



## Principal's Portal

Tena Koutou

As mentioned in an earlier Principal Portal I was going to report back to our community the findings of our on-going **confidential** parent survey. We were pleased to learn that your feedback was, on the whole, very positive. Gillian has provided, for reporting purposes, a "common threads" summary of the parent feedback. This is what you had to say:

- **The school is on the improve**  
*"Really impressed with the way it's going."*
- **Overall positive atmosphere in the school**
- **Teachers are very approachable and take a genuine interest in the students**  
*"Great that teachers get hold of me when there's an issue – they genuinely care. You don't get that in a lot of schools – great personal involvement."*
- **Office staff are very welcoming and friendly**
- **The new uniform looks great**
- **Great sporting opportunities and extra curricular activities are available**  
*"Kids for Kids was cool – great for the school to get involved in it."*
- **Open and better lines of communication**  
*"It's great that parents are kept so up to date – great communication."*
- **STAR/Gateway courses are going well**

The constructive feedback allows us to focus on meeting the community expectations and building a great school. There will always be things we can do better and some of the comments assist us to make that effort. We have listened to the concerns expressed and with the Board's support we will address them:

- **Senior Students not having organised study**

We agree that there have been challenges for our small school to provide a wide range of courses with a limited number of staff. Providing choice means that we have smaller classes and students do need to work on their own. We realise this is not always a natural behaviour and they need more support to use their time effectively. In Terms 3 and 4 we will have an extra staff member to support senior managers and teachers do this work with students.

- **Online Teaching**

We recognise that this has not been as successful as we would want. There are many variables contributing to this. Online teaching is the way of the future for us and to ensure we can get course coverage for all students we will be better placed and organised to support this in 2013. This also includes exploring avenues of what the Correspondence School can offer our students.

- **Firmer Discipline**

It is difficult for parents to know what discipline decisions are made in the school. More pastoral care is used than discipline because we are dealing with young people who do make mistakes from time to time. When students fail to

respond to the support they receive then we have, and we do, use stand down and suspensions as a last resort. It can be challenging for parents to understand how some decisions are made when they are looking in from the outside. We will revisit our behaviour system early in Term 3 with your views in mind and as part of our self-reflective practice.

- **Senior Students Messing Around**

We agree with this concern. Staff have been concerned at the lack of motivation some senior students have for being at school. One of the reasons for the change in staffing in Terms 3 and 4 is to help address this issue and to help focus students on completing work and gaining credits. We will look to parents to support us in trying to develop some independent learning skills and to focus on preparation for life beyond school.

- **Being Stricter on Uniform**

There is often a battle with some students to wear the correct uniform and, from time to time, staff have concentrated on teaching and learning rather than nagging. Teenagers do not respond to nagging. We could institute a process where parents are rung when students arrive at school without their uniform. Parents would then have to come with the uniform before the student goes to class. If students presented continually with this problem then consideration could be given to detentions and stand downs. We think the community needs to debate this more closely before we go down this track. There are implications and we need parents support to make it work.

In the interim we will review our internal management system on how we deal with students who are disobeying our school uniform expectations and we will share the outcome with the community early next term.

Noho ora mai (stay well)

Maryse Anderson-Keret

Principal

### School Photos – Tuesday 26 June

Please ensure your children are all spruced up in clean and tidy school uniform for the class/sports team photos that will be taken on Tuesday.

If you would like family photos, including your pre-schoolers, you are welcome to come along to the School Hall at 1.30pm on the day.

## From Our Students

### Mufti Day

On Friday 29 June (the last day of Term 2) there is a mufti day to help raise funds for the Maniototo senior students' trip to Auckland. All Area Schools are pitching in to help out, so please bring a gold coin.

### Ag Training

The Level 2 Ag students had a day of fencing on Tuesday under the instruction of an Agribusiness trainer. They really enjoyed it and can't wait until their assessment in August.

*From Head Students and Prefects  
Max Baldwin, Jessica Dodd, Simon Van Dam,  
Logan McLean, Nicola Diack*

## From Our Teachers

### Year 7/8 Get Growing Project

Hi everyone, you may have noticed a big hole in the bush behind the deerstalkers hut in the last month or so? Well that hole is the start of WAS year 7+8 community garden project.

The students have just completed the task of designing and choosing the garden idea they will create for the future and are busily planning how they will go about making the plan become a reality. It's



definitely exciting as the idea is that this garden can improve the health of not just the school but the community. It will provide free veggies for those who need as well as free produce and herbs for students using the food tech rooms here at school. Not only will we be growing things but it will also be an area to relax and maybe even barbeque, for people to stop and enjoy the peace and quiet.

So far a massive thanks have to go to Dwayne and Vicki Unahi as well as the very talented Lewis, they provided the digger and driver that allowed us to clear the site so quickly! Thanks very much!

Now we need as many offers of help as we can get. I know there are a whole raft of people out there who grow and enjoy turning brown soil into food on the table so if that sounds like you give us a ring at the school and give the kids a hand.

We will be starting the major work in term 3 and 4 so if you're about and able feel free to lend a hand. Any offers of tools or equipment, time or skills are more than welcome. The gardens are the second part to a redevelopment of the area that started with a school

film club. As many of you will know this opened last week after students had renovated the rooms to make it suitable and organised themselves to serve popcorn and look after the donations.

All in all it's exciting stuff and we really would like you to get involved so once again give us a ring and do something to make the school better!

*Mr Simon Pearce*

## Matariki – Maori New Year 21 June – 21 July

Matariki is the Maori name for the small cluster of stars also known as the Pleiades or the Seven Sisters, in the Taurus constellation. In New Zealand it comes into view low on the north-eastern



horizon, appearing in the tail of the Milky Way in the last days of May or in early June, just before dawn. This heralds the Maori New Year.

Various Maori tribes celebrate Matariki at different times. Some hold festivities when Matariki is first seen in the dawn sky; others celebrate after the full moon rises or at the beginning of the next new moon.

Matariki is also associated with the winter solstice. It appears when the sun, drifting north on the shortest day in winter, reaches the north-eastern end of the horizon. The sun then turns around and begins its journey south.

**Winter Solstice** – the longest night and the shortest day. The Winter Solstice is on June 21 at 18:46 (6:46pm); this is when the Sun is at its most Northerly point in the sky. At the middle of the day on June 21, it reaches its lowest altitude, from the Northern horizon, for the year. This means the longest night is June 21/22 and the shortest day is June 21.

*Miss Anita Collett*

### Upcoming Information Evenings

**SIT are holding an open evening on Tuesday 3 July between 5.00-7.00pm**, at the Invercargill Campus (133 Tay Street, Invercargill). This is **a chance for families and students to discuss with tutors potential career paths and study options for 2013**. There are prospectuses in the Careers foyer in the School Library for any students interested in attending SIT in the future.

**The University of Otago are holding an open evening on Wednesday 27 June between 7.00-8.30pm**, at the College of Education Information Centre (100 Nelson Street, Invercargill). This will be a great opportunity to hear about accommodation at Otago, course planning, loans and allowances, and courses available.

*Miss Jasmine Quinn*

## ICAS Competitions

Australian International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) competitions are available this year for Year 4-13 students to enter. The subjects available are English and Mathematics. The cost is \$7.50 per student per subject. **If you would like your child to enter please give the student name and payment to the office by 27 June.**

**The test date for English will be Tuesday 31 July and Mathematics will be Tuesday 14 August.**

*Mr Paul Maloney*

## From Our Support Staff

### From Our Gateway/STAR Coordinator

**CareerFest Southland is being held on Friday 27 July.** For comprehensive information about what CareerFest is all about, check out – <http://www.careerfest.co.nz/>

This will be open to all yr11-13 students. If you are interested in attending this fantastic opportunity please email me at [rp@tcc.school.nz](mailto:rp@tcc.school.nz) or leave your name on the schedule on my office door.

*Miss Rachael Poole*

### From Our Sports Coordinator

#### Southland Primary Cross Country

Congratulations to Zack Fowle, Maddison Hampton, Georgia Powell who all gained top six at the Western Primary Cross Country to be able to compete in the Southland Primary cross country at Holt Park last Friday. Weather conditions were cold and wet and the students did extremely well.



12yr Boys Zack Fowle 17<sup>th</sup> overall  
12yr Girls Maddison Hampton 22<sup>nd</sup> overall  
10yr Girls Georgia Powell 39<sup>th</sup> overall

All these races had 100 competitors in each age group.

Zack, Maddison and Georgia are sporting the new Western t-shirts in the photo above, which looked great! Lightweight for extra speed! ☺

*Mrs Tania Egerton*

#### SCHOOL SPORTS TRACKSUITS

Could students who have these at home please return ASAP, otherwise invoices will be sent out for these items.

### From Our Librarian

This week we are back in the Main Library. It is looking very good with its new paint and wall coverings. The new books have been very popular and are being processed with the help of the Librarians.

**Scholastic Book Club offer 10 – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sale is now out and closes off on 13 July. Book Club offer 4 last**

**day to order is 29 June.** Orders received before the holidays will be back from Scholastic after the holidays.

It would be great if all books could be returned to the Library before the school holidays – this will save any books being overdue.

*Miss Joanne Fraser*

## 2012 Timeline

Monday 23 April to Friday 29 June	<b>Term 2, 2012</b>
<b>Tuesday 26 June</b>	<b>School Photos</b>
Monday 16 July to Friday 28 Sept	<b>Term 3, 2012</b>
Friday 27 July	CareerFest Southland
Monday 15 Oct to Friday 7 Dec	<b>Term 4, 2012</b> (tentative end date)

## Next PTA Meeting

The next PTA Meeting is our AGM on 25 July at 7.30 in the staffroom and we NEED more members. Please mark this on your calendar.

*Mrs Christine Murch*

### And just in time for the school holidays ...

#### A Recipe for Preserving Children

1 large paddock                      2 small dogs  
6 children                              1 glass of water  
Some pebbles and a few flowers  
Mix children and dogs well together. Put them in the paddock, stirring constantly. Pour the water over the pebbles and sprinkle the paddock with flowers. Spread over all, a deep blue sky. Bake in hot sunshine and when well browned, remove to the bath tub. ☺

## 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.

## Netball Report for 16 June

Sorry everyone – I've been flat stick this week and apologise that I haven't had a chance to report on Saturday's games. Expect a double whammy next week.

*Wendy Adams*

*President, Tuatapere Club*

### Casual Farm Work Wanted

Anything considered – relief milking, crutching, drenching etc. Have own handy dog.  
Ph Wayne on 022 6809842 after 5pm.



## Menzies College Netball Camp 2012

From 9am Tues 10 July overnight till 4pm Wed 11 July  
All year 5, 6, 7 and 8 netball players from Southland and beyond are invited to register for the Menzies College Netball Club Camp from Tues 10 to Wed 11 July at Menzies College, Alma St, Wyndham.

For further queries please email the coordinator Marie Ward at [hi2mattyw@xtra.co.nz](mailto:hi2mattyw@xtra.co.nz) or phone 03 2064998 (evenings).

*(Alternatively, if you would like a registration form, give us a call at the office and we can email you these.  
Gillian/Kiwia)*

## "WAIU BATTLE OF THE MOUNTAINS" COMING SOON !!!

On Saturday 21 July in the Waiau Area School Hall, this fun community fundraiser will take place.

We have five community groups working together, along with some major sponsors. There will be four teams battling it out for the title – this involves team challenges in tug o truck, tag team speaking, mastermind and lip synching.

Major items will be auctioned throughout the evening, plus there will be raffles and a licensed cash bar.

This fundraiser has the potential to raise a huge amount of money. Tickets out soon: \$30/hd. The "Flyer" event is being run in two other areas also and will be compered by Mr Gerry Forde from Venture Southland.

Come along and support these groups:

- ☐ Waiau Area School
- ☐ Waiau Star Rugby Club
- ☐ Tuatapere Netball Club
- ☐ Tuatapere Pool RC
- ☐ Orawia Netball

Proceeds will be split amongst the groups. Please phone Karen Gill on 2266 222 if you are able to give a hand, many hands make light work. ☺

## Babysitters Available

We would like to get babysitting jobs for a bit of pocket money. So if you need some people to look after your kids around the times of 3pm onwards on weekdays/ Saturdays or all day Sunday, please phone Jade on 03 2266776 or Eleanor on 027 7687091 or 022 6809842. We look forward to hearing from you.

*Jade Robinson and Eleanor Carey*

## Waiau Community Theatre

Will present the one-act play by Matthew Carlin  
"HIDE AND SEEK" (to keep you guessing) and a  
musical selection "CALL MY NAME"

In the Waiau Area School Hall on  
Friday 27 and Saturday 28 July at 8.00pm

Tickets – Adults \$18, Children \$10

Supper included.

Tickets available from Tuatapere Health & Gift Shop.  
Make up a table with friends and enjoy an evening  
out to brighten up the winter.

## ☆☆WAIU STAR UPDATE☆☆

Come along this weekend and support our Waiau Star Teams:

- ☆ D Grade @ Nightcaps 10am
- ☆ C Grade @ Nightcaps 10am vs Nightcaps
- ☆ B Grade @ Tuatapere 11am vs Drummond
- ☆ A Grade @ Nightcaps 1pm vs Central Pirates
- ☆ Under 18's @ Tuatapere 1.15pm vs DLS
- ☆ Senior C's @ Tuatapere 2pm vs Waikaia
- ☆ Senior's @ Tuatapere 3pm vs Riversdale

Also congratulations to Pete Devery, Lily Vining, Jack Richards, Luke Timoko (D Grade) - Jarran Clark, Sam Unahi, Blake Palmer @ Grade - Bruin Roe, Nic Chamberlain who have all received Player of the Day awards over the past few weeks WELL DONE GUY!! We also welcome Eric Ward to the B Grade good luck Eric.

Also the Waiau Star Junior Rugby would like to THANK - Tracy and Glenn Thomas, Waiau Town and Country Club and Fowle Cont for their generous donation for the purchase of our new hoodies. The look amazing and have made other clubs very envious so we that you so much.



As we are half way through the season the committee would like to thank everyone that has helped out from Coaches to Managers, Bar Staff, Kitchen helpers, parents and spectators it has made our season run so smoothly we appreciate this.

Winner of our \$250.00 Club Day Grocery Raffle was ticket No 56 - Isobel Green (drawn under supervision).

Also we have our fund raising night coming up will be a fun family night so please come along and support the rugby club.

## ☆☆WAIU STAR RUGBY☆☆

Presents

"BUCKY THE BULL  
& RODEO DISCO"



Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July

COME ALONG FOR A GREAT NIGHT'S  
FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

SEE HOW LONG YOU CAN STAY ON  
'BUCKY' AND SUPPORT WAIU STAR  
RUGBY

BAR OPENED AND FOOD FOR SALE  
From 8pm til late



Free Entry



A Charge to ride Bucky

Great Prize Money to be won