



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS NEWSLETTER

Term 2, June 2019

Warmest greetings to all our international students, homestay families, parents, caregivers and agents. It has been a very busy term for our students and to celebrate we are having a shared lunch on the last day (Friday, 5 July) to bid farewell to the following students:

Simon Havranek and **Marco Mittermayr**. Austria, who have been here for two terms.
Philip Hetel, Switzerland and **Dominik Roden**, Germany, have been here since Term 3, 2018
DeWei Xie (David), China, who started in Term 4, 2018. We will miss these wonderful students who have contributed fully to the international form class and school life. Each one of you have been excellent ambassadors for your country and you will always be remembered here. Ki Kaha.

Lasse Koster, Germany and **Sacha Dewancker**, France, have extended their student visas to continue their studies here until the end of Year 13 and graduate in New Zealand. A very warm welcome to Lasse's mother, **Petra Koster** who has moved from Hamburg, Germany to Gisborne. Also, to our two families coming to Gisborne next week: **Judith Cloup and Fredenz Dewancker, Dirk and Antje Hertel**, to tour New Zealand with their sons.

Our new students arriving for term three are:

Michita Higashi, Japan

Marinus Skaarup, Denmark

Tobias Hodann, Germany

Tim Horn, Germany

News:

- Trip to Morere Hot Pools, Friday, 28 June, leaving at 12.30 pm and back at 4.00 pm.
- Holidays - term two breaks up on Friday, 5 July. Have a great, relaxing break and come back refreshed for term three.
- If your student is sick, please ring the school office on 868 8159 and leave a message or speak with Sara Evans, Attendance Officer. If your student needs to see the school doctor (free) on Monday or Thursday, please make an appointment with Sara or your student can do this.
- School Ball - Friday, 28 June, Emerald Hotel, students must have a consent form signed by you and pay for their ball ticket, \$55 to the accounts office.
- You should all have received the term two school reports by email. If you didn't please contact the school office and let them know. If you have concerns about your homestay, ward or son's progress contact **Michele McCarthy** at school by phone - 868 8159 or 027 336 3508
email: michelem@gisboyshigh.net
- Shared lunch - would you please give /baking/cooked dish to contribute to our lunch next Friday, pizza delivery will also be made for the boys. We are able to heat up food in the international classroom's microwave. Thank you, most appreciated.

Going Away

An updated contact list of the school's homestay families is attached for your reference. If you are going away and would like your student to stay with another homestay family please make contact with them and let Jules Hansen know. There is a financial undertaking to pay for your student's stay with another family. If you are not sure how this works contact **Jules Hansen** -

mrsjuleshansen@gmail.com

Ph: 027 4933430

Homestay Meeting - Term 3

There will be a homestay meeting in the school library in Week 2, Term 3 on Thursday, 1 August at 5.15pm. This is an informal meeting to bring everyone together to go over any issues or concerns that you may be having. A reminder will be emailed.

Homestay Families

A huge thank you to all of our families who provide such a stable, warm and supportive environment for international students. The success and happiness of our boys is influenced greatly by you. We value what you do and the high standard of pastoral care you provide. Our students are settled and have a very positive attitude about their families. A special welcome to our new homestay family, **Abi** and **Hamish Douglas**, who have had Marco Mittermayr for two terms.

Kia Ora,

I'm Jules Hansen the new International Students Homestay Manager. I'm a mum to a busy family, very involved with the Gisborne Netball Centre and have a menagerie of animals on a small farmlet out at Taruheru.

I've had a long association with GBHS, dating back to 1992, where I managed the school cafe for 15 years. So, I'm thrilled to be back at Boys' High School again, working with Michele McCarthy, International Director and staff to find the best possible homestay placements for our International students.

We have got a range of different nationalities of boys, each bringing their own style and charisma to school and home life. A huge thanks to all families/whanau that have welcomed these young boys into their homes and lives. A life changing experience for many! I'm a phone call/email away.

Please contact me with any concerns, or a chat.

Jules Hansen

mrsjuleshansen@gmail.com



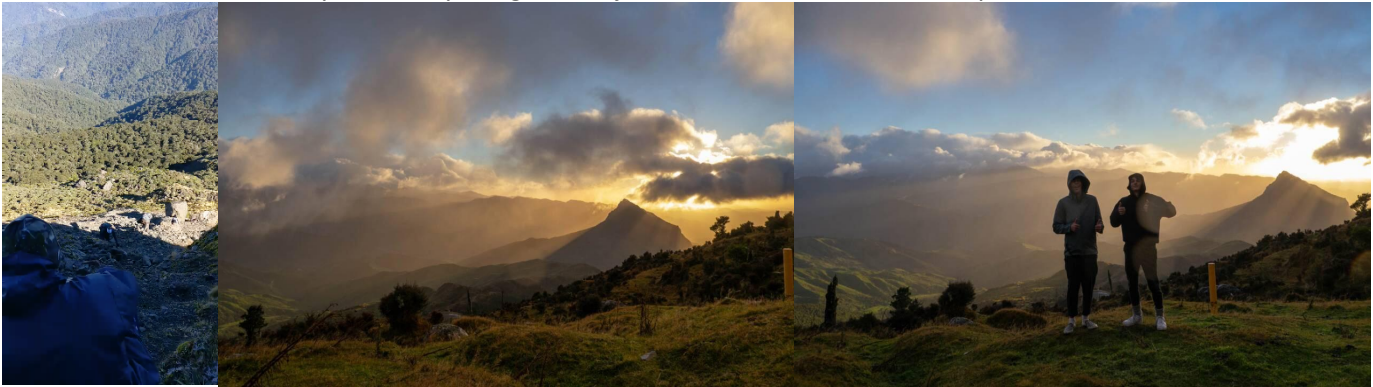
Outdoor Education trip to Mount Hikurangi

On Monday, 27. May, our outdoor education class went in a little van to Cooks Cove where we did the walk and enjoyed an incredible view on a bright, sunny day. After that we headed off to the East Cape lighthouse, which is the easternmost point on the North Island. It was quite hot so Philip, Simon, Ben and I decided to take a swim in the ocean, which was really freezing but still refreshing. Then we drove to a backpacker, where we stayed the night, we had a pool table and some other games which made the stay way more fun.

I woke up at around seven o'clock, brushed my teeth and made breakfast. We took off at around 9 and headed off to Mount Hikurangi. As soon as we arrived it started to rain a little bit so we took our raincoats on and started walking for about two hours on something like a farm. Then it started to get really stormy and the rain got really strong, it was foggy and we were completely wet and cold. We didn't stop walking because we really wanted to get to the hut. After another 20 minutes, we recognised that we've lost the track so we pulled our map and the compass out and tried to find the track again. Luckily, we got back on the track after 20 minutes and kept on walking towards the hut.

As soon as we arrived at the hut, Mr. Donaldson made a fire to prevent hyperthermia. The storm got worse and it didn't seem possible to walk the next day to the summit. In the evening, we cooked some dehydrated Mexican chicken, chicken teriyaki and some dehydrated vegetables, which was better than expected. I went into my sleeping bag at around 9

because we didn't have any electricity or lights, we just had one candle which lit up the room a little bit.



We woke up at about 7 in the morning, made some porridge on a gas cooker we took in our backpack and a little pot. Luckily, the storm had passed and we had a beautiful view over the whole area, it was still really windy but no rain so we headed off at around 9. The track changed completely, it was no longer an easy farm track, it was steep and with high grass, trees and rocks it was so slippery that you really had to be careful to keep standing. After two hours of walking we came to the last and most difficult part of the walk. We stand in front of a huge rock slide which was way steeper than all the climbs before and there was no track, so we had to figure out how to come up the summit without getting injured. All those rocks were quite loose so you had to be careful to don't push them down on another friend. So, we climbed this 600m rockslide in about 45 minutes.

As we arrived at the summit we stayed up there for five minutes that we started climbing back down, I was climbing in front and at around the middle of the rockslide when another student slipped and saved himself but a rock of the size of normal pillow rolled towards me and missed my head for a few centimetres. We went back down to the hut where we had a good cup of tea. straight after that we went back down to the van and started driving back to Gisborne. We arrived back at Boys High at around seven. All in all, it was an incredible trip and a really nice opportunity to see some more of the North Island even if it was quite exciting.

Marco Mittermayr
Year 12, Austria

Trip to Mount Hikurangi

A couple weeks before we went on the trip to Mount Hikurangi, we started to prepare ourselves. We learned how to read a compass and a map properly. We thought about different emergency scenarios and how we should react when something happens. The weather was also a big topic. We checked it regularly that we packed our stuff right for the trip. A day before the trip we knew that it is going to be raining, while we are walking up to the hut. But the day before and after should be beautiful.

On Monday morning the trip started. We were heading off to Te Araroa. After a two and a half hour drive we arrived in Te Araroa. We drove a bit further to the East Cape where we looked at the most eastern Lighthouse in New Zealand. Then we finally arrived at the backpackers. We all were surprised how nice it was, because we were expecting a place with way less. We had a nice lounge with billiard table and with darts. We even got wifi. After a big meal in the evening we played a bit of darts and went to bed pretty early, because we knew it was going to be a long day tomorrow and an early start.

From the backpackers we drove to the bottom of Mount Hikurangi. We checked our backpacks, to see if everything is packed inside the plastic bag, because it was already raining and it was about to get stronger. Also, we packed some wood that we could make a fire at the hut. So we started walking through the rain. As higher as we got the wind and the rain got stronger. After four hours of walking in the rain, we were uncertain if we were still on the right track. People started to panic a bit. We had to check our direction and position on the map. So we could use our skills we learned the weeks before and we learned that it wasn't pointless to learn those compass and map skills. But half an hour later we did it and we arrived at the hut. All of us were freezing cold and we were so happy that we arrived. We put on the fire

and started to dry out our wet clothes. Then we cooked our dehydrated food and after listening to “Die drei ???” we went to bed.

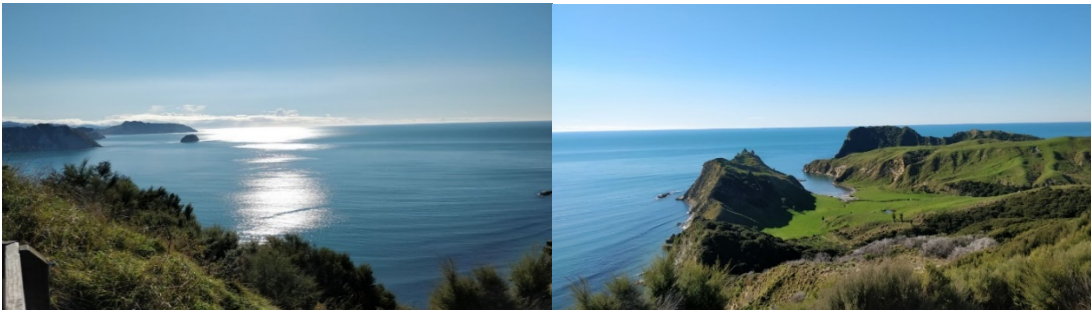
The night was really windy and sometimes you had the feeling that the roof was going to blow off, but luckily we all survived the night and on the next day the weather was beautiful to climb the mountain. It was still really windy and cold but the sky was clear and we expected a beautiful view from the summit. But first we had to climb up. The last part was really steep and rocky and we had to climb on all fours. It was challenging and now and then rocks dropped down from somebody from the top and you had to stop them or avoid them. Once a stone the size of a small pillow fell down and nearly hit somebody, but he could just jump out of the way. The way after the steep part was quite easy and we are all happy when we arrived at the van.

The trip was challenging and sometimes quite scary, but it was worth it and the view from the summit of Mount Hikurangi was beautiful.

Philip Hertel, Switzerland

Trip to Mount Hikurangi

On Monday - the start of week five - we went on our Mount Hikurangi trip. The journey started with a look at the current weather report as it is very important to know the actual weather situation. After a 50 minute drive -our first stop was the famous “Tolaga Bay” - we walked up to the Cooks Cove viewpoint and had a great look over Tolaga Bay.



After a short walk we kept on driving down further towards the East Cape lighthouse. It took us exactly 558 steps until we could catch the first glimpse of the famous East Cape lighthouse. Due to the steps up the lighthouse we really got hot so we decided to go for a quick swim in the sea. It was very cold and choppy but it was worth it. After having a stunning view and a quick swim we decided to get ready and look for our accommodation, a little backpackers lounge near the lighthouse. In the evening we cooked us some dinner and had a great time together while playing darts, pool and cards. Some students were snoring very badly so it was hard for me to find proper sleep but once I fell asleep nothing could wake me up, not even a snoring student.

The next morning we got up pretty early as it was supposed to rain in the afternoon so our plan was to reach the hut before it is pouring with rain. We left the Lodge at about nine and drove towards Mount Hikurangi. It slightly rained as we started to walk which wasn't a big problem as we were prepared and had the right gear. As we hiked it became more and more stormy and rainy. Also the fog got thicker and thicker and made it difficult to find its way around. We arrived at the hut soaked, cold and happy that we finally found it. Sir started to make a fire straight away to warm up the hut. We put our wet, soaked gear over the fire and warmed ourselves by the fire. Luckily we found our hut before it got really stormy and dark. The rest of the day we spent in the hut playing cards, talking and listening to the rain. For dinner we had dehydrated food (you just have to add water to have a proper meal) which is actually not bad if you cook it for long enough. Happy and tired we fell asleep while listening to the storm which raved outside.



The following morning we woke up at around seven. The rain was completely gone but the wind stayed. This day included the big mission: The climb up the summit of Mount Hikurangi. It is supposed to be a one and a half hour walk up to the top so we decided to leave all our stuff in the hut and just take the most required gear, water and food. We followed the track, crossed a bush and ended up in a big rockslide. Sir knew that the last 400 meters were not marked with markers, so we had to find the path to the summit ourselves. It was very steep and some rocks were loose so we had to be very careful. For some people in our group it was the first proper mountain they climbed so it was a very hard and serious challenge. The view on the top was stunning and unforgettable but we wanted to leave as we knew we haven't mastered the full challenge yet.



The climb down was way harder than the climb up to the summit. When we almost reached the end of the rockslide a student unintended loosened a stone as big as a coconut and nearly hit another student's head. That showed how serious this climb was!

After we came back to the hut we packed our gear and enjoyed the beautiful day by walking back to the Van. We arrived at Gisborne at around seven. As a conclusion I have to say it was a beautiful trip and a real challenge!

Simon Havranek,
Austria
Year 12,

Letters from Students

Dear Host Family Lyn and Len,

I am writing to thank you for the wonderful time I have spent living with you for the past 4 months. You have been very kind to me. When I first arrived, I was rather afraid and I did not speak very much English. I did not really understand everything you said. You made me feel very welcome. You helped me get better in my English, I have learned many new words.

Your grandson, Jed, was also very kind to me. I enjoyed playing soccer with him.

I have some very good memories of my time with you. I will always remember the time you took me to the school. I enjoyed going to school early.

I also enjoyed eating different food, especially feijoas. They were so tasty. I hope one day I can come back to New Zealand or maybe you will visit me in China.

Thank you again for everything you have done for me. I will always remember you.

Very best wishes,

Dewei Xie



Dear Sharon and Philip,

I am writing to thank you for the good time I have spent living with you for the past four months. You have been very kind to me.

When I arrived, I was a little bit fearful, because I did not speak English very well. I was very worried about some misunderstanding, but you made me feel very welcome. You helped me improve my English. I have learnt many new words.

I have some very good memories of my time with you. I will always remember the time you took me to the Tolaga Bay and fishing. I enjoyed your cooking. I am also very happy that you can have the patience to communicate something with me.

I hope one day you will visit me in China.

Thank you again for everything you have done for me. I will never forget the time I lived here and you.

Very best wishes

Jiaxi Du

My story: Rowing for Gisborne Boys high, courage knows no defeat.





Final (the medal race) only by 1 second.

Hi my name is Sacha and I'm going to tell you guys my story: rowing at North Island and national secondary school in New Zealand.

First of all it's a huge privilege to represent your school to such a big event, and I was even more lucky representing GBHS in single and quad.

Between the 7th and 10th of March happened NISS regatta for North Island Secondary Schools, 2000 rowers racing on three days with medals to win at the end.

Our school and I have been really lucky at NISS making one gold medal in the double, a silver in the quad (which I was part of) and a bronze in my single at 0.3 sec from the silver.

Have a look at the photos of the final to give you an idea of the mood of who was there.

Below: Simon Havranek's Homestay Family – Donna Oates, Ryan and Leo



Below: Philip Hertel with his homestay family, Teresa Clune, Dave Reaney and Seth Gloistein

