

I am privileged to have been Captain and to lead the Mighty Marsden Whanau for 2018. We are currently placed second and are fighting not only to try to stay ahead of Hobson, but also to steal the win from Grey. We have had very strong and consistent performances throughout the inter-whanau competition this year, so far winning 34 and a half points, with inter-whanau football and academics still to come.

This year the lowest we have placed is 3rd equal in volleyball, where I believe we were very unlucky not to have placed higher. We have also placed 3rd in five other whanau events; swimming, athletics, basketball, cross country and speech, which shows that we have some great talent coming into the Marsden Whanau, as we don't usually place this high in some of these events.

This year Marsden had an exceptional year in both touch and quiz, placing second in both, where in particular we will have a strong up and coming touch team in the following years.

Our first win was in term 2 when we took out the inter-whanau badminton competition comfortably, holding onto the title from last year. We also have some very talented boys coming up the ranks in badminton, and I am looking forward to hearing about how we have done in this event in the up and coming years.

Once again, we have a very strong team in football. It will be interesting to see who takes out this competition, as Grey also have a very strong team. In the end we will win, and be victorious yet again for another year in this event, claiming our second win for this year's competition.

Overall, this year has been one of our most consistent in the inter-whanau competitions and we thoroughly deserve to place either first or second for the boys' hard work.

I would like to thank many students this year, for helping and supporting me with the challenges I had to face as Whanau Captain. These boys have certainly made my job much easier. I would firstly like to thank the 2018 Marsden prefects: Gayan Alahendra, Tamon Miles, Tyler Parkinson, also our Deputy Head boy Campbell Jones and our Head Boy Heath Mitchell. To those year 13 boys that always put their name forward to help, such as Kabiro Hatfull-Njenga and Connor Du Preez, you have all made this year run much smoother, so thank you.

I had several year 12 students that were always there to help and support me throughout this year. In particular, Lochiel Espiner, Kaline Masitabua, Allan Craig and Flynn Symonds. Also to all the boys that have participated in events throughout this competition, and have helped me sort teams and get people for these events, I would like to say a massive thank you to you all. I have really appreciated it.

To the next student that is honoured with the role of being the Mighty Marsden Whanau Captain in 2019: good luck and remember to get involved with the boys in your whanau, to gain their respect, as they will be looking to you for inspiration and want to know why they should be competing and participating in the events for you. So get stuck into the competition events and

also partake in the wider school culture. Make sure the new Marsden boys feel welcome and comfortable and get them pumped up and excited for the inter-whanau competition. In particular, swimming sports and athletics, as these events are heaps of fun. Also, don't be afraid to ask for help from your fellow Marsden brothers, as they will make the year significantly easier. Good luck and I wish you all the best for 2019.

Finally good luck to the new Marsden boys and all the of the boys in blue for 2019 and all future generations! Work hard, stay dedicated, pursue your dreams and never let anyone tell you that you can't make it. To the year 13 boys, I wish you all the best for your future endeavors and take care.

Finn Diamond

Marsden Whanau Captain.