

Principal's Message

Brent Ingram



The year had started with so much to celebrate. At the beginning of the year we were inspired and challenged by Dr Stuart Middleton on the topic of 'engaging learners'. This was followed by the orientation of 2,200 enthusiastic and energised students of all ages, full of hope and optimism and capped off by a fantastic ERO Review and report back to the Board of Trustees.

And then, February 22.

I would like to thank you all for being such a wonderful community of people who have shown compassion, friendship and understanding by supporting each other during this difficult time. I thank you for the patience and goodwill you have shown towards the College. We re-opened for instruction on 21 March and it was great to see our students returning. Not all are back as yet but we expect more to return as they gain confidence and issues around transport are better resolved. To support parents we held our parent / school partnership programme workshops for 2011 called 'Moving on from the Quake'. You can watch video of this workshop on our website www.hagley.school.nz

The College has also been working actively behind the scenes to establish appropriate programmes to support people whose lives and livelihoods have been disrupted by the earthquake to be able to start again. We are introducing our 'FreshStart' programme which is full-time across a variety of courses to enable people not currently at secondary school to complete an NCEA Certificate by the end of the year. This gives them the opportunity to use the qualification to open new pathways into higher learning, employment or the creation of a new business.

Finally, to parents and friends of Hagley it is such a good feeling to be fully operational again and to have the vibrancy of our students return to the College.

Ahakoā ngā uaua - kia kaha, kia toa, kia manawanui!
Despite the difficulties - be strong, be brave and be of great heart!

Brent Ingram
Principal

Engaging Learners - Education with a Purpose

At the beginning of each school year, we make a point of inviting a high profile guest speaker to challenge and inspire us. Taking an 'engaging learners' theme, Manukau Institute of Technology Director Stuart Middleton helped us embark on a long term piece of work around how Hagley might develop over the next five years. Stuart's address encouraged us to consider how the College engages learners and develops its programmes in a time of rapid development in education.



Who is Stuart Middleton?

Stuart Middleton has a background in English teaching specialising in teaching in linguistically diverse communities. He taught at several Manukau secondary schools before joining the Auckland College of Education then the Manukau Institute. Stuart was awarded a Fulbright New Century Scholars Award and it was out of that work in 2010 that New Zealand's first tertiary high school opened. In 2010 he was made an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM) for his services to education. Most recently Stuart has worked with Hagley Principal Brent Ingram on the ministerial task force to develop the Youth Guarantees Scheme.

"Leaders must encourage their organisations to dance to forms of music yet to be heard." Sir Ken Robinson

Brent opened the 'engaging learners' presentation by talking about the work of Sir Ken Robinson, an international adviser on education. Robinson champions a radical rethink of schools in ways that value creativity and encourages different ways of thinking. He believes that the education system doesn't need to be reformed, it needs to be transformed.

Brent sees Hagley as being transformative. It tries to do things significantly differently. We already have programmes delivered in other ways than the nine to three / 5 period school day model. However, Brent criticises the linear rigidity that prevents people engaging in learning more flexibly such as the weekly teaching half day, a restrictive and outmoded way of measuring when schools should be open. This rigidity means that in order to counted for roll audit purposes, a student must be at school for 10 half days per week otherwise they are deemed to be not attending. Brent used Ken Robinson's words to challenge staff to be leaders in their work at the College. As leaders, they must be innovative, to "dance to forms of music yet to be heard."

"Let your leadership be known through your work"

Stuart Middleton opened with this Maori proverb to encourage

Hagley teachers to continue to lead the way. He acknowledged that Hagley isn't frightened of change as seen in its long history of innovation.

Who isn't engaged in learning? The nature of the problem

Many young people don't feel encouraged or valued and don't stay in secondary school because of this. 30,000 adolescent students – the equivalent of 30 large high schools – are truant from school each day in New Zealand. Half the qualifications that are started after secondary school are never completed. Stuart observed that the root of the problem is structural, largely due to the trend towards one size fits all in how schools' systems operate. He also noted that Hagley works against this trend.

Stuart described several ways that students can be disengaged. They can be physically disengaged, in other words not coming to school like the 30,000 each day in New Zealand who don't attend. There are other forms of disengagement too, like those students who are at school but who gain little and achieve limited NCEA success. There are also those who gain some success at NCEA, but who fail at the next step because the package of standards they complete isn't sufficiently robust, relevant or appropriate to allow them to succeed at the next level. They may have a reasonable number of credits, but they don't have the appropriate skills and understandings required to progress.

Stuart described the focus that the Manukau Tertiary High School takes with many disengaged learners. The programme offers new purpose for students, it removes 'ENOR', or education for no obvious reason. There is a heavy emphasis on developing work and personal skills, literacy (including ICT literacy) and numeracy as well as career and trades preparation. The tertiary high school teaches the things students need next. The approach is that students are encouraged to learn because that skill or understanding is vital in their course next week or in the next semester, and so on. It is this sort of immediacy and relevance that motivates these learners. There is also a strong pastoral element with plenty of parental involvement. Programmes are based on the New Zealand Curriculum. Students build credits towards NCEA as well as tertiary certificates and Stuart pointed out that this dual crediting is greatly under-used by schools.

The best ways to engage learners: education with a purpose

In a staff meeting following Stuart's presentation, Hagley teachers were given the opportunity to share their views. Early pigeonholing of students towards a particular specific career could be seen as potentially dangerous. Many Hagley staff liked students to leave their options open. Maths teacher Angela Brett

described this type of approach as: "it's cool not to know what to do; but let's try this learning for now – it's worthwhile." This doesn't imply a casual abandonment of a meaningful learning programme for an "anything goes" approach. It's not a problem if students don't know what career path they might go down. What is important is building broad transferable skills that can be applied in a range of contexts. The process takes time and getting the right result involves a lot of "not knowing". To make learning stick, students also need to see and experience learning in contexts that are meaningful for them. That meaningful context might range from a hands on practical experience at a workplace or on a field trip, to publishing art works on the Art Department website at www.hagleyart.com [see the article in this newsletter].

Staff feel that the path taken at Hagley is the right one for their students. They are comfortable with the practices they use to engage our students in learning. The college is in a process of evolution not revolution; we are not intending to throw out the great programmes, the flexible learning environment and supportive culture that is Hagley as we move to develop what we offer. And that for us, to use Stuart Middleton's words, is education with a purpose.



Stuart Middleton speaks to Hagley's teaching staff on the topic of 'engaging learners'.



NCEA and the Earthquake – Key Messages for Parents and Students

Hagley's approach

All Hagley teachers are working to help students build their confidence that there is plenty of opportunity remaining in the year for them to succeed and achieve in NCEA. Feeling reassured about NCEA is crucial. No programme at Hagley operates as a deadline driven pressure cooker course. Hagley subjects are designed to run over the course of the year. Our teachers collect evidence of student achievement over time for internal standards and confirm results towards the end of the year. This way students have the opportunity to learn, develop the skills and understandings needed for success then present their best work for assessment. This sort of flexibility is important in the ways we run our assessment programmes regardless of the earthquake.

Taking responsibility

While we understand that everyone's circumstances are different and many families are facing changed and difficult situations, we are encouraging students to take responsibility for their learning as best they can. It's important that students attend all classes and make every attempt to get to class on time. This may mean that they might need to catch an earlier bus. It's a good idea to buddy up with someone else in the class so that if, for instance, they are late because of the traffic, their buddy can collect any resources for them.

How NCEA works

It's important to see the big picture about how NCEA works. Students gain credits from all their subjects. Teachers are carefully considering the standards they will offer this year so that students can engage in a complete assessment programme. Teachers will make sure that students are thoroughly prepared for the external standards they are sitting at the end of the year and that they have a full opportunity for their internal standards. By the end of the year if there is one standard less in some of the courses taken, that doesn't mean students failing their year. Teachers are keeping their options open so that the right decisions are made for their classes. As the year progresses, teachers set goals with each student about which standards to target in order to make sure they achieve to their potential in NCEA.

Our teachers keep our students informed on where things are heading in regard to NCEA – and will keep on keeping them informed over the year. It's also important that our students keep us informed. Students should talk with their teachers in each subject; that way we can really help.

Staff Tribute

Syd Leggett



Syd Leggett, a much loved staff member and former Hagley student, died suddenly on 3 December 2010.

There is a Chinese proverb that says "Rather light a candle than complain about the darkness."

How true this was of Syd. He was a very special man who is remembered with great fondness, admiration and genuine affection by our teaching and student community. Syd knew he had significant heart problems, yet despite that adversity he wanted to be at Hagley amongst people that he cared about: his friends; his colleagues and especially his students. Why? Because he loved his job, he loved what he was doing in fashion, he loved his students and his students loved him.

Syd had been at Hagley since 1997, employed to teach in his craft of industrial sewing and more recently in the School of Fashion. Syd's association with the college went back much further. He was also a Hagley old boy and a student from 1966 – 1968.

Syd had the ability to engage everyone and to get real enjoyment from the interaction. He was a gentle man with a compassion for those whom he worked with. Through his skill as an industrial sewer, Syd transformed many students' lives because he could connect with them, he believed in them and he gave them the confidence and the inspiration to believe in themselves. Often these were students who had not been treated well by the education system, or in one way or another were struggling to learn.

Syd was also a fashion statement. His T-shirts and his shoes were his signature pieces. One night I commented on the fantastic shoes he was wearing. Syd confided in me that they were new but they were only one of five pairs he had purchased that day. He couldn't decide which pair he liked best so he had bought them all. A discussion followed about how he was going to get them into the house without being detected. He was awesome.

Syd was his own man with his own unique style. Jacob, one of our Year 9 students a few years ago, said: "When I think of Hagley I think of heaps of colours. If I had to go into another school these colours would turn into shades of grey." Syd was one of those colours and our staffroom has lost some of its colour and uniqueness. He was a teacher whom some of his students will remember for the rest of their lives. For the staff at Hagley, Syd will be one of those special characters who will be forever associated with the college.

Brent Ingram
Principal

NCEA Update

Changes to the Learner Login at the NZQA website:
www.nzqa.govt.nz

NZQA has made changes to the Learner Login area, enabling you to:

- see all reported results (for all years and irrespective of payment)
- see any qualifications awarded (where fees have not been paid, credits do not contribute to qualifications.)
- order documents online.
- see any unpaid fees for previous years (where fees have not been paid, credits do not contribute to qualifications.)
- pay unpaid fees for previous years through the pay outstanding fees menu.

In 2011, results will be available online earlier than previously and prior to the posting of hard-copy result notices.

Distribution of certificates to students:

Because students will be able to order certificates online certificates will no longer be automatically posted in April.

Students will be able to order copies of their National Certificates of Educational Achievement, University Entrance Certificate, Record of Achievement and School Results Summary from their Learner login. This means that they will be able to receive copies of documents much earlier than in the past.

There will be no charge for certificates for newly-awarded qualifications but reprints of certificates previously awarded will be charged. Students can order one free copy of their Record of Achievement annually and school leavers are entitled to one free copy of the Schools Results Summary.

Students who have not yet registered to access their results online should do so through the Learner Login address www.nzqa.govt.nz/Login or call NZQA on 0800 697 296.

Welcome to our new staff

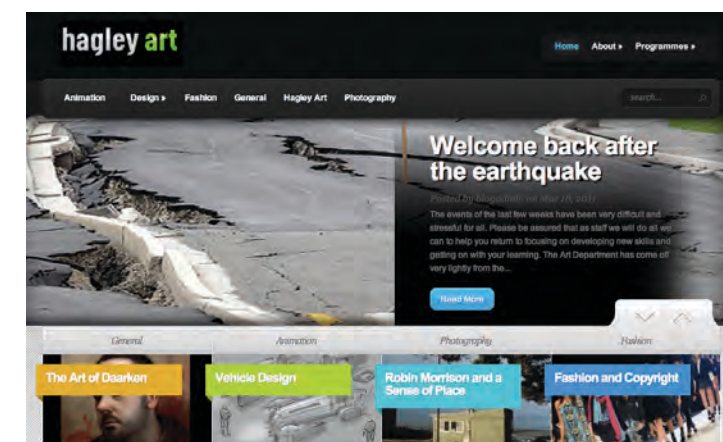
Rose Nicols	Social Science/Commerce
Tic H'sia How	College of Practical Design - Computing
Marc Alexander	College of Practical Design - Hospitality
Joe McCallum	Music
Miriam Eisenhart	College of Practical Design
Naadeka Idamegedara	Industrial Sewing
Megan Poh	Mathematics
Kirsty Carline	Science
Candice Egen	Science
Tracey Verity	Dance
Jan Wallace	Science Technican
	AV Resource Manager

Coming Up in 2011

Friday	15 April	End of Term 1
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www.hagleyart.com

- keeping students connected to Art at Hagley



While the earthquake provides one very good reason for developing online learning, Hagley's Art department have long term motives in developing their website [www.hagleyart.com]. A key aspect of the new curriculum's vision and principles is about fostering a sense of community. Web master and Hagley photography teacher Gavin Hewitt explains that many students studying in the fulltime fashion programme or in the evening based animation course don't have the opportunity to see other students' work.

www.hagleyart.com exposes students to a diverse range of thinking and ideas from the art world. Current tags include videos on vehicle design, fashion and copyright plus online exhibitions from digital painter Daarken and New Zealand photographer Robin Morrison.

The site is set up in a blog format so that content can be added quickly. One key navigation feature is that key listings are tagged under different art areas like animation, design, fashion and photography. Galleries featuring student work including sculpture and painting will be added soon. Gavin sees www.hagleyart.com as a great way to promote and celebrate students' artistic successes. The website provides art students with an authentic context to publish their work and keeps them connected to art at Hagley.

If your postal details have changed since 22 February please inform the Enrolment Centre of your new address.

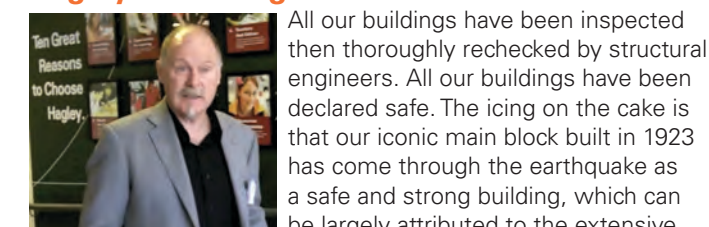
Going to the safe zone - Hagley's procedures for keeping students safe if an earthquake occurs

Like everyone, we hope we've seen the last of the earthquakes. With safety at the top of our list, we're reinforcing with staff and students key safety steps everyone will follow should an earthquake occur.

In classrooms, students and staff are to stay inside and follow the 'drop', 'cover' and 'hold' steps. Once the earthquake has finished, they leave by the nearest exit, move away from buildings and go with their teacher to Hagley's safe zone: the large grass and basketball court area at the front of the school. All classes including our After 3 programme have completed this routine so that students are familiar with what to do in each classroom they are in during the week.

Watch video about our evacuation procedures at <http://www.hagley.school.nz/home/>

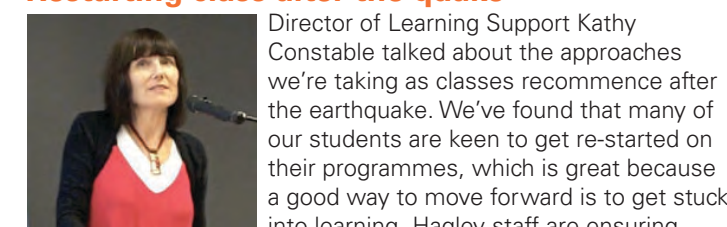
Hagley's buildings are safe



All our buildings have been inspected then thoroughly rechecked by structural engineers. All our buildings have been declared safe. The icing on the cake is that our iconic main block built in 1923 has come through the earthquake as a safe and strong building, which can be largely attributed to the extensive

earthquake strengthening in the 1990s as well as additional strengthening work after the September quake. Watch Brent's video about the safety of our buildings at <http://www.hagley.school.nz/home/>

Restarting class after the quake



Director of Learning Support Kathy Constable talked about the approaches we're taking as classes recommence after the earthquake. We've found that many of our students are keen to get re-started on their programmes, which is great because a good way to move forward is to get stuck into learning. Hagley staff are ensuring that normal structures and routines are in place in class. We're placing emphasis on helping students to feel safe at Hagley both physically and emotionally. Students and staff have the opportunity to talk about their experiences during the quake and their feelings now, as reactions to 22 February can come to the surface many weeks later.

Watch video of Kathy's presentation at <http://www.hagley.school.nz/home/>

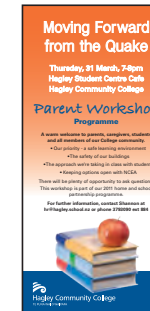
HAGLEY RESOURCES

Useful viewing for parents and caregivers: Key quake messages are at <http://www.hagley.school.nz/home/>

- Going to the safe zone – Hagley's evacuation procedures should an earthquake occur
- NCEA and the earthquake – key messages for parents and students
- Restarting class after the earthquake - the approaches we are taking at Hagley as classes begin after the earthquake
- Hagley's buildings are safe; take a tour of the main teaching block

Parent Workshop

2011 Home and School Partnership Programme



Our March workshop was on 'Moving on From the Quake'.

Topics included:

- Our priority – a safe learning environment
- The safety of our buildings
- The approach we're taking in class with students
- Keeping options open with NCEA

Click on the 'parent workshop programmes' link at <http://www.hagley.school.nz/home/> for video from this 'Moving on From the Quake' workshop

and for more details about upcoming workshops. Our term 1 workshop on understanding NCEA has been rescheduled to term 2 - date and other information will be available soon.

This year all of our home/school partnership programme workshops will be videoed and available from www.hagley.school.nz along with key print resources.

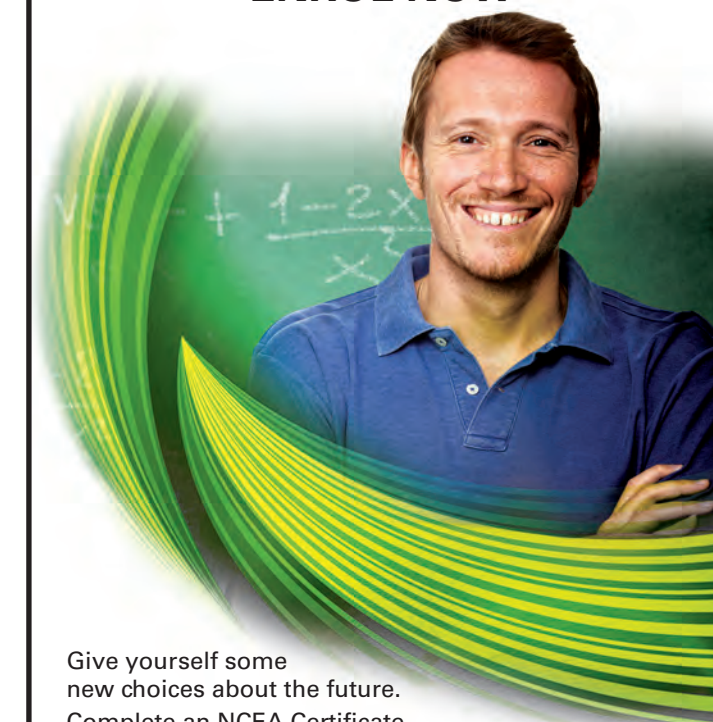
Parents and Caregivers:

If you received an email recently about our 'Moving on from the Quake' parent workshop, that means that we have your email address. If you didn't receive this email, can you send your email address to hr@hagley.school.nz together with your name so that we can update our database.

We'd like to email school communications about Hagley to you. Can you let us know if you would prefer not to receive emails from us.

FreshStart

ENROL NOW



Give yourself some new choices about the future. Complete an NCEA Certificate by the end of this year.

Use the Certificate completed in FreshStart to create opportunities for further learning, employment or business. FreshStart is for young people and adults not currently enrolled in a secondary school.



For more information call Jackie on 03 379 3090 ext 823, 0508HAGLEY or visit our website at www.hagley.school.nz

* Student Allowance is available for a minimum of 4 subjects. Other conditions may apply.

 Hagley Community College
TE PUNA WAI O WAIAPAPA

News@Hagley

April 2011

Engaging Learners - Education with a Purpose



Moving on from the Quake
FreshStart



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TE PUNA WAI O WAIAPAPA

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