



## Principal's Portal

Dear Parents/Guardians

### Athletics Day – thanks everyone

We were certainly lucky with the weather on Tuesday for our annual Year 1-13 athletics day! A great day with an exceptional turn out of parents and members of the community to support our school and students. I wish to sincerely thank parents for their support on the day. I was overwhelmed by the way in which everyone pitched in to support the smooth running of the events; on behalf of Waiau Area School please accept our gratitude.

It was a pleasure as always to have Hauroko Valley and Blackmount students, parents and staff partake in the day. This is a great social and competitive opportunity for our students and also builds great relations amongst our community.

I wish to congratulate the students who once again made us proud. Your participation and contribution was commendable. It was great to see many students get into the House spirit by coming dressed in their House colours; they made a great spectacle.

A special mention to Sophie Unahi who broke a record on Athletics Day in high jump. Congratulations to you Sophie; you are a very talented athlete.

### Students Off Site

Of late we have had a few of students who have taken it upon themselves to leave the school grounds. We do not endorse students leaving the school grounds without permission and this causes great threat to our health and safety obligations. I am most grateful for members of the community who have contacted the school to inform of us of students "up the street". We thank you for your communications.

We have taken the liberty to include the revised procedure for students leaving the school premises for your information.

### Busy Busy

Our sporting fixtures are well underway with our year 7-13 students who qualified in three or more Athletics events attending Menzies next week. Our other up and coming events include swimming sports and cross

county along with interschool competitions for these. It is always a chocka-block term which adds to the excitement for our students. We value how sports is an imperative part of development and encourage sporting opportunities for our students. We thank Mrs Tania Egerton and Mr Richard Bennett for their commitment to organising and coordinating these events.

### Proposed Teachers Only Day

I wish to give parents a heads up that a Teachers Only Day **could** be held on Tuesday 27 March. The NZQA are hosting a NCEA moderation day for all of Southland and Otago NCEA teachers in Dunedin. It is necessary for our teachers to attend and upskill on best practice. To align with this day our Year 1-8 teachers will engage in professional development with Mrs Helen Campbell (Resource Teacher of Literacy) around spelling.

The reason this day is currently tentative is that on Friday 2 March (when I attend the Southland Secondary Schools Principal Network Meeting) we will be discussing the possibility of networking a key moderation day in Southland. I will be able to confirm this date in the Friday 9 March edition of the newsletter.

Have a super weekend.

Noho ora mai (stay well).

Maryse Anderson-Kereti

Principal

## From the Office

### Welcome ...

A huge welcome to Cheryl Wilson-Sadler (class 9/10AC) who has come to us this week from Southland Girls. We hope you enjoy your time here at WAS Cheryl.

### **\*\* IMPORTANT INFORMATION – PLEASE READ \*\***

Parents / Caregivers – Please let us stress the importance of the following:

- Being made aware of your child's absence due to illness / appointment / other reason;
- Your child signing-in if arriving to School late;
- All Visitors to the School signing-in in the Visitor's Book when coming on to School grounds;

- Your child officially signing out when leaving the School grounds **(so long as a signed note from home is presented, and YES, we will check with home if the note looks like a dodgy forgery!)**

We are not just being the Attendance Police when saying we need this information.

One of the main reasons for requiring this information is **IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY**. When the fire alarms are sounded, the first things we grab are the Visitor's Book, the Student Sign-In/Sign-Out book, and our Emergency Folder with full Class Rolls. When we assemble at the cricket pitch and your child is absent but we have not been officially notified, as far as we (and Emergency Services) would be concerned, we need to actively search for your child. As you can imagine that has the potential to place lives at risk in a real emergency situation.

Please people, we are only trying to protect your child's safety ... and our safety.

**NEWSLETTER DAY OF PUBLICATION is now Fridays. Please notify the Office if you would like it emailed instead of hard copy. All notices to the office by noon Thursday.**

## Relief Teacher Aides & Cleaners Needed

We would like to build up our pool of relievers for the above two positions here at school. If you would be at all interested in being on call to relieve please register your interest with Gillian in the School Office. We look forward to hearing from you.

## From the Student Council

This week has been a rather proactive week as we had a wonderful athletics day on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>. There was a great turn-out with the participation of many Waiau Area School students.

Congratulations to Sophie Unahi, for the third year in a row breaking her age group record in high jump. Also congratulations Longwood for gaining the most House points at the end of the day.

Overall, we have had a great active week.

*Kind regards, Simon, Max, Hollee, Nicola,  
Logan & Jessica (Student Council)*

## From the Lead Managers

**From Mr Paul Anderson-Kereti ...**

### Athletic Sports

A huge congratulations to all students who participated in Tuesday's Athletic Sports Day. It was fantastic to see the amazing skills and efforts of the competitors and the superb high standard of behaviour on and off the field. Thanks to the many parent supporters and helpers who made the day run smoothly. A huge round of applause to Mr Bennett and Mrs Egerton, for their overall organisation of a successful day.

### Western Athletics

Western Athletic Sports will take place on Tuesday 20 March at Takitimu School. The team will be announced and children will receive a further newsletter once the final placings from Tuesdays Athletics are confirmed.

### SwimSafe

This week saw the start of an intensive swimming programme for the children in the Junior School. Provided by Swim New Zealand with the help of Sport Southland and Southern REAP, this experience will allow students up to year 6 to receive 10 swimming lessons. We are thankful to have Mrs Anna White who will be overseeing the instruction of swimming over the next five weeks. The students are ability grouped across the junior syndicate, with half hour lessons from 12.30 to 2.30pm.

A huge thank you to the amazing parent support we've received in helping with the programme.

### Run, Jump and Throw

Next Wednesday will see the start of the Run, Jump and Throw programme for the children in Rooms 2 and 3. The programme looks at improving the key fundamentals of running, jumping and throwing. The programme will take place over five weeks with the expert guidance of instructor DeeJay Kennedy.

### Hi Viz Vests

We would like to remind the children in the Junior School that Hi Viz Vests must be worn to and from school. If you have lost, are yet to receive, or you need a larger sized vest, please come to the school office.

### Hats

Please ensure your child has access to a school hat for outside play during morning tea and lunch times. The children are required to wear hats whilst outside in terms 1 and 4.

### Lunch

Can you please ensure that your child is armed with ample food throughout the day. We have noted that

students are eating more with the two 5 minute breaks and with the introduction of athletics and swimming.

### Coming Up ..... Kids 4 Kids!

Our syndicate will be participating in the Kids for Kids concert, with Suzanne Prentice, on Tuesday 15 May at the Civic Theatre in Invercargill. We are excited about this great learning experience for our year 1 to 6 students. We will be joined on stage with four other Southland schools. This will prove to be a wow event for the syndicate. On the morning of the concert, the children will attend a dress rehearsal at the theatre from 9.00am-12.30pm with the two hour extravaganza beginning at 7.30pm. A further notice on pupil participation and parent permission will be issued soon.

### Junior Noticeboard

Check out our informative noticeboard in the Junior corridor opposite Room 3's doorway. The Junior Noticeboard gives an opportunity for you to see 'what's happening' in the Junior School.

*Paul AK, LM Yr1-6*

### From Mrs Helen Ward ...

I would like to commend the students in yr7-10 classes for the outstanding turn out on sports day. There was 100% attendance from three classes with only one student away in the fourth class. What fun the day was and this only happens with positive participation from the students. It was great to see so many dressed up in House colours too.

At Middle School assembly this week the students in years 7 and 9 will be given dictionaries from the Rural Women's Institute. A dictionary is a wonderful gift to give and it is hoped these dictionaries will become a working resource for the students at school.

A representative from the Gideons will also hand out bibles to the students in yr9. While all might not agree with this we do allow this to happen and it is then up to each parent/caregiver to talk to their child regarding this gift.

Please refer to the following School Procedure with regards to students leaving school grounds. This should only happen on very rare occasions as the school provides a canteen for morning tea and lunch. Students who are down the street will be asked to show their green card.

We still have the Dental Bus at school and students from yrs7/8 are being seen at the moment.

Year 7-10 classes are swimming now and students are reminded to bring their togs as well as PE gear to school.

The middle school staff are very pleased with the number of children completing their homework. Please let your child's homeroom teacher know if there are any concerns in this area.

*Helen Ward, LM Yr7-10*

### From Mr Steven Mustor ...

#### Athletics Day

Thanks so much to the senior students who attended and competed at Athletics on Tuesday. You set a great example to the younger students, competing with a good sense of humour but more importantly, extremely competitively. Next step is to compete even harder at the next athletics event. Shame about the relay result though (I guess the staff were a little quicker than you thought).

#### Waka Ama

Mr Bennett and Mr Pearce's PE and Technology Level 1 students have been engaged in the Waka Ama programme. It's great to see our staff making connections with the wider community and creating exciting learning opportunities for the students. I know that the staff in the senior school will continue to plan activities like this throughout the year.

*Steven Mustor, LM Yr11-13*

## SCHOOL PROCEDURE —

### Permission to leave the school grounds for a short period of time.

**Purpose:** To ensure the health and safety of students at Waiau Area School (NAG 5)

**Procedure:**

- A student who is required to leave the school grounds must have a signed note from their parent/guardian.
- The note must be sighted by a Lead Manager and countersigned.
- Students must present this note to the school office where authorisation takes place. (Cellphone texts will not be justified as authentic. Parents may contact the Office to give permission.)
- A student will be granted a green card that they must visually display whilst out in public. (One card per student.)
- Upon returning to school the student must sign back in at the School Office.

Valid reasons for leaving the school premises include: Doctor's appointment; bus students being required to pick up items for their parents, etc. Going to buy lunch is not appropriate when we provide a canteen service.

## Waka Ama

On Friday 17 February, Year 11 PE/Tech students experienced their first taste of Waka Ama as part of an NCEA Achievement Standard, "Safety in the Outdoors". Experienced paddlers from Oraka Aparima Runaka Inc introduced the students to the traditional sport, and their crazy dog Charlie, on a beautiful sunny day at Te Wae Wae Lagoon.

On arrival at the lagoon, Karina and Tane showed the team how to rig up the 6-man outrigger canoe and before long the first crew were on the water. After a few practice sessions to ensure a decent paddling rhythm, a challenge was thrown down - a time-trial sprint; boys vs girls! The boys set a quick pace of 2mins 38s and were confident of taking the bragging rights but the girls showed great determination and teamwork, paddling as one, and cruised home in 2mins 31s!

Karina and Tane were impressed with the superb effort and performance of the Y11 group and are looking forward to more fun on the water on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations to paddlers Cody Campbell, Grace Drain, Coleen Ebron, Marissa Johnston, Angus Porteous, Quinn Rodgers, Sophie Unahi and Ngahere West. A huge thank you to Quinton and Dorothy at the Waiau Hotel for the loan of their courtesy coach, and to Karina and Tane for an "oarsome" day!

*Mr Bennett*

## Teacher Aide Wanted

Applications are sought for the position of Teacher Aide for a high needs student. The work involves working on a one on one basis and supporting the student in class. The applicant must have an ability to maintain firm boundaries and support the student in transitioning to school life. The position is for 15 hours per week, Monday to Friday, term time only. There could be a possibility that the appointee may be granted 10 extra hours to work as a teacher aide in other areas of the school.

There are no specific requirements to become a teacher aide, but a relevant qualification such as a certificate in teacher aiding or learning support, and relevant experience, may be preferred.

Please register interest by submitting a letter of application and CV at the school office. Position closes Tuesday 28 February 2012.

## PTA Meeting

Is being held on Wednesday 29 February at 7.30pm in the School Staffroom. All welcome. *Christine Murch*

## Library News

Scholastic Book Club orders for Issue 1 close on Friday 9 March. Catalogues are available in the School Library. Students can hand their order into the office. Scholastic Book Club orders earn the school points which can then be used to purchase resources for the school.

This week in the Library the card game Top Trumps has been popular; the sets we have are Top Gear Stunts, Disney Pixar and Transformers. A description or biography of the item on each card is included, as well as the statistics and numerical data. The cards deliver learning through play, as reading about the facts on the cards, and enhancing memory and maths skills through the use of comparing the data, adds an educational benefit.

**Cool Website:** [www.freerice.com](http://www.freerice.com) is a website where users play various educational, multiple-choice games in order to fight world hunger. For every question the user answers correctly, 10 grains of rice are donated.

*Miss Fraser*

## 2012 Term Timeline

Tuesday 31 January to Thursday 5 April	<b>Term 1, 2012</b>
Monday 27 February	Sexwise yr9-13 students
Thursday 1 March	Maths Level 1 Numeracy
Monday 23 April to Friday 29 June	<b>Term 2, 2012</b>
Monday 16 July to Friday 28 September	<b>Term 3, 2012</b>
Monday 15 October to Friday 7 December	<b>Term 4, 2012</b> (tentative end date)

## Quizzes to get those Brain Cells Moving ...

1. If 5 rabbits eat 12.5 lettuces in 5 days, how many lettuces will 10 rabbits eat in 10 days? (The answer is NOT 25!)
2. When Edward buys some \$8 CDs and some \$11 CDs, he spends exactly \$100. How many CDs did he buy?
3. Three backpackers arrive at a hotel one afternoon. They are charged \$30 for the room, so each one pays \$10.  
In the evening the manager discovers that the charge should only be \$25, so gives the porter the \$5 refund to take up to the backpackers. The porter does some mental arithmetic, and realises that the \$5 cannot be split equally between the backpackers. He decides to give \$3 back to them (each receives \$1) and keep \$2 himself.



Now the backpackers have spent \$27 for the room, and the porter has \$2. These only add to \$29 ... what has happened to the missing dollar out of the \$30 paid to the manager?

Mr Maloney will provide the answers next week ...

## Community Notices

If you have a Community Notice to advertise, please email it through to the school at [newsletters@tcc.school.nz](mailto:newsletters@tcc.school.nz) and we will ensure it goes into our newsletter.

### The SIT Te Reo Maori Course is all go!!

**When:** Tuesday 28 February from 6.00–9.00pm.

**Where:** School Library

Any people who may be interested are welcome to attend (basically to get a feel for things).

### Waiau Star Junior Rugby

#### Registrations 2012 Season

Just a reminder to all parents of new and existing Waiau Star Schoolboy Players, registration were held on Tuesday. If your children are keen to play this season, just flick me an email at [d.fowle@xtra.co.nz](mailto:d.fowle@xtra.co.nz) or text/phone me on 027 5255052.

*Thanks, Debbie Fowle,  
Junior Rugby Coordinator*

Mark your Calendars Now

**THE GREAT  
TUATAPERE  
PLAYCENTRE BAKE  
SALE**


Friday 9th March 2011

 **Time:** 10am – 12noon

**Where:** In front of the Toy  
Library 

Get in quick for some yummy home-made cakes,  
scones, slices and biscuits.

☺ See you all there ☺




## OPEN NIGHT

7-9pm  
WEDNESDAY,  
FEBRUARY 29th  
2012

INVERCARGILL ARMY CENTRE  
FOX STREET

Come see our Unit in action  
Talk to the cadets  
Hear about the training,  
the fun,  
the adventurous experiences  
you would gain by being a  
member of our Unit.



*Disclosure: Information published in this newsletter is at the discretion of the editor.*



## Hands on Science 2012

On Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January I headed up to Dunedin to attend Hands on Science [HoS], a 5-day program held by the University of Otago. At around 2:30, after leading mum up a one-way street the wrong way, I arrived at Arana College for registration & orientation along with roughly 230 other people. I was shown to my



room [209] in Rawhirl [my building] & then by 4:30 everyone was back in the main dining area ready for our first activity, Icebreakers. We walked to go a gym a couple blocks away where we got into small numbered groups & played the sitting game, we then made someone from the group into a superhero using only newspaper. We arrived back at Arana around 5:30, and then at 7, we got back into our groups and ran around Dunedin on a treasure hunt type thing. It was epic.

The next morning we had to go to our projects [for me that was Food Science.] In Food Science, we spent the morning making cheese & natural yoghurt. We held a competition to see who could make the longest cheese line [the whole "don't play with your food" rule was completely thrown out the window.] The winner was a guy called Alex whose cheese was something like 1360mm long! Later that afternoon we had our first snack. For my first snack, myself and 25 others headed off to the Anatomy Museum which is a museum filled with clay, plastic & human body parts...I held a human head & heart! It is used mostly for students studying medicine. After dinner we had a group quiz. Before the quiz started, some of the male red shirts [HoS leaders] held a fashion show which was sooo funny! The quiz took a couple hours and after that we headed to our dorms/floors for a quick floor meeting before heading off to bed.



On Tuesday morning after everyone had got ready and had breakfast we headed back to our projects. At Food Science "Day 2" we were introduced to "Sensory Science". Throughout the morning in sensory science we tasted all sorts of different foods & clear mystery drinks & tried to figure out what flavour they all were. We got given 5 different tester drinks to taste, sweet, sour, bitter, salty and umami [DONT ever try umami! It's so gross and leaves a rotten aftertaste in your mouth for hours!]

We had to taste all sorts of different chocolates and fizzy drinks under red light to see which we thought was the best. Then we had to use blue food colouring to dye each other's tongues and count how many taste buds each other had in 7mm...if you had over 25 you were a super-taster. I had 17. After our morning tea, the Food Science group headed over to the industrial area to



the best Ice-Cream factory in the world! We all got a free tub of ice cream and talked to one of the creators of Bliss, bacteria that helps to keep you healthy. After Lunch we went off to our second snack, it was Botany; we played with all sorts of plants [Venus flytraps etc] and held a few quizzes. That night after tea, we headed off to St David Lecture Theatre to listen to a lecture on earthquakes then off to 'North Ground' sports field to play all sorts of sports/games or just chill out....we got the first ever HoS noise control notice!

On Wednesday we headed back to our projects. We made our own yoghurt, for a competition and they we all packed into 2 mini vans and headed off the Cadbury Factory. We all went on a tour through the back of the factory, and just as we were about to leave we each received a

bloc of chocolate. In the afternoon, we attended our third and final snack. I had 'careers'. We went and seen more body parts [man smokers lungs are black!! And brains of people who have suffered strokes are quite 'WOW'.] In the evening we wandered down to Logan Park for a Wet 'n' wild night. We had tug-a-wars and waterslides and all sorts of games that got you dirty. The fire bridge was also there with the truck to get us drenched.

On Thursday we headed off for our last day at our projects. First we got the results for the yoghurt competition. My pineapple and mango yoghurt won [which is ironic considering I don't eat either pineapple or mango.] In the afternoon we made ice-cream using liquid nitrogen and ate it while writing up our presentation for Friday morning. We ran around taking photos for the rest of the afternoon at food science. That afternoon we headed into town for a couple hours. When we arrived back at Arana, we headed up to Rawhirl 2, to practise our dance routine one last time before the disco that night. Later that night after dinner we got ready and headed out to the new 'Forsyth Barr' Rugby Stadium for our disco. Did you know that the Forsyth Barr Stadium has smiley faces in the bottom of its seat cup holders?! So awesome! Throughout the disco, each floor took turns performing their dances. Around 11:30pm we headed back to Arana and we all 'hit-the-hay' around 12:30am.



Friday morning was a busy morning! I was up at 5:30am to get everything packed before breakfast. At around 9:30 everyone headed back to St David Lecture Theatre. One-by-one each project group gave their presentation on what they had done over the week, everyone received their group photo and the other bits-n-bobs, then by 12 everyone was back at Arana for lunch or to pick up their gear before they left. At around 1:00 I said my goodbyes and headed on my way home.

Overall it was an amazing experience, I met some great guys from all across New Zealand and I learnt a lot! Thanks to Miss Collett for the opportunity and the School for the funding.

Nicola Diack