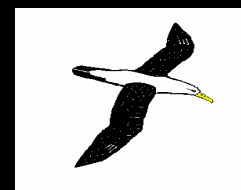


Tahuna News



Welcome

Dear Parents / Caregivers

Many parents of Year 8 students have arranged meetings with their child's teacher this week. These formal interview times aim to foster open communication between home and school. Staff find these times very useful for their work with your youngsters. Year 7 parent interviews are next week. Thank you for your time.

Students have chocolate for sale and early indications are that it will be as successful as last year. Students have keenly returned for more to sell, and we are only in the first days. This is a quick fund-raiser and we ask all students to try their best. If they are having troubles selling, please return money and unsold items to the school office and others will continue their efforts. We are aiming for a \$14,000 profit in the two weeks sales.

Reading test results from the start of year assessments show Tahuna students to be generally above the expected levels for Year 7 & 8 in New Zealand. Those requiring assistance to lift their reading skills are receiving extra teaching from Mrs Thwaites. She is pleased with the early attitudes and efforts of her readers. Our top readers

have opportunities in the Literacy

sessions Mr Hutton is running at present.

A reminder that you can view newsletters on the school web site, or request that a copy of each newsletter be sent to you via email. There is a link on the web site for this, or write to tahuna@tahuna.school.nz and this will be actioned.

Brent Ward
Principal.

Butterfly madness in room sixteen!

By Olivia Trainor.

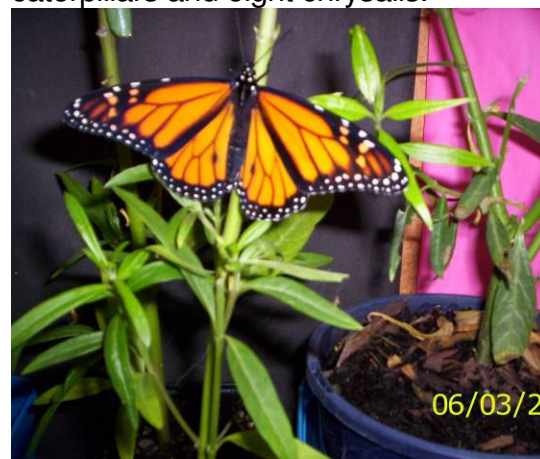
As you may know room sixteen hasn't just got pupils and fish, it has caterpillars too

When school started this year the children were very impressed by four delightful Caterpillars. These caterpillars were large and striped with brilliant black dazzling yellow and shimmering white! The caterpillars brightened up the room and cheered you up if you were sad (but every ones happy in room sixteen!)

In late February one of our wonderful caterpillars started to scale a deadly wicked mountain, the window.

So Mrs. Hutton went into Nicholls and bought a very tall plant (she had the feeling that the caterpillar wanted to go up!) And she was right, our caterpillar did go up.

It turned into a chrysalis. But with the new plant there were five baby caterpillars hiding under the leaves. Quite a few weeks later we had no caterpillars and eight chrysalis.



And then crunch, creep crack the Chrysalis burst and a beautiful Monarch butterfly was born and two days later another Monarch was born. On Monday the sixth of March we released them both. One went, but the younger one decided to hang around a wee while more waiting for the perfect day.

Multicultural Group Invited

The Tahuna Multicultural Group has been invited to perform at the opening of the DCC function for International Students. This will see them on stage in Dunedin's Town Hall, proudly demonstrating their skills and enthusiasm.

We wish them well for their performance tomorrow, Thursday March 9th.

TECHNOLOGY

HARD MATERIALS

The workshop, what an exciting place!

Work has begun on to the extensions being done to one workshop, and we are looking forward to the extra space for students and a new machine area. This will be a wonderful improvement and will tie in nicely with the other new Technology Buildings currently under construction.

Those of you who have already had children through the Year 8 Programme may remember our "Boogie on Bugs Unit". This project has been replaced with "Compound Curves" and this allows students a wider range of ideas for their creation.

They can still make a bug if they wish, but the emphasis is on accuracy of setting out (after consultation with local high school Technology Teachers) and forming a compound curve from sheet metal. Over the next couple of weeks your daughter or son should be returning home with some cunning aluminium creation.



"Playing With Plastics" is the first unit for our new Year Seven Students. They are designing

their own unique shape for a key ring.

In the process students study: the uses of plastics, the technique of lamination, the use of coping saws, drills, files, sand paper and rubbing compound. We get some fantastic results. The students get an introduction to going through all these processes, along with a general introduction to the workshop. They end up producing a great take home project which began life as three individual flat pieces of acrylic plastic.

The Average Room Sixteen Student

By Bronwyn Halley

In the last couple of weeks room 16 has been learning statistics during maths time. This has included looking at the range, the mean, the median and the average. It was the average we looked at the most.

Once everyone knew how to do it we measured different parts of our body with the help from the people in our group. Everyone added up the measurement for a body part in their group then using the skills they had learnt they found the average for each body part in their group, arm, leg, etc.

In pairs we were given a laptop and made a spread sheet which we then turned into graphs. Next we worked as a class to find the average of room 16 students. We all got our calculators out and found the answer ourselves. The average measurements that we ended up with were:

- Waist circumference =70.7cm
- Head Circumference =54.74cm
- Neck Circumference =30.42cm
- Arm =49.5cm
- Leg =68.44cm

- Foot =23.06cm
- Hand =18.2cm
- Body =38.35cm



We rounded these up or down. After that in our groups we had to make a different part of the body making sure it was the right measurement. Then using some old clothes we dressed our average student. But we still weren't quite done. Now we still had to find the mode. We made tally charts and went around asking people what colour eyes they had, what colour hair they had and things like that. To find out what the modes are and what it looks like, come and see it when its done.

Professional Development for Staff.

Last week the staff were involved with the setting up of class web pages and our computer consultant came into the school and gave us the basic procedures to master.

Some staff are already heading down this trail but many found this session extremely beneficial and are keen to see what can be created. I am left wondering what next and appreciate that our children just love the endless challenges which computing in schools seems to generate. There is no inattentive behaviour when classes are working in pairs or individually with the lap tops.

Congratulations

Well done to the following who were recently presented with their SILVER YIP Cards at Friday Assemblies.

Ross Howard
Hope Duncan
Gabriel Mulder
Ell Lee
Penny Polson
Cheng-Ju Yeh
Samara Henry

Drama Performance

On Friday 3rd March we watched a drama performance from some of the college teachers from the Dunedin College of Education. It was about a girl who got picked on a lot. Her friends told her to steal some sunglasses but she didn't. I think it was good that she made her own decision not to. They also showed that all scraps / fights have two sides to them. They showed that you do not have to do things that you don't want to. I also think that it was good that she told someone about her problem and they worked it out together. I rated this performance 8 out of 10.
Josephine Parnham

Others added to the above review by saying:

My favourite part was when a lady spoke like Susan Paul. It was about what kids face and covered everything from stealing and discipline to emotional and physical fighting. The message was to find out all sides of the story. They tried to give us a message on not being selfish and that others have feelings and opinions as well. It showed us that kids have a problem facing peer pressure.

Fashion Parade

I hear Jess Starr will be one of the models at a fashion parade on Saturday at 1.00pm 11th March in the Meridian Mall. KMART, Just for Kids, Hydro Kids and Urban Angel will be showing their latest gear. If you're interested pop along and see what is happening.

Children were happy to share their thoughts on "Wonderful things"

When I went to art last week and got to colour in my bug with pastels.

Hearing that Grandad is better from his cancer.

Going to see - "Big Momma's House 2" with Andrew.

We are going to Australia in July for two weeks. We will be in Brisbane and on the Gold Coast and we are going to Dream World, Movie World and Sea World.

When I was made class councillor at the beginning of the year.

I think it is awesome when I have a day where everything works out.

When I got my \$5 pocket money. I am going to USA, Canada and Hawaii.

Seeing my butterfly from art, up on the wall by the stairs.

Going on the biscuit for the first time and falling out.

It is going to be wonderful at Easter as I am going to get a new bike and lots of chocolate.

I want to buy a new skateboard deck and new trucks – Hopefully red ones.

Hitting a Six at cricket.

Getting my first blue card.

It was wonderful when I went to Canada and saw my relatives.

Being a BLOB [doing nothing] in the week end

Getting into the Otago Hockey Team.

Going to Christchurch to see Nick Franklin at the Freestyle Motocross.

Having Mum and Dad show me a letter saying that I was going to the Cricket Academy in Christchurch.

School Uniform

After a month back at school all children except one or two are fully kitted out in the full school uniform and most are wearing school shorts and t-shirts for P/E and sport. Thanks for making this happen.

Friend

He plays sport with me.

He is smart.

He is not mean.

He's funny.

He's trustworthy.

He's kind.

He is called Cameron.

By Sam K

A friend is...

A friend is someone you can trust.

You can tell her everything.

And....she won't tell anyone.

She is purrrfect!

She can be very annoying.

She even... bites me.

My cat Colina.

By Natyler - Jae Tumaru

My Friend is....

Someone who has the same interests.

Someone who respects me.

Someone you can trust.

Someone who is helpful, kind and caring.
Someone who is funny.
This makes up Elizabeth.

By Bronwyn Halley.

Pirates Junior Rugby Club

Registration Thurs March 9th from 6 - 7.30pm. Sun March 12th 11 - 1pm. free ball with every registration.

Southern Rugby Football Club

Registrations Sun Mar 12th 10am – 12 noon, & Tues March 14th 6 – 8pm. Contact Blair Crawford 487 8487. Free ball with every registration.

Dunedin Rugby Club

Registration times: 12th March 1 – 3 pm, 15th March 5.30 – 7pm. Free ball with every registration.

Melchester Rovers Junior Soccer Club

Registration 6 – 7.30pm tonight, Wed March 8th at Marlow Park (Dinosaur Park), St Kilda.
Ph Alan 487 7678
or Gerry 487 7394

Polish Dance Workshop

Saturday 25th March.
Information from Rena
Ph 454 5101

Otago & Southland Polish Heritage Trust.

Caregivers Wanted

Anglican Family Care

Have you got room for 1 more? Family Care urgently needs caregivers to provide short term and respite care for children and young people 0 – 16 years who for a variety of reasons need time out from their home situations. Quality training and support provided. Remuneration by way of a Board Payment.

Info: ph Rose Scott 477 0801

Diary Dates

Monday 6th March – Entries for the 2006 Australasian Exams are due in
Monday 6th March Parent interviews for Yr8's commence.
Wednesday 9th March- Rm 18 off to camp.
Monday 13th March –Parent Interviews for Yr 7's commence.
Monday 13th March – Rm 15 off to camp and back on Thursday 16th March.
Monday 20th March – Anniversary Day – School closed.
Monday 27th March- Rm 11 off to camp and back on Wednesday 29th March.

Wednesday 29th March – Rm 5 off to camp and back Saturday 1st April.
Monday 3rd April, 9.30 – 12.00 – 1st Massed Choir Practice at Balmacewen Int
Tuesday 4th April – Australasian Computer Examination.
Friday 7th April – 9.00 – 12.00 School Swimming Sports at Moana Pool.
Thursday 13th April – Last day of Term 1
Wednesday 28th April – Term 2 commences

Newsletter Received

Please return the following slip to indicate that you have received your newsletter. It is important that information does get home with students.

Slips go in a draw for a prize.

Student _____

Room _____

Yes, I have received the newsletter
Signed _____