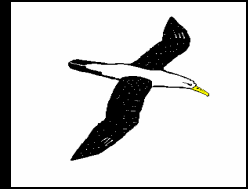


# Tahuna News



## Welcome

It is May already, and we are into the colder months of the year. With that comes the period of time when the visibility of our cyclists can be even more difficult. The low position of the sun at the start of the day means cyclists are at an increased risk. I ask parents to please go over cycle safety checks, and to reinforce safe practices on cycles. At the same time I ask parents to be careful and cautious when driving in the area of our school. We have been informed that "speed checks" around schools is a continuing priority for the police.

The aquatics programme for Year 8 students has started. Extra swimming instruction for our less confident swimmers, and non-swimmers, is being added to our programme. We are surrounded by water, and enjoy many activities in and by water, so skills and safe practices are important.

Winter sports are now underway. We have received requests from most of the winter sports organisers to ensure that comments from the sideline from parents, staff and students are positive. While we do want to encourage and build their skills and teamwork, we need to ensure our comments are positive and helpful to build their skills, understandings, and

enjoyment. I'm sure we can comply with these requests.

We have heard it will only be a few more days until the consent for our new Library & Information Centre comes through. It is exciting to have the project at long last starting. A new, improved facility that has the room and structure to enable keen reading and skilled locating of information is keenly awaited.

We welcome Fay Elliot to our staff team. Fay is working with students who need extra support in literacy, and will be working with enrichment programmes too. Teachers have clear information on where our students are in reading and we look forward to monitoring their improvements over the year.

Brent Ward

Principal.

## New Balconies and paved areas



The new balconies on our main teaching block are really taking shape now. The new doors

opening onto these decks and to paved areas downstairs will add new teaching and learning spaces for the variety of teaching needed for our innovative programmes.



## Choir

Our school Massed and Special Choirs have been rehearsing in Term 1.

Term 2 will be a busy one for us. The Special Choir is to perform at the Royal Male Choir 372<sup>nd</sup> Concert in the Town Hall on Monday June 16<sup>th</sup>.

The Massed and Special Choir will then perform at the Intermediate Schools Music festival on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June also in the Town Hall.

Thank-you to Mrs Frame our accompanist, We are looking forward to performing on stage.

## Music

In Term 1 some classes have been introduced to our Marimbas as we have demonstrated lessons to College teachers and visitors from Japan.

With Term 1 and school camps over, the music programme will now get into full swing.

The Year 7 programme begins with 'Styles of Music'. This unit involves listening to and appreciating the elements of some different styles.

We then move into 'Beat and Rhythm' and create some of our own beats using percussion.

The Year 8s will start with Marimba.

We are fortunate to have purchased a Contra-bass marimba this year. This rich bass sound will add texture to our playing.

The children will be progressing on to play more complex melodies. We will also add different instruments i.e. drums, guitar and percussion.

In Term 3 we will be focusing on Rhythm and will be using everyday objects to create sounds. This was very successful last year; however the large plastic bins purchased didn't manage to withstand the constant drumming! If anyone is able to help by sourcing or 'recycling' some 'heavy duty' plastic drums/bins please let Mrs Sparrow know.

### **Marimba Band**

In Term 1 a small enthusiastic and dedicated group of Marimba players met once a week to play Marimba. We performed two songs in assembly on the last Friday of term.

We are looking for some percussion players to add to our Band.

**If you are keen, please see Mrs Sparrow and be prepared to give up your Monday lunchtime to rehearse.**

### **Flute Lessons**

If you are interested in your child learning the flute, lessons will be available at Tahuna with an experienced teacher, Mette Kjaergaard for \$10 a lesson. Notices are available from the school office and need to be returned by the end of this week, Friday May 16<sup>th</sup>. Any questions to Ms Freeman.

### **Sunhats off over winter**

**Information the Cancer Society has asked us to share.**

It is unnecessary to protect children from the sun from now to September because the levels of ultraviolet radiation are generally too low to cause overexposure and sunburn. Children should not wear sunhats or be encouraged to play in the shade in terms 2 & 3. It is beneficial for children to actively enjoy the winter sun as much as possible.

(Exceptions - when at high altitudes - skiing, climbing, tramping, or near snow or water you need to still use hats sunglasses and SPF 30+ sunscreen.)

Most vitamin D is developed in the body as a result of exposure to ultraviolet radiation. It is important for strong bones and general health and may protect against some cancers. Most people can maintain Vitamin D levels by getting approximately 2 – 3 hours of sunlight each week to their face, arms and hands from May to September.

### **D.A.B – Donate a book**

Recently, we have been receiving some excellent books to update our class Recreational

Reading Sets. Children are encouraged to bring along a new book which has been finished with in the home but not finished with when it comes to our nearly 500 readers at Tahuna. Our readers are looking forward to these numerous new titles which are starting to take over the DP's office - Keep it up PLEASE. Over the next few days see if your child can spare one new book which is finished with. It certainly will be appreciated.

### **Intermediate Schools Music Festival – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June**

At the end of Term one we made a start on the massed choir items over in the Balmacewen Intermediate School Hall. We were there for two and a half hours and I was amazed with the progress made on all the new songs attempted.

A similar report came in from those who attended the massed orchestra practice at DNI so all in all we are well on our way to providing a TOP night of entertainment on the 26<sup>th</sup> June.

This term Mr Cummings visited schools to audition 80+ children for the Combined Int schools Rock Band. He was impressed with those who tried out and has selected those who meet the criteria.

Congratulations to the following Tahuna children who along with 8 children from other Int schools will makeup the 2008 Combined Intermediate Schools Rock Band.

#### Vocals

Deina Susilo-Knox

#### Guitars

Henry Alexander

Bass Guitar  
Callum Van Turnhout

Keyboards  
Hee-Joo Ryu

Drums  
Ben Trainer

### **ANZAC Memorial**

Yesterday Hamish and I biked up to the Andy Bay Cemetery to look at the ANZAC memorial that is up there. There are lots of names on the plaque and lots of headstones and individual plaques.



We wrote down a couple of names and took some photos. Then we biked back to school. It was really cool and fun and we think everyone should go and have a look.



### **Dunedin Gasworks Museum**

Open the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month, 12 – 4 pm.

Free entry, donations welcome. The only working town gas museum in the Southern Hemisphere. Please come and join us, at 20 Braemar St, South Dunedin. Just along from the Warehouse, look for the chimney.

### **2008 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools [ Australasian Exams ]**

Once again we offer these extra challenges to our children who are competent in science, computer skills, mathematics, spelling and English.

All students receive a certificate and an individual student report indicating which questions they answered correctly, as well as an average mark for New Zealand. It also highlights student strengths and weaknesses in the skills and processes assessed.

All except Spelling cost \$6.50 per paper – **Spelling costs \$8.50**

Please indicate the ones you want your child to sit and then send this form and money back to school by the date indicated or earlier if possible. **[ If you know your child is going to do 2 or 3 of these exams then PLEASE do one entry and avoid missing deadlines later - THANKYOU ]**

1.Science on Thurs 29th May- ENTRIES have been sent.

2.Spelling on Thurs 12th June – ENTRIES have been sent.

3.Mathematics on Tues 29th July- \$6.50 to school by Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June.

4.English on Tues 12<sup>th</sup> August - \$6.50 to school by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July.

5.Computer Studies on Wed 27<sup>th</sup> August- \$6.50 to school by Monday 4th August.

### **Congratulations**

It was great to see the written efforts in the May edition of the ODT Extra from Shayde Bain, Indy Griffiths, James Richardson and Leander Stahler. Keep up the exciting writing so that readers across New Zealand will benefit.

Charlotte Murray was also successful in winning a book for her fine Newspaper search skills.

### Water Polo

Well done to Ryan Thom for making the U12 Otago Water Polo Team. We wish him well in his representative fixtures.

### **Letting us Know**

Children are asked to see Mr Hutton if they had had successes / good news which should be celebrated through the newsletter. Parents can also let me know of news worthy items. [keithhutton@tahuna.school.nz](mailto:keithhutton@tahuna.school.nz)

### **Y.I P. Awards**

The following children have been awarded their silver cards at recent assemblies for good attitude and good effort.

#### Silver

Sophia Gamperle  
Tessa Lunam  
Henry Stewart  
Samantha Shannon  
Louise Cairns

**20 /40 Hr Famine - 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> May**

It is recommended that our children participate in a 20 Hour Famine from 8.00pm Friday to 4pm Saturday. They would only sip juice and suck barley sugars.

Others are going to go without their computer, TV, stereo Xbox, emails, Play station and /or cell phone [ no texting either ] One family tells be they are making big donations to their child as she is going to do a NO TALK FAMINE.

If you want your child to be involved then write me a short note and I will hand out the official booklet which after the Famine, comes back to me please. KCH.

### **Marching Club**

Onyx Militaires Marching Club are currently looking for members aged 5 to 16 years old to join our established club for the 2008/09 season. No experience is necessary, and there is a team available to suit the different age groups. Uniforms are supplied free of charge. The competitive season runs from October to March (with a 7 week Christmas break). Further details can be found on our website

[www.onyxmilitaires.bravehost.com](http://www.onyxmilitaires.bravehost.com), by contacting Shona at 4530964, or via email at [onyxmilitaires@xtra.co.nz](mailto:onyxmilitaires@xtra.co.nz)

### **WHEN DO I NEED TO GO TO THE DOCTOR?**

See a doctor if your child:

- Has been unwell and is not improving
- Is more irritable, grizzly or sleepy than usual
- Breathing very fast
- Refusing food or drinks
- Has a fever
- Has sore ears
- Coughs a lot
- Has a sore throat

If you are worried about how sick you or your child are at any time don't hesitate to see a doctor.

If you have other medical problems you should see a doctor earlier.

Contact the doctor immediately if you or your child develops any of the following danger symptoms

- **Severe headache or neck pain**
- **Eyes intolerant to light**
- **Drowsy, floppy, is less alert or difficult to wake**
- **Skin rash or spots**
- **High fever**
- **Vomiting**
- **Unusual or high-pitched cry**

The Public HealthNurse for your school/ECC is: Karen Nielsen  
Phone: 474 1700 ext 538

### **COUGHING AND SNEEZING**

Did you know that viruses travel about 6 meters when you sneeze, and 3 meters when you cough? A way to prevent illness is to cover your mouth when coughing and sneezing to stop the spread of germs;

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze **or**
- Cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve, not your hands
- Put your used tissue in the rubbish bin or toilet
- Wash your hands with soap especially after coughing or sneezing

The best way to ensure children's cooperation is to model this behaviour.  
Public Health Nurse.

### **Weekly Highlights for Term 2**

Wk 1 – Aranui Drama Group Presentation.

Wk2 - Year 8 Girls Self Defence + Yr 8 Swimming commences

Wk3 - Massed Choir and Orchestra Practices + Remuera Excursion.

Wk4 - Australasian Science Exam.

### **Diary Dates**

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May, 11.00 – 12.00 - Swimming for Rms 12.13.14.15.16

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May Yr 8 Girls Self Defence Courses.

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> 2.10 Variety Show of Tahuna Talent.

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May , 9.30 – 12.00am – Int Schools Massed Choir Practice in Tahuna Hall.

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May, 11.00 – 12.00 –Swimming for Rms 1.5.6.11

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May, 7.00 – 8.00. NZ Post Book Award Quiz in the Dunedin Public Library.

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 12.30 – 2.30 pm Massed Orchestra to practise in the DNI Hall.

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Mathematics Problem Challenge.

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Oamaru Int Technology Staff to visit out Technology Centre.

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May – Remuera Group leave for Auckland.

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May – Australasian Science Exam.

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May – Remuera Group return to Dunedin.

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June –

**INTERMEDIATE SCHOOLS MUSIC FESTIVAL IN THE TOWN HALL.**