



Principal's Portal

Dear Parents/Guardians

Area Schools Tournament

I had the opportunity to go to The Catlins on Wednesday to see our students participate in the Area Schools Tournament. It was so pleasing to see our students engaging in positive social and sporting interaction. The students were alive with this experience. It was also great to see the Adams family present and supporting our school.

I would like to say a huge congratulations to our senior students who participated in the tournament. A notable mention goes to our students who were selected to represent the South of the South region at the National Area Schools Tournament:

- Simon Van Dam, Max Baldwin, Brad Hammond, Travis Proud, Logan McLean, Lewis Unahi, Floyd Pipson, Logan Borthwick, Sophie Unahi, Hayley Adams & Coleen Ebron.
- Of mention is that our school is well represented in the cohort of students selected overall from the six area schools with 11 students out of a team of 50 selected.

I thank Miss Dickson, Mr Bennett and Mr Anderson in advance for volunteering their time to attend the tournament in the holidays. If you are going to be in Dunedin during the time of 3–6 July then do take the opportunity to go and support our students.

ERO Visit

Last week we had a visit from our ERO officer as part of the longitudinal review process. His role is to follow up from their visit last year to get a measure of the progress we have made over the past term and a half. This exercise gave an opportunity for me to celebrate the progress we have made.

Cross Country Results

Congratulations to our team of budding runners who participated in the Western cross country earlier in the week. To date we are awaiting official confirmation of placings.

Feedback

For the past five weeks Gillian has been collating random feedback from our parent community. I wish to thank families for their contributions. I value your feedback as I believe it helps us to build further on the things that matter and celebrate the things that matter.

There is an old saying that states "Why fix it if it isn't broken?" – well there is a new saying that says "If it isn't broken then fix it!" The mobile phone is a fine example of this concept. There was nothing wrong with the earlier model of the mobile phone but with reflective practice and continual self-review we now have mobile phones out there that are far more superior and advanced. This is the same concept that I wish to model our school on. Thank you for your feedback, I am currently reviewing the trends and I look forward to sharing with you the outcomes. It is important that your opinions are being listened to and that you are aware of this. Gillian will still continue to make

confidential calls to families. To date we have surveyed 30% of our families.

Have a great long weekend everyone.

Noho ora mai (stay well)

Maryse Anderson-Kereti

Principal

From the Office

Historical School Magazines

The School's archive room is currently being cleaned out and guess what we've found? School magazines from as far back as 1987! We've kept what we need for recording purposes but the rest are up for grabs. For those of you who would like to peruse and reminisce about spiral perms and mullets, please feel free to pop in to the office and help yourself to these old magazines. ☺

**** ADVANCED NOTICE – SCHOOL PHOTOS ****

On Tuesday 26 June Geoff Horrell will be at school to take school photos.

As with previous years, class / individual / family / sports team photos will all be taken on the day.

Once processed, proofs will be delivered to school then sent home for parents/caregivers to order if desired.

The cost for a standard pack will be \$25.

**REMINDER: Full School Assembly is held
in the Hall every odd week on
Friday at 8.50am.
Next Full Assembly Friday 8 June.**

From Our Lead Managers

From Mr Steven Mustor

Mid Year Reporting NCEA

At the end of this term we will be reporting to parents on what students have done in class, how well they have achieved and identifying barriers to their learning. This year the reports will feature an NCEA tracking box and an overall level of achievement comment.

The NCEA tracking box will indicate the total number of credits achieved so far, and a statement of whether they are on track to achieve or not. Following this will be a statement of whether the student has "exceeded", "met", "nearly met" or is "at risk" of not achieving the requirements for the course so far. The most important aspect of these NCEA comments is that they are indicative. If a student is "at risk" of not achieving, this does not mean that they will achieve no credits this year. Instead the course comment will indicate what is being done by the teacher to remedy this, or if a

meeting is needed between the student, teacher and parent to address this.

The total number of credits at mid year is likely to appear to be low. There are three reasons for this. The first is that this year, every piece of student assessment has to be internally moderated by another subject teacher. For Waiau Area School this means making a connection with another school and often this takes time to have the grade finalised. The second reason is that in several subjects, students are working towards standards over a long period of time (particularly in research based classes like classics and history). Finally, some subjects have up to 15 credits offered in the external exams at the end of the year. From July students at all levels will be able to track their own progress using the nzqa.govt.nz website.

NCEA Tracking

From June onwards staff will be tracking how students are progressing towards their NCEA goals. This is important information for any school to have. We will be using this data to identify students that need support to pass their course goals. I feel it is important for parents / caregivers to know that you can support your child in achieving their NCEA goals by encouraging them to arrive at class ready to learn (with pen, paper, textbooks etc), attend all classes and finally to talk with them about what they are doing in their classes. My focus as NCEA manager at Waiau Area School, is to ensure that all students achieve their qualification goals, and that there are no surprises for students and parents regarding their level of achievement.

Attendance and Uniform

It seems that students in the senior school are still struggling to see the value of attending their classes and wearing their uniform with pride. Attendance is a vital part of success in learning. Students who attend classes are more likely to perform well in NCEA as they get more teacher contact, receive subject matter at the most appropriate time to their learning, and are able to sit assessment activities.

Wearing your school uniform appropriately is a condition of attending Waiau Area School. It also ensures that you do not have negative conversations with teachers, who are constantly asking you why you have the wrong shoes, or your shirt untucked, or so many piercings.

Steven Mustor, LM Yr11–13

From Mrs Helen Ward

Such a change now that the weather has turned nasty. I would like to ask parents/caregivers to support us in keeping their children occupied during interval and lunch break by allowing them to bring activities to school which will keep them occupied. This might be an extra pair of shoes so they can play out on the fields, on board games for inside time.

As we are halfway through the year a number of students have used the stationery supplies they were required to buy at the start of the year. Can you please check with your child/children that they are well-equipped.

Speech competitions for our zone are early next term, therefore yr7/8 will be working on speeches as of next week. This will follow nicely their creative writing unit that we have been working on.

I would just like to remind parents, caregivers and students, if you bring cellphones to school, they must be handed in at the beginning of each class. If you know that your child is not happy about this, then please support us by asking them to leave their phones at home.

Helen Ward, LM Yr7–10

From Our Students

School Social

Date: Wednesday 6 June (Week 7)
Time: Juniors 4.30-6.30 - Middle/Seniors 7.00-9.30pm
Place: School Hall
Theme: Famous People
Cost: \$5 per person - will include a sausage and bread
Also lollies, chips, fizz and ice tubes will be for sale for \$1.
If you have any queries please contact me at school.

*Kind regards, Miss Jaime Dickson
Head Organiser*

Western Schools Cross Country

We arrived at school and we were really really nervous. Around 10.30am, we had to go to the office and the parents taking us to the event were waiting for us. We piled into the vehicles and headed off to Otautau.

It was pretty chilly when we arrived. There were a lot of people there. We sat down waiting for our race. The 10 year old boys got called up first and Georgia's group was next. After a while, the first boy came through to the finish line. Then the 10 year old girls got called up and I was walking to the start line. The race official had the starter horn ready. He announced 'Ready, Steady, Go!'

Every one pushed but I got in front and I didn't know where to go. So I kept beside another runner during the race. The course was hilly at some places but was not as far as our course here at Tuatapere. When I got to the farm, I went the wrong way but I still found my way to the finish line.

Georgia came 1st in her event and I came 8th in my event. Cheyenne was placed 10th.

We watched the 11 and 12 year old runners after my race. It seemed it only took ten minutes for them to complete the course.

We had a really enjoyable day and we would like to thank the parents and caregivers for their support and Mrs Tania Egerton for coordinating the team.

By Hannah Devery and Georgia Powell

Well done to Lucas Gutsell, Zack Fowle & Coleen Ebron who are the latest recipients of Uniform tokens. These were awarded at last week's Full Assembly. Well done guys!

Nicola Diack, Prefect

From Our Teachers

Area Schools Tournament

The area schools team travelled to Pounawea on Monday after school, ready for the tournament on Tuesday.

We had an early start, having to be in Balclutha at 10am, where we played netball, boys volleyball, and hockey in the morning. Our netballers played very well with two wins and two loses, gaining overall 3rd place. The hockey team went out firing, winning all their games, gaining 1st place. With the boys volleyball, they listened well and improved throughout their games, but unfortunately did not place in the finals.

In the afternoon the boys had their rugby, the girls played volleyball and they had Ultimate Frisbee. The boys played well getting 2nd place, unfortunately losing to the Catlins/Twizel team. The girls improved throughout their games in Volleyball with some wicked serving – no placings in the finals. Ultimate Frisbee, the kids played well and had fun, learning heaps as they went – no official placing.

After our day in Balclutha we went back to Owaka for tea and a disco. We were all feeling very tired by this time, but soon got our second wind.

On Wednesday we travelled back to Owaka for the final day of competition. First up was girls basketball, mixed football and boys touch. The basketball girls did really well, learning and improving as they went. Mixed football did well, coming 2nd overall. The boys touch did really well, coming 1st equal with Catlins.

After this the boys basketball, mixed netball and girls touch took place. The boys basketball was very challenging, drawing against Twizel who got 1st, but getting 3rd overall. The girls touch – the girls improved as the day went on, showing some fantastic skills, narrowly missing out on the finals. Mixed netball was a lot of fun. First time playing for a lot of the boys but made for a very entertaining game, winning over the umpires and opposing teams with their charm – gaining 3rd overall.



At the conclusion the Nationals team was named. Well done to Simon Van Dam, Max Baldwin, Brad Hammond, Travis Proud, Logan McLean, Lewis Unahi, Floyd Pipson, Logan Borthwick, Sophie Unahi, Hayley Adams, and Coleen Ebron for gaining a place in the Nationals team. We wish you all the best of luck for Nationals in Dunedin during the first week of the holidays.

A huge thank you to Richard Bennett, Tania Egerton, Troy Anderson for an awesome trip.

Miss Jaime Dickson
TIC Area Schools Tournament

TRANSIT OF VENUS

The transit of Venus is a rare occurrence. It always happens in pairs, 8 years apart, but those pairs can be as much as 105.5 to 121.5 years apart.

On June 6, 2012 the planet Venus will pass in front of the Sun for the last time this century. Millions around the world will witness this rare astronomical phenomenon.

What will you see? During nearly 6½ hours the transit of Venus will be visible (using suitable eye protection!) as an intensely black dot making its way across the face of the Sun. Its motion across the Sun will be very slow. All stages of the transit will be visible from New Zealand, although the final part, just before Venus moves off the Sun, will occur with the Sun very low. This part is only likely to be visible from places with a very low horizon to the west. The time of mid transit is just before 1.30pm, so near the time the Sun is highest. But even so, being close to mid-winter, the Sun will be rather low, especially from the south of the country. More on this transit on the [RASNZ page](#).

WARNING

It is extremely DANGEROUS to look directly at the SUN, particularly with binoculars and telescopes but also with the naked eye. Doing so can cause INSTANT eye damage and BLINDNESS. THE TRANSIT OF VENUS is NOT a spectacular event like total eclipses of the sun and is best observed with specially equipped telescopes.

WHAT IS SAFE?

The only Three Safe Ways to observe the TRANSIT OF VENUS:

1. With special telescopes equipped with Certified Solar Filters in the presence of a qualified person.
2. By Eyepiece Projection, where an image of the Sun is projected onto a white screen through an eyepiece.
3. Using the special Certified Eye Shields which will be widely available cheaply from local observatories and Astronomical Societies. These are often used for observing solar eclipses and are safe, as are Electric Arc Welder's Helmets if the glass is of the darkest grade. Do NOT use GAS Welding Goggles as they are NOT dark enough for safe eye protection.

There are many websites and resources dedicated to the Transit of Venus. Below is a selection.

Live streaming from various locations in the world

<http://www.slooh.com/transit-of-venus/>

Goto the awesome ToV simulator from Sunaeon

<http://www.sunaeon.com/venustransit/#>

Miss Anita Collett

From Our Support Staff

From Our Librarian

Talofa

Samoa Language Week is taking place this week. This year's theme is "O le Vāfealoa'i - Strong and Respectful Relationships." 2012 is also the 50th anniversary of Samoa's

Independence and the recognition of New Zealand's continuing relations with Samoa through the signing of the Treaty of Friendship. Some cool websites to look at for Samoan Language Week are:

<http://samoa2012.co.nz/>

<http://www.facebook.com/SamoanLanguageWeek>



This week in the Library students have been very creative with their Angry Birds; from colouring in to making a mobile. A big Thank You to Mr Anderson-Kereti who helped out last Friday with showing the students how to make a talking card.

Miss Joanne Fraser

Nigel Kennedy Hypnotist Show Tickets On Sale Now

- ✚ Cost: \$20
- ✚ Date: Saturday 23 June
- ✚ Time: Doors open at 7.00pm
- ✚ Cash bar available on the night
- ✚ Supper provided

Tickets available from the School Office, Tuatapere Health and Gift Shop, and Tuatapere Service Station. (Under-18s must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.) Funds raised will go towards new computers for the School.

Mrs Christine Murch
PTA Chair



2012 Timeline

Monday 23 April to Friday 29 June	Term 2, 2012
Monday 4 June	Queens Birthday
Friday 8 June	Full School Assembly
Friday 22 June	Full School Assembly
Tuesday 26 June	School Photos
Monday 16 July to Friday 28 Sept	Term 3, 2012
Monday 15 Oct to Friday 7 Dec	Term 4, 2012 (tentative end date)

Sick and tired of the School Newsletter turning up at home either late or mangled in a soggy mess at the bottom of a school bag?

Or worse still, not turning up at all?

Well we have the answer for you!

We'll email it to you in pdf format completely free of charge!

Just give us a call at the School Office or email newsletters@tcc.school.nz and we will add you to our mailing list.

Community Notices

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

Pea Straw for Sale

The Waiau W.I. has Pea Straw for sale. Cost \$10 per bale for fewer than 20 bales. \$8 per bale for 20 bales or more.

Delivery dates are 9 and 23 June. Order yours by phoning Jackie on 2266339 or Wendy on 2266347 or by filling out the order form at the School Office.

Wanted Urgently

A cheap piece of chipboard/MDF – 1.5m x 1m – preferably 1 or 2 cms thick. Phone Sharon on 2266867.

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For more information call:

Brad Pankhurst 0800 55 55 21

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