



Scholars' Celebration

"Learning without Limits"

On Tuesday 21 February 2023, we had the pleasure of an evening celebrating academic success with our students who achieved an NCEA qualification with an excellence endorsement in 2022. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate with students and their whānau. Students were awarded their well-earned scholars badges, and listened to an inspirational talk from guest speaker and ex-student Sophia Chen.

Where are they off to in 2023?

Jimmy O'Keeffe: Dux

NCEA Level 3 with an Endorsement of Excellence

This year, I am studying a Bachelor of Science with a major in physics and a double major in chemistry at Victoria University of Wellington. However, my schedule is set up so I could pretty easily change to a mathematics or geophysics major if I wanted to. I'm trying to keep flexible in my first year.

For me, the best part about Pukekohe High School was being involved in the music department. It gave me an opportunity to connect with some really cool people in the school, and go on trips that let me see the amazing work that other schools have been doing, as well as showcasing our own.

The best advice I have for younger students is if you want good grades in NCEA, you need to actually put time and effort into your work. I know a lot of students who slacked off and just expected good grades to come to them like they did for them in primary school. You aren't going to get away with that anymore. If you want to do well, particularly in levels 2 and 3, you're going to have to give up time for it. But trust me, the scholarship money and ego boost it gives is normally worth it.



Rocel Katuin: Proxime Accessit

NCEA Level 3 with an Endorsement of Excellence

This year I'm studying in Dunedin! I have just finished my Jumpstart Physics course, as I did not take physics at PHS, and next week is my official orientation week.

I am studying Health Science First Year at Otago University in Dunedin.

I enjoyed the sciences, being in band and getting to join the music team was my favourite part of PHS. I fully intend to stay in contact with all my music whanau!

Any advice for younger students? It is a classic, but get involved! If you learn to prioritise your time well, you can do all the fun little things like dress up days or inter-house competitions, and do well in your classes. It takes time to learn what works for you, but it will definitely be worth it.





Lily Fox

NCEA Level 3 with an Endorsement of Excellence

Outstanding Scholarship in English



I've moved down to Christchurch and am about to start my undergrad. This year I'm hoping to get involved in everything uni has to offer and keep up with my music.

I'm studying a Bachelor of Science, majoring in Physics and Astronomy at the University of Canterbury. This will hopefully lead into further study, both in NZ and around the world.

The music department was the best part of PHS. I was part of the 'nerd herd' for 5 years and loved every second of it. That's where I made my best friendships, learned new skills, and got to work with incredible people. Special memories include the permanent kazoo bans on the band trips, the 2021 KBB gala concert (watch it on YouTube), the annual Rodger Fox visits, and sectionals where we did more talking than playing.

Juniors: It sounds cliché but get involved. In year 9, I signed up for everything, I even ran cross-country with an ear infection. You don't have to continue these activities throughout the whole of high school but commit for a year/season. That way you've given it a fair go and might even find something you want to continue.

Seniors: Talk to the careers counsellors, even if you aren't in year 13. They have incredible opportunities available for year 12 and 13 students, and you don't know about them until you reach out. It is also good to start thinking about your future in year 12. Don't leave things until June of year 13, it's not fun to be worrying about mocks and your future at the same time.





NCEA Level 3 with an Endorsement of Excellence



Ollie Bergquist



Daniel Fourie



Necia Lawson



Bianca Parish



Madison Prowse



Steadfast Sutrisno



Nyle Turuwhenua





NCEA Level 2 with an Endorsement of Excellence

Samuel Donovan	13BNT	Armani Tohaia	13LL
Rowan Loveday	13BNT	Danica Dickson	13MDJ
Nisha Van Dijk	13BNT	Lucy Kempton	13MDJ
Jind Kaur	13BU	Jonathan Larsen	13PG
Mohmoud Moussa	13BU	Erica Welch	13PG
Kyla Van Rijs	13BU	Kiana Carter	13PRS
Lauren Hutchinson	13CLC	Megan Van Leeuwen	13PRS
Sophie Clark	13DI	Rebecca Yip	13PRS
Cayley Fox	13FGY	Ella Shortland	13RMP
Schalk Greyling	13HY	Mikala Helyar	13TI
Richie Hong	13HY	Sean Keary	13WB
Jasmine Kaur	13HY	Willow Phillips	13WB
Leon Meads	13HY		

NCEA Level 1 with an Endorsement of Excellence

Nazanin Allahyar	12AN	Kalatiola Tai	12MC
Logan Hooper	12AN	Marcus Goldsack	12MLK
Anh Nguyen	12AN	Jing Ning Chua	12PTB
Henry Stallworthy	12AN	Joey Ebreo	12PTB
Elissa Flowerday	12BF	Anyi Liu	12PTB
Idan Fybish	12BF	Ria Sutrisno	12PTB
Daniel Potter	12BG	Ashna Kumar	12SG
Bryn Giddens	12HN	Vadim Smith	12SG
Willow Thompson	12HR	Marina Vujanic	12SG
Caitlin Hickford	12KR	Tyler McNaughten	12TYD
Waimirangi Morgan	12KR	Matthew Moffitt	12WH





SCHOLARSHIPS



Nyle Turuwhehua

- Top Scholar in Sculpture
- Outstanding Scholarship in Design
- Outstanding in Photography
- Scholarship in Painting



Allan Smith

- Outstanding Scholarship in Painting



Lily Fox

- Outstanding Scholarship in English