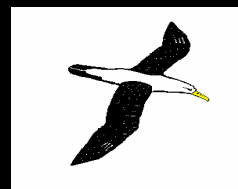


Tahuna News



Welcome

Welcome back to the 4th term, another term full of challenge, fun, and hard work.

It is pleasing to see the enthusiasm of our young athletes practising their relay changes and hurdles. Students competed strongly on our Sports day, and have been entered for the South Zone Athletics day which will be on Wednesday November 5th. Mark this day on your calendar now.

We have had two classes involved in research work on fractions for the University of Otago, following closely on students working on National Education Monitoring. We are always keen to see results, to learn more, and to keep improving what we are doing for our students.

We have moved into the new Library, and although some furniture and shelving has yet to arrive, the new environment is marvellous.

How fantastic to see the finals games for the Badminton dominated by Tahuna. In both the boys and girls finals, both teams were Tahuna. Well done to everyone.

Brent Ward
Principal

2008 Australasian [ICAS] English Examination Results

Our keen and able English students sat this examination and we were pleased with the results.

Our Year 7 and Year 8 averages were both higher than the NZ Yr 7 + Yr 8 averages

When I looked at the areas of strength for the Year 7's, the rankings were:

- 1st Reading factual
- 2nd Reading Literary
- 3rd = Vocabulary and Syntax

Year 8 Areas of strength were :

- 1st Syntax
- 2nd Reading Literary
- 3rd = Reading and Reading Factual

We thank all the children for sitting this paper and congratulate the following award winners.

Year 7

Distinction

Erica Savell
Saskia Rushton- Green
Josephine Devereux
Shyamni Chokshi
Hannah Auckram

Credit

Emma Bridgman
Joshua Bromell
Brennan Carne
Cameron Reddington
Shanna Verhoef

Year 8

Distinction

Molly Flanagan
Samantha Shannon

Credit

Casey Arnold
Bailey Beecher
Robbie Gwynne- Jones
Vyenna Percy
Simon Williams

COUNCIL DISCO

The end of term Disco was another success, with numbers high and lots of Tahuna staff and College teachers supervising the occasion. Erroll provided great music that kept everyone busy on the dance floor. Many thanks to parents for promptly collecting your children, and to the students, for top behaviour on the night.

LIFE EDUCATION

The Life Bus will be in our school for the first three weeks of November. Our Year 8 classes will be attending and the subsidised increased cost will be \$5. Their "From the Shadows" programme looks at 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, with the importance of making good choices continually stressed.

All sessions are conducted in the Life Ed. Bus by Jackie Allison, a trained facilitator and supported by the classroom teacher. You may make contact with Jackie, your child's classroom teacher, or our Health Co-ordinators, Yvonne Toa and Nic Gibson, through the office at school. A notice regarding this visit will be out soon to Year 8 students.

Activ8

On Friday September 19th 8 x children from Tahuna went to St Hilda's Collegiate for Activ8. All teams required a digital camera to take photos to show that they had completed the task that had been set, and a first aid kit just in case someone in the team got hurt. The rules were that you weren't allowed to run on the road or you would get a thirty minute penalty which would pretty much lose you the competition.

All of the teams started at two minute intervals and at each challenge we were given a clue to find the next challenge.

Our first challenge was to get all your team members to show off your school name and take a photo of it. Next up we had to make a human pyramid with all your team members and take a photo of it. Straight after we were on our way again and we had to jog for about five minutes to challenge number two where everyone had to get their feet off the ground while your team leader took the photo. Soon after we had to pretend that two of your team members were a King and a Queen which ended up being quite funny. Then we got lost after following Balmacewen Int which put us behind by a couple of minutes.

At the end of the 7.1km run we ended up getting fifth overall which I think is quite good because we didn't know the area that we were running in. We all had a great time and were pleased with our result.

By Michael Ryan

MULTICULTURAL UPDATE

On the last Wednesday of term, a group of tired, but enthusiastic members of the Multicultural group gave a brief medley of Kapa Haka items and ended with a Samoan Sasa. We were delighted to be a part of the Peninsula Schools' Music Festival and many of our performers stayed on to enjoy the wonderful show of talent from our contributing schools.

On the final Sunday of the holidays, available members of the group performed at the Red Cross Concert, held at the Kings and Queen's Performing Arts Centre. The proceeds went to the Red Cross Emergency and Rescue team which is a most worthy cause.

Items were presented from the Kapa Haka Group, Cook Island and Samoan Group. The children performed strongly and looked wonderful in the various costumes, thoroughly entertaining the elderly of our local community.

Y.I.P. Awards

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

Gold

Gemma Still
Sam Shannon
Callum Connor
Indy Griffiths
Michael Craig
Henry Alexander

Silver

Fergus O'Leary
Michaela Andrews
Richard Buchanan
Nicole Wilson
Margie Anderson
Bailey Beecher

School Uniform

We really appreciate our children wearing full uniform to and from school and full sports uniform during sporting occasions. Extra earrings and other items of jewellery are not needed.

Congratulations

Rugby

Well done to Levine Lale who was a member of the Alhambra Under 12 Rugby Team which won against Kaikorai Valley Under 12 Rugby Team 63 - 0 in the finals. I heard he scored 2 tries.

Ballet

It was great to hear that Cadyne Geary has been selected to dance with the Russian Ballet Company in their production of the Nutcracker which is being performed at the Regent Theatre next Thursday, 23rd October.

She has been busy since week 2 of the holidays practising and will need to attend the 3 hour rehearsal with the ballet company at the theatre on the day.

As you can imagine she is extremely excited and thrilled

with the great opportunity she has been given

I also heard that Gemma Still has had success with her Intermediate BBO Ballet Exam in gaining Highly Commended. She is also off to attend classes at The NZ Ballet School for a week in June. Along with other able dancers from throughout New Zealand, Gemma will benefit from expert tuition from different ballet teachers.

Well done to both of you.

Music at Tahuna

Well done to all classes for their efforts in Music in Term 3. The Year 7 classes were introduced to the Marimbas and glockenspiels.

I was impressed with the way the children took up the challenge to learn to play these instruments.

These lessons culminated in a Marimba Concert held in the last week of Term. Each class performed a melody to our Tahuna and Musselburgh audience. It was great to see class groups playing and enjoying their music together. Thanks to our school Marimba Band who also entertained us at this concert.

This term our focus is on 'Instruments of the Orchestra'

The Year 8 classes took part in a 'STOMP' unit, creating music using everyday objects including: plastic drums, brooms, sticks, old desk lids, shakers and drums.

Using a variety of rhythmic patterns and movement, the children created a group performance. Most of these have been videoed for the

children to review on class computers.

The final Year 8 topic this year will focus on creating a music performance.

Choir

The choir were busy in Term 3 with:

Assembly and Open Night performances

Sing Outs at our local Primary Schools

Marne St Hospital visit

This term we will be rehearsing for our end of year Assemblies and College Concert in Week 9.

Well done to those children who always give their best at rehearsals and performances.

Marimba Band

There has been a dedicated group of children who meet in the Music Room every Monday to play and learn some more challenging pieces on the Marimbas.

This Year the band have; Accompanied our Massed Choir item at the Music Festival in Term 2

Accompanied the Special choir at the Marne St Hospital visit in Term 3

Entertained the school at two assemblies

Performed at the recent Year 7 Marimba Concert.

This term we hope to perform to our local Primary Schools and we will be rehearsing for the end of year College Concert.



Cell Phones

Parents have commented favourably on the cell phone article in our last news letter and there has been a reduction of children bringing phones to school for those "urgent matters". Thanks for your support on this. As we keep saying, we have land lines for important matters and we will give important notices to your children.

Cell phones are a distraction in the child's day and we need to move away from the "now" thinking.

As one parent stated-" If kids and parents spend a minute or two to talk and plan their day before heading off to school, then it usually all works out."

If on the odd occasion it all falls apart, then we can fall back on our land lines.

Dental Examinations

As part of Public Health South's quality control procedures, Dorothy Boyd, Senior Public Health Dentist, will be visiting school to check some children's teeth on October 29th.

These examinations will not take too long and procedures will be carefully explained to each child. If you have any queries regarding this please telephone 479 9569.

Mirren Peterson
Manager Otago School Dental Services.

Spider Began

He stole the slenderness of a finger
He stole the hair of a gooseberry
And made his legs.
For his abdomen
He stole the plumpness of a plum
He stole the roundness of a soccer ball
He stole the hair off sasquatch himself.
From the Bathroom cupboard
He stole the sharpness of a razor
He stole the black of mould
and made his fangs
Then at night
He stole the blackness of the sky
He stole the hardness of the frosty ground.
And made his skin.

By Andrew Hopkins

Wanted

Children are keen to bring in crutches and walking sticks which people have finished with and we will return them to the hospital. Our children want to help out in this way so please point them in the right direction and we will collect them up so they can be used again.

Fleecy Uniform Tops

We have a number of Fleecy Uniform tops in the office. If your child has lost theirs, please ask them to come to the office for a replacement. If they are named, we will return them to their owner.

Return to Work

'return2work' offers a one week part time programme which will

equip you with the skills, knowledge and confidence that are required to get you back into your career of choice. To find out more visit www.return2work.co.nz

Parenting Programme

Parenting through separation
– the last course for 2008 starts 6th Nov. 2 sessions held monthly. Helps parents focus on the needs of their children & making the best parenting arrangements.

Conscious Parenting
Starts Nov 12th. A 6 week programme that strengthens relationships through communication, self-awareness and strategies for positive parents.

Creative Parenting
Making family life less stressful and more enjoyable.
Enquiries to Barnados
Ph 471 4330
Otago.amu@barnardos.org.nz

For Sale

Baby rats for sale at \$10 each to go to good homes .They are great family pets and will be ready for their new homes on 3rd November. Ph 455 9212

Junior Golf at Chisholm Park Golf Club

Junior Golf Classes on Tuesday's after school. 30 min golf classes – new and experienced golfers. 4 weeks starting Tues Oct 21st. \$25

Sat afternoons 4 weeks starting Nov 1st, \$25.
Parent & child classes too.

Phone 455 0565 for more information

Highlights

Wk1- School Athletic Sports + Visit from the Indian Cultural Group.
Wk2- Class Kayaking + Social Studies Challenge.

Diary Dates

Tuesday 21st October -9.00 - 12.30 Rm 15 kayaking
Wednesday 22nd October – Rm 11 Kayaking for the day.
Wednesday 22nd October, 6.15 – 8.00pm – Ten Teams x 3 at Social Studies Quiz at Macandrew Int Hall.
Friday 24th October, 2.15pm – R16 assembly
Monday 27th October – LABOUR DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED.
Wednesday 29th + Thursday 30th October – Children's ICT days at Tahuna and Musselburgh Schools.
Friday 31st October, 2.00pm Rm 26 Assembly + Rotary Park Jump Jam Item.
Monday 3rd November – Life Education Sessions commence for Year 8 classes.
Tuesday 4th November, 9.00 - 10.00am Norm Hewitt to talk on – “One of the Family “ – Organised by SPCA.
Wednesday 5th November – Sth Zone Athletics Sports.
Friday 7th November – Rm 23 Assembly
Monday 17th November - 21st November Marae Week for Year 7 children.
Tuesday 18th November – Otago Athletic Championships.
Wednesday 10th December 7.00 – 9.00pm – School Performance at the University of Otago College of Education Auditorium.
Friday 19th December – School Finishes for the year.