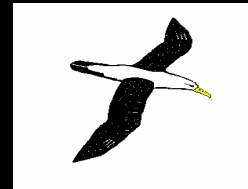


# Tahuna News



## Welcome

Dear Parents / Caregivers

Thank you for tremendous support over the term. It has been an extremely busy one, one where we have tried to compact a usual 10 week term into the 8.5 weeks.

Congratulations to our new Board of Trustees members. We welcome our new Board:

Janet Bernard  
Jonathan Hinds  
Frank McCarthy  
Iain Mackay  
Jacquie Tonks  
Staff Rep Chris Smith.

Thank you to Board members who have stood down; David Barnes, Bev Mulconroy, and Linda Clifford. Your support and efforts were appreciated.

Could you please check school uniforms and ensure that they are named. This is an important task to attend to regularly. If named items are found around the school, they can quickly be returned.

A reminder to students to make the time over these holidays to read some good books. Visit the Library or checkout the bookshelves at home. There are so many wonderful authors and titles around for us all today. Plan out time for chores, time to help others, fun time with friends, and time to recharge your batteries so you

return rearing to go in the new term.

Brent Ward

Principal.

## Tahuna one win Lit Quiz

The Otago Lit Quiz was held on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March with fifteen schools being represented by more than 100 x Year 7 and 8 children. We had two teams of four children participating and they certainly enjoyed answering 100 questions on ten different topics.

Some of the topics Quiz master Wayne Mills questioned them on were: comic books, Middle Earth, folk tales and Harry Potter. For the first time, several teams managed to score ten out of ten for a category and Tahuna one did this in the comic book category.

After three hours of questions it was a very close finish like it has been in the past. Fortunately, our Tahuna one team of Erana McKinley, Alexa Anderson, Luke Bridgeman and Chelsey Templeton took the title this year, followed by Columba College and then DNI.

Our Tahuna two team of Garth Fulton, Matthew Chilcott, Catherine O'Donnell and Kathrin Rades, finished in 7<sup>th</sup> place with individual members winning money and books as well. Overall, a most pleasing result. The children are excited about the opportunity to travel to Auckland for the New Zealand

Final on 10<sup>th</sup> June and know it will be another tough encounter with some of the best Lit brains in New Zealand. So, it will be more study to make this occasion the most successful we can.

## Room 6 Camp

It was interesting to read the Room 6 camp newsletter. Lots of highlights and enjoyable activities were shared.

The tramp provided challenges, and reinforced the need for suitable clothing. Time to chat, to enjoy the bush and have a bite were just part of the day.



The Mosgiel Pool was also an enjoyable time.



TECHNOLOGY

HARD MATERIALS

March 2007

The workshop, what an exciting place! After eight weeks we have been through one complete cycle and every student at Tahuna has had the opportunity for some 'hands-on' involvement in the Hard Materials Workshop.

The year 8 Programme began with the 'Compound Curves Unit'. This project allows students the opportunity to work with sheet metal (aluminium), and create a compound curve. They were also introduced to the pop rivet gun and literally thousands of pop rivets have been used. They can make a bug if they wish, or a set of bowls, or some other zany creation! The emphasis is on accuracy of setting out (after consultation with local high school Technology Teachers). They were also assessed on their ability to form a compound curve from sheet metal. Hopefully your daughter or son has returned home with some cunning aluminium creation.



"Playing With Plastics" was the first unit for our new Year Seven

Students. They have designed 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 had some fantastic results. The students got an introduction to going through all these processes, along with a general introduction to the workshop. They ended up producing a great take home project, which began life as three individual flat pieces of acrylic plastic! Next term we will be looking forward to Year Eight students taking home their own unique piece or pewter jewellery (pewter **no longer contains lead**). Year Seven students will be studying the effects of technology in sport and making their own 'People in Action'.

Tim Arnold

School Donations & Technology Fees

Thank you to all families who have made prompt payment of the Donation and Technology Fees. A high percentage have paid already. We left the invoicing until the end of term, trying to space the request from other early year costs.

Could remaining payments please be forwarded this month.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Esme Gray McCoy who finished 1<sup>st</sup> in the Wave Wahine Surf Competition. Well done to Gabrielle Scott who finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the under 12 section too.

Room 16, 17 and 18's Assembly



On Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March Rooms 16, 17, and 18 put on our syndicate assembly. We decided to base our assembly around the topic we have been studying most of the term which is Adaptation of Sea Creatures.



We had great fun designing our fictional seashore creatures from the different animals and plants we have studied and some of the creatures we ended up with were pretty amazing.

Three of these Design-a-creatures were made into life-size models and their adaptations were shared in the assembly by their designers. We had also been learning about Ryan's Thinking Keys and used

the Alphabet one to name creatures we had learned about.

Putting on our assembly was a great way of our three syndicate classes working together doing all the different things we needed for our performance. It was great fun getting up on stage and sharing our performance with the whole school.



We hope you enjoy these photos of our Design – A – Seashore Creature.

### **Multicultural Update**

On Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> of march, a small contingent from our Multicultural group walked to the Edgar Stadium and performed at the Pacific Health Expo. This was our first public debut and the children performed superbly, especially Jess, who gave a most moving waiata.

Many thanks to Mr Hokianga and the parents who accompanied us to and from this event.

### **The Bush**

As I wandered through the bush I saw a lone kingfisher sitting on a branch near the stream, his

watchful twinkling eyes scanning the area. I crept up behind him to get a better view . I could smell some berries. Although I didn't know what they were they smelt delicious! Reaching out to pick one a blue- green wing snatched my hand away. I gawked at it and it stared at me. And then with the voice of a bird but with just recognisable English, he said

“You must not stay here . You must leave !”

I entered the swirling mists of unconsciousness only to awake on a pile of early Autumn leaves.

A single turquoise feather lay in front of me.

“Thankyou” I whispered.

**Ben Black.**

### **I am Happy**

I am happy when I am around my friends.

I am happy when I am on holiday.

I am happy when I am doing sport.

I am happy when my friends are happy.

I am happy when I am playing with my pets.

I am happy when someone tells a funny joke.

I love being happy.

**Samantha Hope.**

### **Reviewing the Term**

I asked three Yr 7 classes to write responses to four questions and the following was provided.

**1) What have you really liked doing at your new school?**

Our 4 Tech classes took the vote easily 53  
Meeting new people and making new friends 20

Sport	17
Nice teachers	10
Camp	7
The 8 – Lap Run	6
Multicultural Group	5
Assemblies	5
Lunch time Rugby	3
School canteen	3
Library	3
Dance Group	3
Lots of Opportunities	3
Stars on Stage	2
P/E	2
Mathematics	2

As to be expected the “Doing “ part of the day features predominantly in the above responses. Other interesting responses referred to intervals, disco, blue cards, reading, BOB System, challenging self, performing and LAP.

**2) What are you looking forward to next term?**

Technology classes were top again

	21
Sport	8
Disco	5
Netball	5
Everything	4
Meeting people	4
Getting blue cards	4
Tackle rugby	3
Multicultural group	3
Swimming	3
Mini ball	3
Winter sports	3
The 8 Lap Run	3
Mufti	2
Science badge	2

Again we see a focus on technology and sports options. Making and creating are favourites of this age group and we have tried over the years to keep this active age group involved in regular P/E and sport. To date we have had three lots of coaches in to support our sport and P/E programmes and we are extremely grateful to cricket, rippa rugby and netball for providing great coaches who have given their time, enthusiasm and skills.

There was also a variety of one offs which complete a fuller viewpoint. Some of these were: Orchestra, my report, new teaching, ski trip, BOB, Stars on Stage, and chess.

**3) What do we need to improve or add to make it better around here?**

What was pleasing here was that there were few responses to this question overall. Seventeen children actually wrote “none” while many others just left a space for this answer. Equally reassuring was the fact that there were only three comments in this free choice questionnaire about : teasing, name calling and friendship problems.

More playground equipment	6
More sports equipment	4
More technology	3
More sport	3
More music	3
Please sell coke and fizzy drinks at the canteen	2

Other single suggestions were: Give out more prizes, bigger classroom, change the uniform, more board games, a water polo team, more academic challenges, longer camp, more drinking fountains and the dream of “ having lemonade in the fountains” Some of the above we have or will consider, others are actually planned to occur in the near future while some remain as “dreams”

**4) What sorts of things would you include in a job description for a student at Tahuna?**

Many fine points were recorded and the most common ones would be:

- ✓ Work hard and have some fun.
- ✓ Listen to others
- ✓ Take opportunities and try new things
- ✓ Take pride in your work
- ✓ Be organised
- ✓ Finish what you start
- ✓ Follow instructions
- ✓ Obey rules
- ✓ Treat property as if it's yours
- ✓ Be reliable and responsible

- ✓ Consider and respect others.
- ✓ Look after others / involve others.
- ✓ Use good manners.
- ✓ Allow other children to work
- ✓ Be friendly
- ✓ Use common sense

**Holiday Programme**  
**Otago Museum**

Flyers are available at the school office for the Otago Museum Discovery Holiday Programme.

There is a variety of fun activities – book in to avoid disappointment.

**Design a Stamp Competition**

Entry forms at the school office.

**School Disco**

The School Council Disco is being held on Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> April, from 7pm till 9pm, in the school hall. Entry is for TAHUNA pupils and by invitation only. This is a fun way to end the term and for safety reasons, we ask that parents collect their child from the hall at the correct exit, promptly at 9pm.

**School Council Update**

School Council meetings are now regularly underway and the ideas and concerns that are brought to each meeting are always taken seriously and actioned through appropriate channels, when necessary.

The attendance by Mr Guildford is also appreciated and a direct link for many matters that arise.

Already Councillors have been involved in a Lunchtime Litter promotion, as well as being directly involved in their Class Disco organization.

Congratulations to Jess Hepburn-McFelin and Jeremy Rei on their selection as Co Chairpersons for the 2007 Council. They are supported

by a strong team of Class Councillors, who will be a superb team representing the voice of fellow students.

**Term Two Saturday Art Classes.**

These classes start on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April and run through to Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June with a break on the Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June [ Queens Birthday Weekend ]

Keen artists in the Yr 4 - Yr 8 age group are invited to enrol by sending their name, school and home phone number to the Tahuna Normal School Office and enclose \$20. During these sessions the children will work on : - Beading, painting on tiles, canvas prints, photo blocks, star photo albums and clay work. This is a small class so enrol early to avoid disappointment.

Enquires to Mr Keith Hutton at ph 4559334.

**Diary Dates**

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April, 7.00- 9.00pm – Disco by invitation.

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April, 9.00 – 12.00 – School Swimming Sports at Moana Pool.

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April - Last day of Term 1.

Term 2

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – Term 2 commences.

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April – ANZAC DAY – School closed.

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April - Room 10 Assembly

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April – Room 11 go to Camp - back Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Yr 8 Swimming commences.

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May – Room 15 off to Camp – back Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May.

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 9.00am – Australasian Science Examination.

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June - QUEENS BIRTHDAY – School closed

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June, 9.00am – Australasian Spelling Examination.