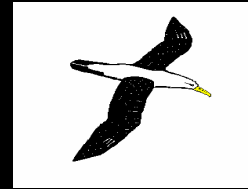


Tahuna News



Welcome

The days and weeks are racing past, it's hard to believe that Spring is just around the corner. We look forward to being able to use our grounds for play and planned activities without restrictions.

It has been pleasing to hear positive comments from visiting teachers over the last week about how impressed they were with our students working in classrooms. From the creative music lessons to independent working in their classrooms, teachers from our Contributing and Secondary Schools have congratulated us. Well done!

Enrolments for 2008 have been coming in steadily. The Out of Zone cut-off for applications was today, and I ask for In-zone enrolments to be forwarded by the end of term.

Data projectors are being installed on ceilings in classrooms which will enable full use of the video library, and options for teachers and students. Several options are being investigated presently. The student laptops are in constant use as students increasingly access and share information electronically.

A reminder that if your child is unwell, please ensure they receive the needed help and that you make arrangements

for supervision at home. It is critical that students do not attend school when they are ill. We appreciate your assistance here to ensure we don't have the outbreaks of illness that some schools have been experiencing.

Brent Ward Principal.

Conservation Week Writing Competition Win

Congratulations to Esther O'Loughlin for her recent win in the DOC writing competition. Esther received a \$50 book voucher for her efforts. Ben Davies, Wade Turnbull and Maya Turner also have their work published on the Dept of Conservation website. Published authors, well done!

Open Night

Many children, parents and family groups attended our Wednesday Open Night and had the freedom to observe in all areas of the school. Many took the opportunity to visit the Technology block and see the making and creating in these exciting rooms. Others took in the dance and music making in the Arts block while others caught up on new topics and teaching strategies in the main block and prefabs. Thanks to all those who attended.

Speech Competition.

Last week at assembly I heard 4 really neat speeches from 4 perfectly brave Tahuna students who stood before the whole school and spoke about their chosen topics with much conviction.

I really thought Erana McKindly's, a Year 8 student's, speech was exciting as she didn't use notes and spoke about food from a governmental point of view.

I would like to make comment about Bridget Hendry's topic which was about fit or fat. As a year 7 student, her speech was awesome and she did a great job and I am sure that if she enters the competition next year she will have gained from this experience. All 4 contestants had to overcome many dilemmas but they were the ones that made it through. All in all, they all did very well.

Katelyn Tohiariki. Room 10.

Cool Charm Sampling

We were delighted to be able to issue every girl in the school, a roll on deodorant, not spray, as mentioned in the previous newsletter. Special thanks to Amanda Fifield, who organised this promotion on behalf of her client, Cool Charm. Feedback has been all positive and this was an active way to promote personal hygiene. We are now looking at a source for the boys.

Multicultural Update

Performing at the Ross Street Kindy and Public Library, as a wind down to our celebrating Maori Language Week, was a real bonus for our Kapa Haka group. We performed outside because of our large numbers and the pupils enjoyed being able to mingle with the wee ones after the performance. We were most grateful for the generous koha which went towards our bus costs.

We then performed at the Dunedin Public Library for our performance to the general public. Again this was well received by a small, but enthusiastic audience. The pupils enjoyed the chocolate and we intend purchasing another cultural book for the library from the book voucher. Thank you to Mr Hokianga, the performers and organisers at the two venues.

Success with Writing

Recently Pam Crisp, Environmental Education Coordinator, wrote to Esther O'Loughlin.

"Hi Esther – You'll be pleased to know that you have won a \$50 book token in the prize draw for the 2007 Conservation Week Writing Competition. Congratulations! You're a really good writer and we loved reading what you had to say about the things you like doing in the special places around Dunedin. Thanks for entering."

Alexa Anderson also wrote well and for her efforts two lovely books came her way owing to the generosity of Mr Bill Noble at the University book Shop. He wrote – "Thank you for your letter, which is exceptionally well

written, clear, polite and nicely laid out. The spelling, grammar and punctuation are impeccable, and there isn't a stray apostrophe or any "txt" language to be seen. The fact that you are not yet in high school makes it even more impressive."

University of Otago Classics Quiz

Last Thursday night our three teams attended the Classics Quiz at the University of Otago's Classics Department. It was a very well run Quiz and participants moved quickly through the ten sections of five questions which contained a great variety of interesting and challenging questions.

There were twenty teams in total with ten covering the Year 9 and 10 High School years while the remaining ten were Year 7 and 8's. Tahuna was the only Intermediate school in attendance as the others were from Yr 7 - 13 High Schools.

Our team of Ben Black, Bryce Grellet, Greg Underwood and Tomas Rowley, was placed 4th on 30/50 which was 5 points behind the winners.

All in all the children enjoyed the night and the preparation classes we have run over the last six weeks.

Australasian Examination Results

1 - Mathematics

We were pleased to see that both the Yr 7 and yr 8 averages were higher than the NZ averages.

Year 7 Strengths

- 1 Measures and units
- 2 Number and Arithmetic
- 3 Space and Geometry.

Year 8 Strengths

- 1 Number and Arithmetic
- 2 Measures and Units
- 3 Space and Geometry

Well done to all children who participated in this examination and congratulations on your results.

High Distinction
Fergus O'Leary
Alexander Gibbs

Distinction
Rhys Bayly
Greg Underwood
Kirk Brocklebank
Matthew Chilcott
Bronwyn Halley
Fraser MacKenzie
Luke Miller
Lane Savell
Brian Templeton
Jiaheng Wang

Credits = 22

2 - English

We were also pleased to receive our English results.

Year 7 Strengths

- 1 Reading - Factual
- 2 Syntax
- 3 Vocabulary

Year 8 Strengths

- 1 Reading - Literacy
- 2 Syntax
- 3 Vocabulary

Well done to all children who participated in this examination.

High Distinction
Matthew Chilcott

Distinction
Deina Susilo- Knox
Brittany Reddington
Sam Gabbusch

Ben Black

Credits = 15

3 - Spelling

The final results to arrive in the mail on Tuesday of this week were for Spelling and we were delighted with what we read.

Year 7 Strengths

- 1 Proofreading
- 2 Rules and conventions
- 3 Dictation

Year 8 Strengths

- 1 Correcting
- 2 Dictation
- 3 Proofreading.

Well done to all children who participated in this examination and congratulations on your results.

High Distinction
Larissa Hinds (Top 1%)

Distinction
Casey Arnold
Levi Baker
Molly Flanagan
Georgia Hume
Luke Bridgman
Brittany Reddington
Alexander Gibbs
Erana McKinlay
Aiden Preston
Carissa Sorensen

Credits = 9

NZ Kidsline Poster Competition

Gemma Baldock continues to have success with her art and early in August she heard that she had been judged a commended winner in the 11 – 14 age group out of thousands of entries received from right across the country.

Gemma won a certificate, Nintendo DS Game System and a Nestle Goody Bag for her high class creation.

Yip Card Achievers

Recently these children were awarded their silver cards at Friday assemblies for good effort and good attitude about the school.

Silver
Ben Larson, David Van der Byl, Courtney Stephens, Rhea Brisbane, Keely Shaw, Maya Turner, Aiden Preston

Congratulations

Overseas Travel

Ethan Horner and Papa Wirihana-Poutapu have both had the honour of being named in the their respective U14 Representative Basketball Teams for the Koru Tour of Australia in January. Ethan is the only boy from Otago and Papa is one of two girls from the province. A great achievement.

Michaela Andrews was awarded her rank of SHO DAN, Black Belt, last weekend. She had to train with Dennis May, 8th DAN Kyoshi. He is ranked one of the highest sen sei, that is teacher, in the world in Karate.



The style is OKINAWA GOJU-RYU KARATE-DO. Michaela has been training for 6.5 years since the age of 5 where she has received Gold, Silver, Bronze medals in South Island Champs and province in Kata, Kumala. Michaela holds this SHO DAN, Black Belt, being one of the youngest to get this rank in her club and style. Michaela is also a Junior Sampi, teacher.

Club Rooms

OKINAWA GOJU-RYU KARATE-DO Arthur Street School Hall. Training time is Tuesday & Thursday from 7 – 9pm.

Congratulations

Swimming

A few weeks back Holly Smaill attended the South Island Wharenui Winter Olympics at QE2 pool and was placed 12th Nationally in the_50m freestyle. To add to this memorable success she also pulled out personal bests in the 200m freestyle and the 200 m medley. Well done Holly.

Basketball

It was great to hear that a good number of our Basketball girls had been successfully named in the U13 A and B Otago Teams. I hear that some Representative games have already been played in Invercargill but for those yet to be encountered , we wish you the very best.

U13 Otago A

Papa Wirihana-Poutapu
Natalie Hill
Alysse Heller

Bridget Hendry
Jenna Small

U13 Otago B

Kate Sparrow
Aimee Thurlow

Netball Year 7 Otago Netball Team

Holly Smail

Soccer

Otago 11th Grade Girls Soccer Team
Holly Smail

Skiing

The 2007 Mapei NZ Junior Mixed Aged Ski Races at Treble Cone went off recently without a hitch. This left the competitors, sponsors and race organisers in no doubt of the future of ski racing in New Zealand. Demetri Raffills was competing in the teams event and with five other team members, pulled off the silver medal placing out of eight competing teams. He was more than pleased with his runs of 34.38 and 35.63.

These results also placed him second overall for individual runs in the 12 year old age group – great skiing Demetri.

South Island Wrestling

It was great to hear that Ryan van der Lem recently competed in Timaru in the 10 -13yr age group and came away happy with a gold medal around his neck. Well done Ryan

Photography

Some time back Libby Aitkinson won a prize in the ODT Photography Competition and

recently I saw that it had been used on the wrapper of a 50gram cake of milk chocolate. How satisfying to know your work could be viewed throughout New Zealand and even further a field. Top result Libby.

Surf Life Saving

The Surf Life Saving Southern Regional Swim Champs were held at Moana Pool over the weekend. St Clair Surf members and Year 7 pupils Eden Foster, Jarrod Murray, Holy Smail & Gabrielle Scott all gained podium finishes.

Great efforts.

Looking After Your Body & Mind: Sleep

The following was provided by Child & Family Service, ODHB For further info please contact Public Health Nurse Amanda Cochrane 474 1700 ext 538

It is important to prepare yourself if you want to have a good sleep. That means getting rid of the day's worries: Visualise yourself putting them in a heavy iron box and throwing them off a cliff into the deep blue sea (or whatever image works for you!)

Other ways to help you get a sleep:

- Generally avoid napping during the day
- At least an hour before bedtime stop watching TV or playing exciting computer games. Give yourself time to wind down.
- Avoid caffeine drinks after lunchtime
- Avoid large rich meals before bed.
- Exercise – but not just before bed.
- Consider using a herbal tea that aids sleep.

- Have a ritual for preparing to sleep (don't take work / study to bed)
- Minimize distractions such as light & noise. Sleep in a TV free room.
- Don't worry about being awake: Use ABC methods: **A** Awareness of thinking, **B** Breathing slowly & deeply, **C** Change your thoughts.

If sleep disturbance continues, consult your doctor. It's really important to sleep well at night and play / work during the day. Reversing this pattern is not good for your mental and physical health.

Diary Dates.

Wednesday 22nd August – Rooms 18 +26 out on Winter Tramp.

Thursday 23rd August – Rooms 18 + 26 off on Winter Tramp

Sunday 26th August – Otago Science Fair Prize Giving.

Monday 27th August – Start of Yr 7 Marae Week Studies.

Tuesday 28th Rm 1 + 1/2 Rm 6 off to Landfill [a.m.]

Thursday 30th August – Rm 5 and 1/2 Rm 6 off to Landfill. [a.m.] +Rooms 14 and 15 out on Winter Tramp

Friday 31st August, 2.10 Marae Week Assembly in the Hall + Daffodil fundraising

Wednesday 5th September, 7.00pm Wearable Arts Show for Rooms 1.5.6.

Thursday and Friday 6th + 7th September – Multicultural Festival at the Regent Theatre.

Friday 7th September – Int Cross Country on the Balmacewen Circuit.

Monday 10th September, 10.45 – 12.30 Room 14 off to the Early Settlers.

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