we had won all of our games. Although, the Woodford B team wasn’t winning, they improved SO MUCH and learnt a lot throughout their games. Woodford A was so happy with the overall win. We were lucky enough to win some Freddo Frogs and certificates. Woodford worked very hard for their win and deserved it. Although, the bus ride back was a little bit chaotic, as music was pumping through our ears, it was overall a great day.

*Tamzin Buck*



## TACS Football

On Tuesday the 1st of August, the quad football team participated in TACS football, held at Woodford



House this year. We played six games and five of those games we won. We ended up with nine points, which meant we won the girls’ A grade division. After that it was the playoffs.

Then it was time for the big finale, if we won this we would win TACs Football. For the finale we versed St Mary’s Mixed (meant to be half girls and half boys), but it turns out their team was made up of all boys except for two girls. They were a very hard team to play against and sadly, we ended up losing 1-0 and came second in the girls’ grade for the competition. Prize giving time! Congratulations to our MVP, Nicole, as she played very well and was a great asset to our team. We really enjoyed TACs football this year, and are looking forward to what next year will hold.

*Bella Ladbrook and Sophie McLay*

## TACS Netball

On Friday the 30th of June, on a chilly morning, Woodford House competed in TACS netball. All of our netball teams competed in this event. We left school early and had plenty of time to get to the Onekawa Netball Courts.

After the Prem and Maroon teams played it was Black’s turn and we were all pumped to play. We had to warm up first so we did a couple of laps of the court. Then we did some stretches. “Are you all ready to play?” asked Lily and Gussy, our coaches, from the sides of the court.

**“YES!” we all screamed.**

The game started. The ball flew through the air from hand to hand and everyone was screaming,

**“Over here, over here.”**

The shooters concentrated hard. ‘Whoosh’ went the ball, heading for the goal.

**“OOHHHH!” screamed the team.**

We had missed.

After the game we were all sweating from head to toe, our faces red like tomatoes, and we were all gaining our breath back.

After all the netball games it was time for prize giving. The winners of TACS got announced, but sadly Woodford House did not get any prizes. But we’ve always got next year!

*Phoebe Maidens and Polly Phillips*

## Life Education Van

**In Term 2 the Life Education Van came to Woodford to teach us about cyber safety. This was an amazing time as we learnt so much as well as having a lot of fun. We had 3 sessions and each one was information packed.**

We found out how to keep our personal information safe. Like how we have to log off every time we leave a seat and always press 'don't save password' on any web site.

We also learned about how people can make a fake profile and talk to you like they are a 13 year old girl when they could be a 50 year old man. We learnt that they could pretend to like all the same stuff you do and they are very cunning and have ways to find information about you, like where you live and your age and things like that.

We had a talk about how something might seem as a joke to you but it could actually hurt someone else and when you put something on the internet even if you delete it; it will always be in cyberspace. We also learnt that it is illegal to fake your age or name on the internet and how almost all of us in that room had lied about our age.

By the end of the last lesson we all knew so much about cyber safety and that there are so many people out there who are on the internet just to harm you. It was an amazing experience for us to learn about all the aspects of cyber safety and how the internet is not a safe place if you're not careful.

Alexandra Pettigrew-Heeps



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HOUSE**