



**Report 2018**  
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**International Students Director**

2018 has been an exciting and busy time for the International Department. During the year we have had a total of 14 International students from Japan, China, Hong Kong, Korea, Vietnam and Thailand. During term three we also had a short-term boy for one month from Thailand plus 5 students from Dongguan Middle School, China for one month.

**International Week:**

International Week was celebrated at FDMC during Week 5 in Term 3 as a time of celebrating and appreciating cultural diversity within our school community.

During the week, students were entertained with cultural music by school musicians. Students from Germany visited junior classes as guest speakers for question and answer times about their home country sharing their knowledge and talking about not only the differences but also the similarities.

Two events were held in the library. The Prefects held a cultural quiz for juniors and another event which proved to be very popular again was the sushi making demonstration by Ken and Sonya, Sushi Ninja owners. Boys could also have a go at making sushi themselves and there was a chance to answer questions to win a slice of sushi. Bollywood was a new item this year and several seniors and some staff had a lesson on how to dance Bollywood style. This was great fun but also exhausting!

Friday was a chance to farewell students from Dongguan Middle School in China who had visited the school for four weeks. They were presented with their certificates and then one of the boys gave a speech about the wonderful experience they had during their time at FDMC and also thanked their Year 10 buddies who did an outstanding job of looking after them at school. The school responded with a haka which the Dongguan students found to be very moving and they felt honoured by this display.

Friday was the climax to a great week. Some students and staff wore mufti with a cultural theme and the boys could buy Japanese, Indian, Chinese and pizzas food at lunchtime. Mrs Hermanns also had her Spanish class making quesadillas and selling for contributions to MAD day.

The intention of International week was strengthening cultural and ethnic diversity. Once again, the school can continue to feel enriched by the experience recognising the core values of our Catholic Lasallian school which include and reflect the values of cultural diversity.

**International outings**

This year we had several outings with International students from other schools in the region such as Fish and Chips at the Beach and Gengys. Both occasions were very successful and it gave our International students the chance to socialise, make new friends and enjoy what Taranaki has to offer. We also did the Big Bus Trip visiting the mountain, rowing on the lake at Pukekura park and finishing off with an ice cream at the beach.

**Leavers**

Three International students are graduating this year, Sunny Wong and Kelvin Fu, both from Hong Kong and Pongpat Murin from Thailand. All three are moving on to tertiary studies. These three boys are very good role models for the younger students, have worked really hard, have contributed to the school on different levels and we wish them well.

**Looking ahead**

We look forward to 2019 with eight returning students and the possibility of new students long term and short term.