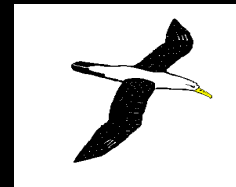


Tahuna News



Welcome

Tahuna athletes have once again competed to an extremely high level at last weeks South Zone Athletics Sports. It was great to see all Tahuna students participating so well - they were a credit to themselves and the school, exemplifying the values of good sportspersonship and fair play, giving it their all and at the same time respecting the efforts of their co-competitors. Well done Tahuna.

The Otago Athletic Sports will be held next Tuesday the 17th November and Tahuna will have 28 relay teams competing across age groups and up to 80 athletes vying for Otago titles in individual track and field events. They will be up against the best from schools all around Otago and I am sure they will enjoy the fierce competition. We will keep you posted on their successes and wish them all the best.



Above: the girls relay team storm home to finish 1, 2 . 3.

Life Education

The work our Year 7 & 8 students have covered in the Life Education Bus programme covers important issues, and hopefully all students will be able to reflect and be in a better position to make good decisions throughout their lives.

Very Good ERO Review

The Board of Trustees and Education Review Office met on the Friday after their review visit 2 weeks ago and gave an **extremely positive** initial findings report about the school. They highlighted eight areas of high performance in particular –

- **Relationships** – the positive culture in the school;
- The **Learning environment** – children's work and effort celebrated,
- The **High Quality Teaching Practice** - Students involved in their learning, knowing their next steps and reflecting on their learning;
- The **Technology** area – many children reporting that it was a highlight for them.
- **Diverse Experiences** – the wide range of learning experiences available at Tahuna
- **Learning support** – high quality learning support in place for student's needing extra support.
- **Student wellbeing** – student's feel safe and the behaviour management is positive.
- **Integrated learning** – the school curriculum is

integrated and working well across the school.

These are just some snippets of the feedback so far received and the Board is awaiting the first written draft that will be discussed and commented on. After this consultation process, the official report will be issued probably at the beginning of 2010.

Tony Hunter
Principal

Life Education.



Recently, the Year 8 classes have been going to the life education bus with Jacki Allison to learn about drugs and alcohol. We have watched three documentaries about people, who have had life with drugs and teenagers who drink alcohol. Some of the people in these documentaries were as young as 14 and were starting drugs, drinking lots of alcohol and leaving important things like school and family.

We were taught about the effects drugs have on our body and what it does to your intelligence, emotion, memory, concentration, reason and judgement. Jacki taught us about the web of addiction and if you ever take drugs she talked about how hard it can be to get out. After learning about this many of us are

sure we will never ever get caught in the web.

By Jessica

Congratulations

Fundraising for Samoa

Recently, I heard that Ruby Craig had given up her time over Labour Weekend to go into town to do some busking to raise money for those suffering in Samoa. Positioning herself out side the Meridian she played her repertoire of around ten tunes on her cello to those passing by. She must have been good as she collected \$104 for her entertaining. Later, this money was handed over to a grateful Alofa Lale. Well done Ruby.

Mountain Biking

Over the last weekend of the holidays Josh Mc Combie attended the Secondary School Downhill Mountain Bike Champs in Blenheim and successfully won his age group. A fine result.

Dance

Dance results are out and it was great to read that Erin McHenry had passed her Grade 4 Jazz Examination with Honours. Well done.

Isaac Chirnside received a Distinction for his grade 7 tap dancing Examination. When further questioned he informed me that he had had all Distinction passes on previous exams so is doing very well with his tap.

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

Y.I.P. Awards

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

Gold Bar + Bar James Richardson

A rather special achievement for James as he has accrued 35 blue cards to date from a variety of efforts in numerous school activities and events.

Gold
Imone Mukhopadhyay

Silver
Katie Galvin
Jesse Dryden
Maddy Doran
Matawai Nicolls -uiti

Super Technology work



Connor Casey – Gallagher completed his truck project at technology which illustrated several moving parts.

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.

Diary Dates.

Wednesday 11th November –
Choir Interchange Day with

Balmacewen Int School and life Education Sessions continue with our Yr 8 classes.

Monday 16th November – Marae Week for Year 7 children commences and finishes with an Marae Assembly on the Friday.

Monday 16th November. – Room 14 off to climb at Long Beach.

Tuesday 17th November - Otago Athletic Championships and Room 12 climbing at Long Beach.

Wednesday 18th November – Room 11 climbing at Long Beach.

Monday 23rd November – Room 15 out Kayaking and a.m. Rooms 1 + 6 out on Bush Study.

Tuesday 24th November – day at Bayfield High School for children attending this school in 2010.

Wednesday 25th November, 10.30 – 12.00 Multi-cultural Group to perform at Nations Church in South Dunedin.

Thursday 26th November – Room 11 out Kayaking and 7.00 - 8.00 Room 10 assembly in hall.

Friday 27th November – Room 11 Assembly .

Monday 30th November – Melbourne High School orchestra and big band to perform to the school

Wednesday 2nd December – Room 1 out Kayaking.

Tuesday 8th December – End of Year Performance at the University of Otago College of Education Auditorium.

**2010 Enrolments are arriving at the school in good numbers.
Thankyou .**

To date I have made contact with many parents of children coming to us next year. Thank you very much for making the time to share information on your child so that we can start thinking about 2010 class formation. The pile of enrolments is decreasing and I hope to complete my interviews over the next two weeks. If you want to talk to me about enrolment matters then

please ring me at school on Ph 4553994.

Very soon I will be visiting contributing schools and talking to Year six teachers and Principals about children in our new intake.

Keith Hutton

Indian dance



Imone Mukhopadhyay captivated pupils at Caversham school recently, when she performed a classical Indian dance.

Looking stunning in her traditional costume, she performed again later at the Tahuna Assembly.

The audience gave her their full attention and generously applauded her superb effort.

South Zone Hurlers



It was very pleasing to see the hurdlers who had trained well getting places at South Zone. With 36 spots available for our age groups at the Champs it was a thrill to see Tahuna filling 28 of them.

Many have kicked on and are polishing their style and starts and should benefit from the extra effort next Tuesday.

Those in throws, jumps, sprints and relays are also training hard for the tough competition they will encounter next week at the Caledonian Grounds.

Show Jumping



See above Grace McIntyre competing on her pony Milo at the Mosgiel Pony Club Show, held at Wingatui on 25th October.

She won first place in the 50cm show-jumping event and was awarded Reserve Champion in the dressage section.



Water Polo

Well! what an exciting weekend we have just had!!! The team played really well and qualified for the semi-finals but lost to the top Balmacewen team. Then they met Southland Boys in the play off for 3rd/4th and unfortunately lost after a well fought game.

By Sunday all the teams knew to mark Ryan and the goals he landed for 2 days from anywhere, he missed on Sunday by a couple of centimetres. Other team members

also scored a few goals and were great in defence and setting Ryan up. The children were a pleasure to be with, really well behaved and very determined.

Girls Cricket



On Monday 9th November our cricket team was lucky enough to have Matt Harvie (former Tahuna pupil) and Warren McSkimming, two Otago Volt members come and teach us some cricket skills.



What's happening in Year 7?



Marae Week

Next week is the highlight of the year for Year 7 students with our Marae Week. This week involves all children learning about Tikanga (Maori Customs / Culture). Presently students are involved in learning their Mihimihi which they will share during their class Powhiri.

Other activities include going to the Otago Museum, learning the haka, making poi, flax weaving, tukutuku panels and finally on Friday sharing a hangi.

The week concludes with a 2.00pm assembly showcasing events from the five days of studies and activities.

All parents are most welcome to attend.

Beach Ed

The following week is Beach Education Week and all Year 7 classes will be spending a day at St Kilda Beach learning about safety and beach skills. It is vital we have parent support for these sessions as there is a strict adult to child ratio. Please let us know if you are able to assist with this.

Bike Safety at School

Please ensure your child locks up his/her bike as it is the time for lots of wandering youths. I have just asked three young lads to leave our bike shed where they were checking out the bikes.

Master Chef a Success



Back – Joseph Mc Auley, Mr Michael Coughlin and Katrina Hansen.

Front row – Ashleigh Keen – Burrow, Madalyn Fox and Nickie Thomson.

On Friday the 6th November we had the final of the Tahuna Normal Intermediate Master Chef Competition.

The competitors were given a list of different ingredients they could choose from to make their two dishes, a main course and a dessert. They were allowed to bring three items from home, and had to come up with something really exciting and different.

We were very fortunate to have a celebrity chef guest judge come in and judge to determine our school champion. Chef Michael Coughlin asked heaps of hard questions and the competitors did exceptionally well.

Our overall winner was **Joseph McAuley** who made a marinated chicken breast and a crème brulee. **Katrina Hansen** was the top year 8 student and **Nickie Thomson and Madalyn Fox** were the pair who took the top year 7 students award.

This was a first for Tahuna and we were delighted with all the boys and girls who participated in the heats and made this competition a big success.

Year 8 Rock Climbing

When you're twenty metres up in the air, it's pretty scary stuff. As part of our Outdoor Education programme the year 8's have been scrambling up rock faces at long beach. Under the close supervision of Dunedin climbing legend Dave Brash we have been challenging ourselves on heights of over 20 metres.

We were tightly harnessed onto the rock face so there was no chance of falling and our friends were below us belaying so there was a huge amount of trust needed. When we were half way up the rock face it got harder because you got tired and there weren't as many foot and handholds. The weather was great and we had a wonderful day. More classes are out next week and we are sure they will have a fantastic time.

A huge thanks you to all the parents who have given up their time to help out.

By Connor and Ryan- Room 1

