



Tena Koutou Katoa



The Laramie Project - Nothing short of STUNNING!

This powerful and challenging production, put on last week by our Year 13 Drama students, was absolutely outstanding. The audience were held in rapt attention as our talented students brilliantly portrayed over 64 characters, telling the deeply moving story of what happened in Laramie Wyoming in 1968 when the young gay university student Matthew Shepard was murdered.



The performances were stellar, the direction seamless and the staging, stunning. The result was a breathtaking theatrical collage that explored the depths to which humanity can sink and the heights of compassion of which we are capable.

In the words of the director and HOD Performing Arts, Duncan Allan, 'The experience of working on The Laramie Project has been deeply rewarding for both myself and the students. This play was a huge challenge for all of us. The cast has grown greatly throughout the process. As we learned more about why Matthew Shepard was murdered, we started to explore our own ideas about community, education, beliefs, violence, privileges and rights, and the difference between tolerance and acceptance.'

The play drew widespread reaction from many who attended. Comments included:

'Last night's performance was exceptionally good. I had to pinch myself to remember this was a school production.'

'Look no further than our own theatre and talented drama students for a most gutsy, thought provoking, emotionally challenging piece of drama.'

'This is WOW theatre, you will leave the theatre a different person to the one who walked in.'

And the students also spoke of their involvement;

'so proud to have been part of this wonderful production'

'the highlight of my year'

'This production has changed my life. We started as kids and grew into young adults'

'This time together has given me so much confidence and freedom of expression'

Congratulations to everyone involved – you once again made us proud members of the Selwyn community!



ADVANCED NOTICE OF THE 2011 SELWYN COLLEGE AWARDS CEREMONIES

- **Sports Awards**
Wednesday 26 October
Gather in the Selwyn Theatre
6.50pm for a 7.00pm start
- **Arts Awards**
Tuesday 1 November
Gather in the staff courtyard from
6.15pm — 6.55pm for drinks, finger
food, and a display of visual art, media
work and performance. This will be
followed by the Award Ceremony in
the Theatre
- **Senior Academic Prize Giving**
Thursday 3 November
- **Junior Prize Giving**
Friday 9 December



Engineering Science Competition

Last Saturday seven of our best Year 12 Physics students took part in the New Zealand's Next Top Engineering Scientist Competition against 123 teams around NZ. They spent 9 hours trying to answer the question **"If a severe Tsunami warning was issued, how long would it take to evacuate the 13,000 people who live on Te Atatu Peninsula?"**. They used mathematical and logical reasoning to conjure an efficient evacuation plan for the residents of Te Atatu Peninsula.

The seven students were split into two separate groups, each group hoping to come up with the best report to win the first place prize which was an amazing \$6000 and a guaranteed paid summer internship at Orion Health, Fonterra or the Department of Engineering Science if they choose to pursue in Engineering. Kevin Dateling, Vithushiya Yoganandarajah, Muthana Noori, and Bahavathy Kathirgamanathan came up with a time of 2 hours and 42 minutes. Rudy Lang, Sam Brookes and Jackson Taylor came up with a time of 4 hours and 55 minutes.

We are very proud of our teams for their tremendous efforts and we eagerly await the results.



New Zealand's Top Engineering Scientist Competition

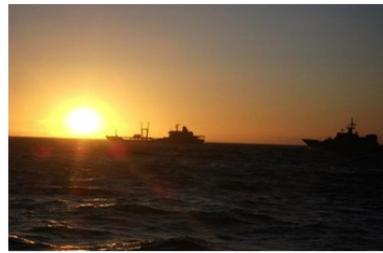


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Day one as the sun sets over the HMNZ Wellington & HMNZ Endeavour

Sailing the Seas with the New Zealand Defence Force

Last week, our Year 12 student Kevin Dateling was selected to experience a once in a life time opportunity to be part of the 70th anniversary of New Zealand Navy Fleet review. He was privileged to stay on the HMNZ Otago with 5 other students from around New Zealand and 3 sea cadets. They travelled along the east coast of the North Island, into the Cook Strait, along the South Island and back up to Wellington. There were eleven ships altogether.

Kevin described the adventure as 'very insightful'. He lived as part of the crew and was shown around the ship discovering what each member of the crew did. He got to steer the ship at a rate of around 16 knots and used night vision goggles to try and locate "enemy" ships during a training exercise. One of the highlights was to field strip and detail strip the Steyr Aug fully automatic assault rifle used by the New Zealand Defence Force.

Kevin found living in close quarters with 8 other students interesting! The bunks were small and only had about 45cm between the bottom of one bunk and the bottom of the next. However, this proved to be a great way for everyone to get to know each other!

Kevin's advice to other students would be to jump at an opportunity like this. It is an adventure he will remember forever.



Inside the hangar of the HMNZ Otago after field stripping the Steyr AUG

**SCHOOL
LIFE
IS NOT A
REHEARSAL**