



OTAGO GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

International Department Newsletter Term Two 2019



Term Two Highlights

What a busy term it has been! There have been a large number of academic, sporting, and cultural activities during the term, and great school spirit and enthusiasm have been on display. There are some internationals who have been making the most of the opportunities on offer and have been visiting parts of the region and South Island doing a range of activities from a boat ride around the glaciers at Mt Cook, to performing in The Big Sing, to doing a high ropes course in Invercargill. The senior outdoor education and multi-level sport classes have been biking on the Clutha Gold Trail, mountain biking in Naseby, doing day walks, orienteering, and a ropes course.



Internationals who don't take Year 11 Geography were able to join the annual Mt Cook Year 11 geography group where they got to spend time in the beautiful mountains and fresh air. The



Year 10 students and some senior internationals joined the social studies two-day trip to Puketeraki marae at Karitane. On the first morning, they visited Orokonui Ecosanctuary then were welcomed on to the marae followed by afternoon tea. Experiencing a

Maori welcome and doing the hongi is very strange for some cultures and having them embrace this new custom is pleasing.



Our dress-up Library Day was a fantastic and fun way to show our school spirit. This year's successful Shave for a Cure was another day full of spirit and some tears as some brave students and teachers shaved their hair for cancer. Our very own Mrs Chapman shaved her hair.

Highlights continued until the end of the term. The Year 12 formal at the Savoy saw the girls do their hair and make up, put on some high heels and beautiful dresses, and join in the fun on the dance floor. Our school hosted the first Experience Asia Day. Ms Thomson and Mr

Edmunds spent much

time organising the activities and food. The weather wasn't so great but everything else was great. Some of our students performed on stage and helped with activities. Annsen Chan and Sakura Saito were part of the senior production *Hairspray* which was performed at the end of the term. The last week of the term held the International Food Festival as part of Global Citizens Week and much delicious tucker was had by many.



We are very sad to farewell students who ended their studies at our school and their time in New Zealand. We sincerely hope they enjoyed their time and return home with many happy memories. The term 2 leavers are:

Thailand: Emma Boonsom,

Germany: Hanna Heine, Kaja Zimmermann, Izzy Sandle, Elinor Armitage, China: Amy Zhang. We are happy to welcome new students at the start of the next term.

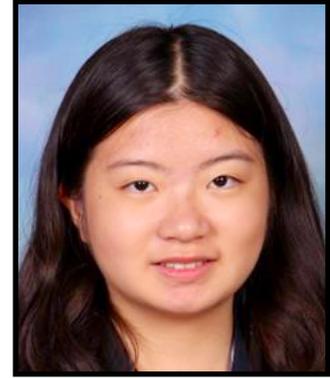


Student Work

The Cable Car: Hermione Hai

I went through an adventure when I was 10 years old. It happened on a no-name mountain in North-East of China and I was having my ski trip with my mother. Honestly, I was so proud of myself that I could ski on the blue track at that time. I queued for the cable car with full confidence.

A group of people went off on the cable car, each cable car has 4 seats. The beginning of my nightmare was when the cable car is my turn, the people who were waiting for the same car with me decided to wait for the next one because they had four people and they wanted to sit together. So that I was a kind of isolated that no-one to accompany me. A 10-year-old child was going to sit the cable car alone! How cruel the world is! But I was so brave at that time. "Brave child never shrinks back," I thought. Then, I sat on the cable car, the staff helped me to close down the fence, but after 5 seconds, the fence went up and swung in the air!



OH MY GOSH!

The forest and snowfield were 25 metres below me and I couldn't do anything to stop the car. I could hear the music floating in the air, people were talking and laughing in the next cable car behind me. Only I was surrounded by fear. I felt my life was going to end at that time.....

Finally, I got off the cable car. I swear that I wouldn't take a cable car by myself again. Sometimes when people got some adventure which they thought is real hard, but after it they thought it is nothing. However this experience gives me an unforgettable mental shadow.

Outdoor Education Camp: Yuki Mitobe

I had low and high ropes courses camp which was held in Invercargill from Thursday 6th June to Friday 7th. I went there with Year 12 Outdoor Education students, two Year 13 students, Year 12 Physical Education students, and two teachers.

Day 1, I came to school at 6:30 am and left school at 6:45 am. It was still dark outside and I was sleepy. The driving time was about two hours and thirty minutes. I didn't notice that I was sleeping.

When we arrived at Invercargill, we went to a motel where we slept and ate meals. It was nice and warm. I prefer it to a tent.



Then we started doing low ropes. I had never done that, so I was scared and nervous. We did four activities using low ropes. It was hard to keep balance even we connected our arms, but we tried many times. The activity which was the most interesting was to keep balance one. This game, we had to stand on a big wood board. The board was moving many times, so it was difficult to stand on it. The most difficult part of this activity was when we went down. If the board touch the ground, we have to start again from standing. Finally, we could do that. I was happy. I didn't like low rope activities very much because the weather condition was bad, rainy and cold. I

also did rock climbing. While I was doing that, my hands were freezing.

After activities, we did ABL games. They were fun. Then we cooked our dinner. I had chicken burger. Later, we went to a theatre to watch short movies about outdoor sports. I liked the animation one which was about rock climbing. The short movies were exciting for me.

Day 2, we did high ropes course. They looked very scary. We had to wear harnesses and helmets. First, I did the difficult one which is called "zig zag". This had three roads. First and second one were woods, third one was rope. The rope was very hard and high from the ground, I was scared when I was standing. The most challenging activity was jumping and running one. This activity, we had to run and jump box to box. It was difficult because boxes were moving when we jumped on. I fell once when I got the box. After, I could stand again and run to the finish line. It was scary but also exciting. Later, we had lunch and returned to school. We arrived at school at 4pm.

I did many new things during this camp. Before I went to the camp, I didn't want to go actually, because I heard Invercargill was cold, and I was also scared about rope courses, but I learned cooperation with people, and talking to each other were good ways to achieve the goals and activities.

Spring Festival: Judy Xu

It is often said that the Spring Festival is a festival of unity with the family, but the Spring Festival this year is special in my mind. The Spring Festival in 2019 was very unforgettable. It was the first year I came to study in New Zealand. It was also the first time I left home to a strange city and it was the first Chinese New Year without family. I thought I might be very depressed. But I made a lot of friends in New Zealand, they accompanied me through an unforgettable Spring Festival.



On that day, my friends and I finished school at 3:20 pm. We planned to go to our friend's home to make dumplings and watching 'Spring Festival Evening'. ('Spring Festival Evening' is a TV show that Chinese always watch during the Spring Festival.) First, we went to the Chinese supermarket to buy dumpling skin, pork and celery. The irony is that we all forgot to buy vinegar and chili sauce, which are the important materials for cooking. We found this when we nearly arrived at the bus stop, and then we had to go back and buy these. This is indeed a very funny start, then we were so lucky to catch the bus on time, god bless!

After arriving at the friend's house, we started making the fillings of dumplings. The first step was to mash the pork and celery with a kitchen knife. Then we mixed the chopped ingredients, and seasoned with salt and soy sauce. Finally, the step of making dumplings let some of us do nothing, because most of us were from Southern China, but dumplings are northern food. Lots of my friends don't know how to make it. Fortunately, one of our friends was northerner, she taught us how to make dumplings.

All of us learned how to make dumplings. I felt very happy when I was eating dumplings made by myself. Unfortunately it was too late, we all forgot to watch 'Spring Festival Evening'. But we all got blessings from each other and greetings from our families from China. After returning home, I saw someone in the distance put the fireworks. How beautiful and dazzling it is, just like my motherland. I thought: how will I spend the next Spring Festival?

Photos



Term 3 Upcoming Events

These are some of the main events at school.

There are more subject specific events and the students will be notified.

Week 1

July 26 Yasuda Sister School Arrives

Week 2

July 30 Open Night

Week 3

August 9 Yasuda Sister School Departs

August 11 Portfolio Art Exhibition Opening

Week 4

August 13 - 14 Junior Production

Week 5

August 20 Senior Reports

August 22 Student Learning Conferences

Week 6

August 30 Ski Trip Departs

Week 7

September 3 Ski Trip Returns

September 6 Teacher Only Day

All week Winter Sports Week

Week 8

September 11 Senior Exams Begin

Week 9

September 17 Senior Exams Finish

Week 10

September 27 Last Day of Term 2

