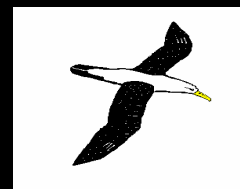


Tahuna News



Welcome

We are now into the last few weeks of the 2007 school year. It is a busy time getting staffing, classes and organisation for 2008 setup, while completing all the assessments, and activities of 2007.

There will be a special morning tea on Wednesday December 19th at 10.25am. This is a thank you to all parents and friends of Tahuna who have helped with all the activities throughout the year. The long list of activities we have enjoyed your support with is extensive. From camps, swimming, tramps, sports teams, classroom excursions and activities, you have been brilliant. We ask you to join us for morning tea as acknowledgement of our sincere thanks, our very real appreciation of your efforts. Thank you and hopefully we can see you on Wed 19th.

Last week we welcomed teachers from our contributing schools and ICT Cluster into the hall to share developments in ICT over 2007. It was amazing to see the work teachers and students from all the schools have been involved in, and a positive time for teachers to discuss and share endeavours. The Ministry of Education will be supporting ICT developments over the next two years too, so using ICT in the new curriculum in all schools will be a continued focus.

Students are completing end of year assessments at present. Data to date is most positive.

Data from students surveys on their perceptions of how we are teaching, on their pride in their school, on opportunities and support from staff also paint a positive picture. We are looking closely at all the data to see where we can improve student engagement and progress.

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year. The

successes of Tahuna students in 2007 has been outstanding. Certainly a very skilled and talented group of youngsters.

My thanks to the Board of Trustees for their positive and supportive approach to their efforts. Our Board is for our students and I appreciate their support.

Brent Ward
Principal.

Road Works

Fulton Hogan will be working on Tahuna Road over the next few weeks. The section of Tahuna road from Cullen Street to Cranley Street is due to have milling start within the week, and over a planned 7 day period have the asphaltting completed. They will be trying to have some access for buses at the end of the school day, but I ask that arrangements for picking up and dropping off by car is from the Marlow and Cranley Street gates. There will be congestion, there will be a shortage of parking, so we ask for car

pooling, biking, walking and using buses to be considered.

Sorry about the timing, but it is beyond our control.

Police Dog Demonstration



The Police Dog team really informed and entertained the school with their skills.

Murphy showed his expertise as a drug dog, and later outside we saw the skill of the other dogs in stopping an offender.

We are appreciative of their time and effort for Tahuna. Positives of the work police do for us every day were outlined in an interesting manner.

Thank you Constable Heather Rei for arranging this demonstration.

End of Year Concert

“Lights then Action” our 2007 performance will be

held in the University of Otago College of Education Auditorium, Union Street on Wednesday 12th December. This is where we have held this occasion for the last few years but it has a new name as it is now a part of the University Campus.

The performance will commence at 7.30pm running through to about 9.15ish and tickets are on sale from the school at \$2 per seat. As usual we will present a variety of acts which cover the programmes and activities enjoyed by our children. On the night you will be treated to dance, drama, speech, music making, cultural performances and more.

The whole school will bus down to the Auditorium in the morning to view the dress rehearsal.

Information / permission forms will be sent out today or tomorrow and we would appreciate these being actioned at your earliest convenience.

When ordering tickets please place the money in an envelope with the following details recorded on the outside.

Child's name

Room number

Number of tickets required

Amount of money enclosed

Mega Milk Day



On Monday 3rd December, the Mega Milk Top Kids Competition was held at the Caledonian Ground. The colourful slides and events across the grounds looked amazing. We knew we were in for a great afternoon.



Schools from across Otago attended. There were 10 stations you had to go to, some were water activities, climbing activities, and crawling activities. They were all fun.



Some Tahuna teams broke records on the activities, while other teams just had a good time. The best activities were the water ones as we had a water fight at the end. We all had fun.



National Final

Recently, Aleki Morris went to Auckland as a member of the South Island Team for the Studio 2 Sports Billy Challenge against the North Island team.

The challenges were great fun and footage can be seen on TV 2 Studio 2 at 4.30pm between 10 – 14 December.

Children are asked to watch and then text their support for Aleki's team.

The Marvellous Majority

Occasionally we can be side tracked by the inconsiderate actions of one or two children. Overall, if we stop and think about the majority, we realise that they are arriving ready on time for lessons, have their P/E gear or togs, have done their homework, are wearing the correct uniform, have left their cell phone at home and then give their programme / activities a fair shot like most of their mates are.

Over breaks the majority get sports gear out and you can see them happy at play involved in basketball, soccer, touch, four square, cricket, Jump rope, ball tig and the like. Others walk about in friendship groups talking, some sit about on the grass and chat while others read in the library. Many children go down to the technology rooms to work on finishing projects while others can be seen practising a dance, song or drama piece in available free rooms.

The majority will contribute and cooperate over the last few weeks of the year and in the final days, classes will go out of the school and have some fun. School based Top class Challenge, Year 8 Farewell

Disco and Prize Giving will be enjoyed by most and many will feel sad about moving on.

Whatever their feelings children should be happy with their years contributions if they have consciously worked to make it happen. On reading reports of late I am always amazed to see on page two the listed achievements of most of our children and again those who put in the effort are usually the ones who get the results and have the longest lists. Well done and thanks for a solid years work.

Yip Card Achievers

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

Gold

Lee van der Lem
Garth Fulton

Silver

Catherine O'Donnell-
Jakeway
Darceah Harborne
Geena Fagan
Papatuanuku Wirihana -
Poutapu
Ethan Fisher
Ariah Stuart
Olivia Trainor
Deina Susilo Knox
Morgan Poll

DRAMA ROOM

Thank you for the four families who donated items to the Drama Room. We are still on the lookout for hats, walking sticks, jackets, hand bags, dresses, wigs, shoes and any other dress ups you deem suitable for the stage. Please bring to the boxes in the foyer.

Multicultural Update

Members of our group have been very proactive recently, performing at a variety of community events. On Wednesday the 28th of November, a large contingent presented a one hour variety concert to our elderly from South Dunedin. This was held at the Nations Church and a wide cross section of the golden ages were present. We opened and closed with Kapa Haka items, and in between there were performances from within the group, which included various dance selections, singing and speech.

On Thursday evening, a small representation performed at the Service of Remembrance, for families who have lost young family members throughout the year. Again, our children performed beautifully and were most sensitive to the occasion.

The week ended with the Kapa Haka group being given the honour of being the entertainment at the University College of Education graduation ceremony at the Town Hall. Again the group was outstanding, with special tribute

to Mr Hokianga and Jess, who opened our item.

Huge thanks to our parents, who tirelessly provide transport for their children to and from the venues and support the performances. It is appreciated.

Summer Sun

Sunny days are here and we keep encouraging children to wear their sun hats and slap on the sun tan lotion.

Navy- blue school sun hats are available from the school office at \$8 for the peaked cap and \$11 for the bucket version.

Congratulations

Golf

The Intermediate Schools Golf Competition was held at the Belleknowes Golf Course on Wednesday 28th November. The Tahuna team made up of Greg Thomson, Richard Milne, Bronwyn Halley and Matt Ferguson won the competition from ten other Intermediate school teams. I heard they received some great prizes and thoroughly enjoyed their games. Well done team.

Hot News

If it is news then please contact us at the school and let us know so we can celebrate the achievements with the children. A note, letter, fax, phone call or email keithhutton@tahuna.school.nz would be appreciated.

Number Works

Fun Holiday Programme

Fun holiday mathematics
Take this opportunity to boost your child's confidence and mathematics skills just before school starts next year.

Mon 28th Jan to Fri Feb 2008.
Choose either 1.30pm – 3.30pm or 3.30pm – 5.30pm.
Ten hours of intensive tuition on an individualized programme for \$400.
Phone 474 1104 to book a place.

Diary Dates.

Diary Dates.

Monday 3rd December - Anchor Milk Challenge.

Wednesday 5th, 10.35am

– Last swimming session for Rms 9.10.23.26.27

Wednesday 12th

December 7.00 – 9.30ish – End of year Performance at the College Auditorium, Union Street.

Friday 14th December – End of Year reports go home.

Monday 17th December – Top Class Competition + Council Luncheon

Tuesday 18th December – End of Year class outings.

Wednesday 19th December – Yr 8 Farewell Social.

Thursday 20th December, 2.00pm - TNIS 2007 Prize Giving in school hall.

Friday 21st December - School finishes.