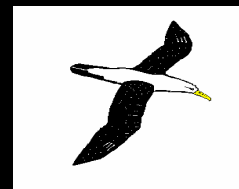


Tahuna News



Welcome

Another busy and successful week at Tahuna.

Well done to all students who have achieved successes in academic, cultural and sporting areas. You are an incredibly high achieving group of learners. We are very proud of you.

Not only have individuals and groups achieved high honours as outlined throughout this newsletter, but our students have shown significant improvement in their reading and mathematics levels in testing just completed. The comparisons of their work earlier in the year to now, and against other students across New Zealand makes all the hard work worth it. Well done.

The last of the data projectors to be installed in classrooms should be completed very shortly. The systems with amazing capabilities including outstanding sound, will enable teaching and learning to continue to use ICT well.

Teaching is changing to meet the needs of our learners for their future, moving away from some of the teaching methods that prepared us for the past and now. One of the changes in all schooling will be the

inclusion of key competencies in the new curriculum that should arrive in schools in the next month. Staff will be involved in professional development surrounding the new curriculum over the next year. Exciting and challenging times ahead.

What makes work in this area rewarding though is that it sets out to make a difference for our learners. This cannot always be said for developments and changes over recent times.

Hopefully by the next newsletter the long wait for the building consent for the new balconies and inside / outside working areas will be through and work can finally start.

Brent Ward
Principal.

2007 Otago Daily Times Extra social studies Quiz

After several weeks of social studies workshops with over 50 children we compiled ten teams of three children to work together on the ten study areas in preparation for the Quiz. Each year it seems to get harder as more well prepared teams line up on the night to try and take the winners trophy.

Having been runners up last year we wanted to go one better this year if possible.

Liam Dell, Alex Gibbs and Aleki Morris did not let us down and with 94 points took the title from Lawrence area School in 2nd place and DNI in 3rd.

What delighted us further was receiving the overall placings and seeing the results for the other teams. Tahuna 1 and Tahuna 4 were placed 5th equal on 89 points while Tahuna 5 was 8th on 86 points.

Overall, the children seemed very pleased with their efforts and out of the 68 teams participating seven of our teams were in the top 18. We congratulate all involved.

Canteen News

A revised canteen list has been sent out to all students.

New sandwich fillings
Salad wraps
A \$2 filled roll
Apple slices
Macaroni cheese
Spaghetti Bolognese

New and healthy choices.

Literacy Skills Pay Off

Recently you may have heard the University Bookshop advertisement by Alexa

Anderson. This came about as part of a Letter Writing activity, so it was very exciting to have the shop approach Alexa to read excerpts from her letter. Alexa responded with enthusiasm, as she is a keen reader, who holds Millionaire status in our school B.O.B. scheme and was a member of the Tahuna team that travelled to Auckland for the Literacy finals. It was a great example of how closely linked reading and writing can be. Well done Alexa!

You've probably heard her advertisements on the radio.

Yip Card Achievers

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

Silver

Meredith Wills
Esther O'Loughlin
Ben Black
Noah Graham
Matthew Chilcott
Joanna Harwood
Reid Hulleman

Congratulations

Warren Van Staden attended the Orca Labour weekend Swimming Carnival in Invercargill and swam well. I heard that he set around six PB'S in a variety of strokes and made the finals in the 100m Breaststroke and the 100m Butterfly. His best result would have been being as a member of the 4 x 50 m relay for his age group which took the title. Well done Warren.

Congratulations to Libby Atkinson also gained a Credit pass in the Australian Mathematics Awards. Well done Libby.

Badminton

I have just heard from Mr Jenkinson that our Boys fronted last night and played the final against John McGlashan A and after a tight game Tahuna came away with the Boys interschool title. The match see sawed and went for one hour 40 minutes with a 4 – 2 result in our favour.

Our team of Richard Milne, Jiaheng Wang, Greg Thompson, Kirk Brocklebank and Ben Williams played seven matches over the season for seven wins - Congratulations boys.

Next week on Tuesday 3.40 - 5.30pm our girls team meet Columba in the girls final – we wish them all the very best in this encounter.

Community Service

It has been very reassuring over the last few days as I watched the large number of helpers for the Blind Week Collection bring their permission slips into the office.

So far we are up around the 60 mark with a few more expected on Thursday. An added delight is to see the number of parents / caregivers who will assist the foundation by driving the children around the different collecting areas. The children are keen to get out there in the community on Thursday night and give their time to assist the Blind Foundation with all their fantastic work.

All involved are asked to be in the school car park by 5.45 pm in readiness for a 6.00pm start.

We intend to have all children back by 7.30pm so they are ready to be picked up by parents/caregivers at 7.45pm. Children are asked to wear their full uniform in a tidy manner without extras and jewellery. Many Thanks.

Sunny Conditions

We thank the School Council for providing a bottle of sun block for every room. This certainly backs up the children using their own sun screen and the wearing of hats.

Last week we involved the school in a "Bring a hat Promotion" and again it was an amazing response from the children. By the end of the week a great deal more hats were seen being worn in the playground and during sports time. We hope this continues and you can be rest assured that we are backing the message of stressing the need to be sun wise.

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

Life Education

The Life Education programme will run from the 2nd of November, through to the 28th of November and will involve all classes.

The "Warrant of Fitness" programme in Year 7 begins by exploring basic nutrition, the Food Pyramid and importance of breakfast. It moves on to

advertising and the influence on our food choices, then concludes with a focus on body image, exercise and energy.

The Year 8 students are involved with the "From the Shadows" programme which presents the effects drug taking and alcohol consumption can have on the developing adolescent brain and physiology. By being more informed, decision making should be better based, knowing full well, the probable consequences.

All sessions are conducted in the Life Ed. Bus by Trudy Harpur, a trained facilitator and supported by the classroom teacher. You may make contact with Trudy, your child's classroom teacher, or our Health Coordinators, Nic Gibson or Yvonne Toa, through the office at school.

It would be greatly appreciated if the \$2.00 (subsidised by the School Council fundraiser) be paid to classroom teachers as soon as possible. Thank you.

DRAMA ROOM ITEMS

If you are having a spring clean at home, you may wish to donate any unwanted outfits, dressup costumes or props to our Drama Room. This room is constantly used and it would be wonderful to get some fresh costumes / props in. If you can help out, please drop items off in the box in the Foyer and our Drama Monitors will process from there. Thank you.

Art Room Request

For the Art Department I am on the lookout for cardboard that anyone is able to supply. This

would be a great help as the children are creating wonderful pieces of art that I'm sure you all would be impressed with. If parents are passing through any time you are more than welcome to come and see the children's art displayed around the school.

Saturday Morning Art Classes [10.30am – 12.00]

These exciting and fun filled classes have just started and children will work on mini flip photo albums, painting on canvas, sketching, tile creations, sculpturing, 3-D art and Christmas crafts.

We still have spaces so ring us on Ph 4553994 to sign up at only \$18 for these term 4 sessions. Children in Year 4 – Yr 6 classes out there in the community along with Tahuna children are most welcome to attend. Do it now – its well worth it.

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.

School Fees / Donations

Have you paid these? Reminders have been sent out again and we thank those who responded promptly.

The Technology fee goes some way towards the costs of the take home component of the Technology programme, while the donation that is generally well

supported helps us to buy the consumables and extras that the grant from the Ministry does not allow.

Diary Dates.

Wednesday 24th October - Swimming for Rms 9.10.23. 26.27

Thursday 25th October, 6.00 – 7.30pm Tahuna children collecting for the Blind

Friday 26th October – Room 5 Assembly

Wednesday 31st October - Swimming for Rms 7.16.17.18

Friday 2nd November – Room 17 Assembly

Wednesday 7th November – South Zone Athletic Sports at the Caledonian Grounds

Friday 9th November – Room 12 Assembly.

Wednesday 14th November - Swimming for Rms 9.10.23. 26.27

Friday 16th November – Room 16 Assembly

Tuesday 20th November or Thursday 22nd November – Championship Athletic Sports at the Caledonian Grounds

Wednesday 21st November – Year 8's enrolled at B.H.S for 2008 off to Bayfield High for the day + Swimming for Rms 7.16.17.18.

Wednesday 12th December – End of year Performance at the College Auditorium.

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

Monday 17th December – Top Class Competition

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

Friday 21st December - School finishes.