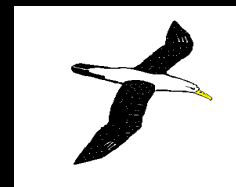


Tahuna News



Welcome

It has been an incredible year and my lasting impression of 2009 at Tahuna – is wow – this school really hums! As a school we provide a tremendous amount of opportunities for our students to take part in and experience - a very wide range of activities from academic, sporting and cultural disciplines.

Students at Tahuna really enjoy and embrace these opportunities and as you will have noticed from our newsletters this year many have succeeded to the highest level

It is the fact that so many Tahuna students rise to the challenge and participate fully in the activities provided that is the most important factor – giving their best, to achieve to the best of their ability – and that in itself is the determining factor of being successful – being the best you can be. This is the example that we constantly strive to provide at Tahuna and is exemplified in every facet of our school life – our students do this incredibly well and we should feel proud that they do so.

It does not just happen - it takes hard work from a supportive, creative, skilled and committed team of teachers to bring that out and foster it in the school environment – tonight on behalf of you all I thank our wonderful teachers and staff for all their great work throughout the year.

Thank you to the many Tahuna parents and caregivers who have provided so much valued selfless support to our school and its programmes throughout the year –

without you many of the opportunities and challenges we provide simply could not happen – Thank you for your valued support.

On behalf our school community I'd like to say a "big" thank you to our Board of Trustees for their wonderful work during the year – a lot of it that goes largely unnoticed but is so vital in ensuring that Tahuna functions and provides such a great education to its students.

Finally I would like to express our thanks to every Tahuna student – you have been fantastic at upholding our school values of – Respect Responsibility Creativity and Success. You have been an awesome group and I know that the Year 8s will go onto Secondary school and represent themselves and Tahuna well next year.

To the Year 7s I know that you will step up and receive the mantle of leadership and be exemplary role models to our new students next year.

All the best for the holiday break – have a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

Tony Hunter
Principal

Congratulations

Dance

Grace Dillion's entry (with Aisha and Jenny) won the Junior Choreography Cup at the annual Dunedin School of Ballet and Dance Competition.

Here they are with the trophy. Grace also achieved Merit in her Grade 5 Royal Academy of Dance examinations



Speech

Cameron Shearer, Room 11 has passed his Trinity College Speech and Drama Grade 5 with Merit.

Key Diary Dates

Thursday 10th December – Rm 13 kayaking a.m. and Rm 14 kayaking p.m.

Thursday 10th December 10.25 – Thankyou Morning Tea for 2009 Adult Helpers.

Friday 11th December 10.45 – 12.30 Top Class - reports go home.

Monday 14th December – 10.00 – 3.00 Yr 8's at skating and salt water pool - 1.00 -3.00 Yr 7's at Moana Pool.

Tuesday 15th December 2.00pm Prize giving in the school hall.

Wednesday 16th December 12.00 – school finishes for the year.

2010 Dates

Monday 1st Feb - Teacher Only Day, 2.00 - 3.00pm - Classes announced and meet the teacher.

Tuesday 2nd February - 1st day of school for 2010

Multicultural Group perform at Graduation



On Saturday we met at the Robbie Burns Statue to get ready for our performance in front of 1,000 graduates. As soon as everyone was there we went over to the Town Hall and had a quick practice and then got ready to perform. Then, we all got into our lines and the organiser came and got us.

At 4 o'clock we entered the Town Hall and were surprised to see so many people waiting for us to perform. We sang our opening number and our special song for the graduates was sung by Sophie and Britta.



Finally, the haka boys performed and they scared everyone. We got a HUGE ovation. It was an awesome experience.

- Sydney, Ashleigh And Vicki Room1

Y.I P. Awards

The following have been successful in receiving their awards at recent assemblies.

Gold Bar

Josephine Devereux
Sashika Hendry
Sarah Hepburn

Gold

Hannah van Plateringen
Kate Gardner
Trent Johnston

Silver

Andrew Soper
Damin McCabe
Thomas Woods
Josh Finnie
Joshua Bromell
Shannon Meredith
Georgia Te Au
Madison Kuru
Emma Lyon
Raymond Hua
Laura Anderson
Connor McIntyre
Nathaniel Otley
Serena Tapsell

Weekly Highlights for Term 4

- Wk 1- School Athletic Sports
- Wk 2- ODT Extra Social Studies Quiz.
- Wk 3 – Life Education Bus sessions
- Wk 4 – South Zone Athletics and Deca Day.
- Wk 5 - Preparations for the Otago Athletic Championships.
- Wk 6 – Marae Week for Our Year 7 children.
- Wk 7 – kayaking.
- Wk 8 – Incentives Camp
- Wk 9 – “Memories of 2009”

Letting us Know

Children are asked to see Mr Hutton if they have 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

Beach Education



Mikayla Halford-Feron enjoys a bracing dip

On Monday Room 24 & 10 went to the beach and when we got there we went to a room and watched a DVD about rules for the beach. We learnt 10 rules to be safe there. When it was done the life guard took Room 24 to look at the stuff, they use to help people and room10 went to see what they use in the water to get people. Then we swapped. Then we had play lunch and Room 24 sat on the beach to eat and room 10 sat on the field. After play lunch we learnt more about the beaches then we lunch and after lunch we played a game and then we had free time in the water or the sand then we went in the changing room and got change and then we walked back to school.

Tahuna takes Golf Title



On Wednesday 2nd December, four boys went up to Belleknowles golf club to play in the interschool golf tournament. They were up against

seventeen year 7/8 teams from around Otago .

The four boys did very well winning by a whopping 10 shots, with a score of 38 over 9 holes. The highlight of the day was Conor just about hitting the clubhouse.

Dance



The novice dance group go through their practice at the College auditorium in preparation for the performance of "Memories of 2009"

Futsal

Tahunas' first year in the Interschool Futsal competition and what a year. In term 1 we had 3 teams. By term 4 this number had grown to 8 and this consisted of 4 boys squads and 4 girls squads. The competition was of a high standard and it took a couple of weeks for the teams to adapt to the disciplines of this fast, furious and exciting sport.

By finals night however The Tahuna Others and The Dominators had made it through to the finals in the Boys and Girls competition respectively. The Others finished runner up in their category and the Dominators after being down 2 goals midway through the second half scored three late goals to walk away with the title.

Parent support was excellent particularly on finals night and Tahuna can look forward with confidence to the 2010 competitions in this exciting new venture for our

many talented young soccer players.

Year 8 Sexuality

All Year 8 classes will have completed the 2 Day Sexuality programme with Gayna McConnell, from Family Planning. Feedback from both staff and students has been extremely positive and we do hope students are discussing what was covered, at home. We have been most impressed and appreciative of Gayna's efforts in delivering this programme.



It is all go in Mr Boyes technology room over lunch times.

Drama Room Donations

We are having a major overhaul in the Drama Room and looking at what costumes to retain, repair or toss! Students enjoy dressing up in costume for assemblies, syndicate performances, inquiry tasks, videoing, etc, so it is a room that is frequently visited. If you have any costumes, wigs, clothing or props you think would be of use in the Drama Room, please send these along to the office. We would be most grateful.

Multicultural Update

Last Wednesday, a large contingent from the Multicultural group performed at the Nations Church, for almost a hundred elderly members of the South Dunedin Community. The group entertained for an hour and a half, not only sharing cultural items, but also presenting talents from within the group. Items ranged from dance, to

gymnastics, to speech, orchestral pieces, rakou, etc. It was a special time for both performers and the audience.

On Saturday, a small Kapa Haka representation gave a very rousing performance with Mr Hokianga, at the University Graduation Ceremony, in the Town Hall. Every child gave their best, looked smart in Tahuna uniform and really were a credit to Tahuna. Well done and thank you to the parents who supported in various ways.

Practice for Memories of 2009 Performance



With around 200 children involved in the end of year show it was a slick operation to get all groups through in the morning practice session.

Visit by John Whelan

Room 14 were treated to a visit by John Whelan, on Thursday, after a student had made contact as part of a Letter Writing module. John had the children fascinated when he showed and explained all the racing gear he wears and uses.

He was most interesting and we were also thrilled to learn he is an ex Tahuna student. We will definitely be watching his progress in the world of racing and remember his words of advice "to always have good manners, as it is something that costs you nothing, but can get you far in life, especially when interacting out in the real world!"

TAHUNA TWINS

Don't worry if you thought you were seeing double or hearing the same surnames. Yes! Tahuna has nine sets of twins this year, as well as our Art specialist, Mrs Whitson.



Seen here in the front row are: SAM & JOSHUA TINDLEY, ZAC & KATE GARDNER, GEORGIA & MICHAEL HATTON.

In the second row we have: BRITTANY & ZOE RICHARDS, MRS WHITSON, KURTIS & ASTRID HAANEN, BEN & FIONA HARPER.

In the back row we have SHANATEL & SHANEL MAUAURI, BREEANA & JAMES RICHARDSON and KAYLA & COURTNEY DRINKWATER.

FOR SALE

Otago Girls High School Summer uniforms, jerseys and vests. Phone Sharon PH 4544257

Want to Play Guitar in 2010?



After a great start this year, 4Front School of Guitar will be offering guitar classes at Tahuna Intermediate again in 2010. We'll be expanding the lessons to focus more on electric/rock guitar styles as well as continuing to cater for acoustic guitarists.

For more information please go to www.schoolofguitar.co.nz or call Tim Davis on 489 5959.

A List of Tahuna's Celebrations for 2009 as on 5th December

- Activ8 photography – 1st
- Art Competitions – Numerous winners and place getters in local/Otago/NZ competitions. Athletics Otago Championships - 16 x 1sts , 5 x 2nds and 16 x 3rds.
- Athletics - South Zone Championships – Numerous qualifiers for Otago Championships
- Australian Mathematics Westpac Awards 8 x Distinctions and 26 x Credits. Australasian Computer Exam - 3 x Distinctions + 5 x Credits
- Australasian English Exam – 2 x High Distinctions + 8 Distinctions + 15 Credits
- Australasian Mathematics Exam - 3 x Distinctions + 24 Credit
- Australasian Science Exam - 5 x Distinctions + 7 x Credits
- Australasian Spelling Exam – 1 x High Distinction, 8 x Distinctions and 9 x Credits.
- Badminton – Interschool Competition – Boys 1st and Girls 1st .
- Blind Appeal – 76 children collected for this cause.
- Blue Light Police Physical Challenge [Dunedin] – 2nd fastest time overall with 20 teams competing for the school.
- Cancer Appeal - A whole school Fundraiser.
- Cross Country - Otago Championships – 1st and 2nd Yr 7 Girls and 1st Yr8 Boys.
- Cross Country - Otago Intermediate Team Trophy - Runners up
- Golf – Intermediate Schools Golf Tournament - First
- Futsal - [Indoor Soccer] – 1st in the girls Division and 2nd in the Boys.
- Kayaking – Yr 7's Pool training and Yr8's open water experience.
- Literacy Quiz [Otago] – 1st + 3rd .Attended NZ Lit Quiz Final in Auckland and placed 5th in NZ.
- Netball [Girls] – won two division, 2nd in one division and third in three divisions.
- NZ U14 Girls Futsal Team - 1
- NZ U13 Koru Basketball Squad Representatives - 2
- NZ Post Book Quiz – 1st, 2nd and 3rd .
- NZ Speech Board, Speech and Drama – 1 x Honours plus , 1 x Honours + 1 x Merit Plus + 1 x Merits + 1 x Credits plus ODT Extra Social Studies Quiz – 1st and 2nd.
- ODT Extra Short Story Writing

- Competition, Yr 7+ 8 Section - 1st.
- ODT Extra Spelling Quiz 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th.
- ODT Extra Newspaper for Children – Many pieces of TNIS children's work published throughout the school year.
- Otago Hatch Cup Hockey Representatives – 4
- Otago Ice Hockey Representatives - 2
- Otago Gymnastics Titles - 2
- Otago Collier Hockey Representatives - 2
- Otago Metropolitan Boys Rugby Representatives – 23
- Otago Boys Rugby Representatives – 6
- Otago Boys Soccer Representatives – 10
- Otago Speech Competition Yr 7 - 1st
- Otago Rippa Rugby Yrs 7 + 8 - Winners
- Otago Robo Cup Winners
- Otago Science Fair - 24 Awards
- Otago Softball Representatives – 2
- Otago Girls Soccer Representatives - 4
- Otago Athletics - Y8 Competition – 2nd
- Otago Water Polo Yr 7 +8 Competition - 2nd
- Public Performances [many] -Dance, Multicultural, Orchestra and Choir
- Public speaking – Dunedin Lions
- Speech Competition - Yr 7 winner .
- Rippa Rugby - 21 teams
- Rugby - Yr 8 Competition - 1st and Year 7 competition – 2nd
- Softball Yr 7+Yr 8 – 1st
- University of Otago Classics Cup Competition – 2nd
- World Vision - Many children were involved in the 40 Hour Famine .

Cricket

Josh Finnie (captain) and Tad Johnston have been named in the Dunedin Metro Cricket team to play in the South Island Primary Schools Tournament in Alexandra in January 2010. We wish them success in their games.

Kayaking

Room 1 getting ready for kayaking at Mac Andrew Bay.

