



STUDENT TESTIMONIALS



Carson Hepi, Year 11

“Kia ora, my name is Carson Hepi and I am proud to be Māori and a student at Palmerston North Boys’ High School. I’m studying Māori Performing Arts and Te Reo Māori as subjects at school, as well as having co-curricular opportunities such as Kapa Haka, Ki-O-Rahi and Mau Rākau. There are plenty of sporting opportunities as well – I play touch. The great thing is that there is a team or group for everyone. I think being Māori and being at Palmy Boys’ is tu meke because you get to learn more about who you are and where you come from.”

“During my time in New Zealand, I stayed with a homestay family who took me on many trips with them and did a lot of awesome stuff with me like showing me New Zealand or riding Mountain Bikes in the Redwoods, around Taupo, here in Palmy and the Timber Trail, which is extremely cool because the tracks and the views are just amazing here. I was really happy that I could live and do all these awesome things with them. I travelled to places all over New Zealand with my family, my friends who do triathlon with me and also with the school, who do these awesome trips a German school wouldn’t even think about doing with their students. These trips and co-curricular activities were one of the reasons why I chose to go to PNBHS and I can say that the school didn’t disappoint me in that. Nearly every boy at PNBHS does some sort of sport. PNBHS is a school full of these active boys, so there were many other students who did the same sport as me, even though it’s not so common: Triathlon. There is so much more to say about New Zealand, Palmerston North, PNBHS and my time here but that would take too long. What I can say is that the last year was probably the best one of my life and that I’m happy that I made the decision to come here.”



*Timo Spitzhorn,
Year 13, Germany*



Max Hannah, Year 10

“The Learning Support Programme at PNBHS has really helped me. In Year 9 my English class had two teachers, which really helped because you got a lot of one-on-one time with the teacher. We had a support teacher in Mathematics who worked with us in small groups when we needed help. Being in a small class is great because it means that it is easier to get help from the teacher when I need it. I really like the sporting opportunities and I’ve played rugby and been involved with clay target shooting. My clay target coach has shown me a lot of different techniques that have helped to improve my shooting.”

“My name is Finlay McRae and I am currently in Year 13. I am extremely grateful for the opportunities that Palmerston North Boys’ High School has given me. Being part of the challenging Accelerate Programme has pushed me to reach my academic potential and this year I will study Massey University papers which are offered by the school. Outside of the classroom, Boys’ High’s sporting nature has allowed me to thrive in the 1st XI Football team that competes at a high level nationally. I was also a part of the German Language and Cultural Tour that travelled to Germany for a month last April; this was an outstanding and rare chance to be immersed in life in another part of the world. Having attended Boys’ High, I know that I will have the academic credentials and maturity of character to engage confidently with life after school.”



Finlay McRae, Year 13



Chris Dewhurst, Year 12

“There is a wide variety of opportunities in the performing arts that a student at Palmerston North Boys’ High School can get amongst. As a Year 9 student, I was overwhelmed. Early in my first year I was dragged along to a meeting of the Junior Musical Theatre group, something that I had never seen myself being a part of, but lo and behold, I loved it. Fast forward three years and I am now a principle role in the 2017 PNBHS/PNGHS Senior Production, *Footloose*, and assisting in the teaching of Junior Musical Theatre. On top of my musical theatre commitments, I am also quite involved in the music department in groups such as Son of a Pitch Choir and the guitar quartet, Livewires. Both of these groups perform throughout the year at concerts and competitions, with Livewires coming second at a Regional Chamber Music Competition. I would strongly recommend that any new student gets involved in the performing arts as, in some cases, it is a once in a lifetime opportunity.”

“In my time at PNBHS I have been involved in many different sports teams across multiple codes. The sporting opportunities here are second to none as there are teams for all capabilities, across all age groups, in any sport of your choice. Currently I am involved in the 1st XV Rugby and 1st XI Cricket teams. Through these teams I have had opportunities to travel throughout the North Island and compete against high quality opposition through the New Zealand Super Eight Schools competition and our traditional interschool fixtures. Additionally, I have had the opportunity to tour overseas, going to Australia, India and Sri Lanka with cricket. Later this year I am going to be part of the Rugby Development Tour to the UK and Europe. I find there are always opportunities for extra training and the coaching is top quality. Coaches are willing to give their time and are happy to help an individual improve their skills.”



James Stratton, Year 13



Toshiko Kaneda, Mother, Hong Kong

“I have never been to NZ before. There are 3 reasons why I could send my son to NZ by himself. First of all, nowadays, SMS is so common and it is very convenient to get in touch, so we don’t have to worry so much.

Secondly, teachers at PNBHS come often to Hong Kong so we can share what my son is doing in NZ life and, of course, academically. Also, there are many friendly and passionate staff to take care of all the boys and lead them to be gentlemen. I like the way PNBHS has clear guidelines in regards to their behaviour, grooming and academic performance which provides structure and discipline.

As long as my son is happy, I am happy, and his face shows that PNBHS is the place he wants to belong.”