

# Opihi - on campus



Community – Acceptance – Respect - Excellence

Issue 9 23 June 2016

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFF AT OPIHI COLLEGE

### MRS SHAW

*Introduction by  
Wiremu and Teà*

We are very happy to welcome Mrs Shaw to Opihi College as our new Gateway/Star/ Careers Coordinator. Mrs Shaw was Deputy Head Girl at Opihi back in 1997. She then went on to study a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree in History at the University of Canterbury. This was followed by a Graduate Diploma in Teaching at the New Zealand Graduate School of Education. Mrs Shaw taught at Linwood College and St Andrew's College in Christchurch, before moving back to Temuka in 2015. She has three young children, Ollie (5), Zoe (4) and Noah (23 months). Mrs Shaw was relieving part time at Opihi before being appointed to this position. Some of you may remember Mrs Baird that used to teach here, Mrs Shaw just happens to be her daughter. Being closer to family is one of the reasons Mrs Shaw moved back to Temuka. In her spare time, she likes to run and plays Indoor Netball in Geraldine. When we asked Mrs Shaw, "Why did you become a Teacher?", she replied, "I was passionate about History and wanted to share that with the students". Mrs Shaw is enjoying her new position and loves interacting with the students. She hopes that she can inspire them and assist them in making career choices. We are very excited to see what Mrs Shaw can offer us.



## OPIHI COLLEGE SKI AND SNOWBOARD DAY TRIPS TO MT HUTT

These Annual Day Trips will be held in August 2016:

Years 7—9 on Friday 26th August

Years 10-13 on Friday 19th August

*Please note:*

*Dates are subject to change (if required due to weather or numbers).*

Total cost is \$95 each.

Please see Mr Grace to register for this trip.

A \$30 non-refundable deposit is required to be paid by 24th June to secure your booking.





## From Across the Principal's Desk

Kia ora tatou,

This term seems to be passing by so fast, and it's not easy to set aside the time to reflect

upon everything that has happened in the time I've been here. Last week saw yet more of our students representing our school in sports, in learning outside the classroom and in extra courses. It is great for our students to participate in these opportunities outside Opihi College and is an opportunity to highlight to the wider community the wide variety of skills that our students have, and what our college is about. Our goal is always for Opihi College to be the local school of choice, and we have a stable student base at the moment, which supports that. I believe that in the past we have experienced a stream of students to larger schools in the area, but this is clearly no longer the case. This suggests that you as a community are aware of the value that we offer here at Opihi College.

### Advantages of a smaller school

Earlier this week I was at a course in Timaru. I was introduced to an ex-Opihi student who was reminiscing about their time at Opihi. They are now attending another school. They mentioned how long their day is, now that they have to catch buses into town and back each day. How they are envious of the students at Opihi who have time for after school activities or just to hang out; they don't have that time anymore because of their extra travel, and they can't participate in their new school's activities because they have to get the bus home. They mentioned their classes which are so big they sometimes feel their teachers don't know their names or anything about them. They remembered smaller classes at Opihi where everyone knew everyone else. Not just their names but their brothers and sisters, their sporting interests, where they lived and what their part-time job was. It is definitely a plus that at Opihi College we are small enough to know all of our students by name. Well, I don't yet but eventually I will! Small enough to have senior classes with as few as 5 students in them. Small enough for more students to have more chances at opportunities. When it comes to activities like Spirit of New Zealand our selection pool is smaller, so each student's chances of being selected are greater.

When your Year 9 child is in a class of 22 they get far more individual teacher time than students in a class of 32. Much research into education in New Zealand supports this – smaller classes often mean greater educational gains for individual students. This is something you certainly should take into account if you are considering a change. Think carefully about what the benefits are and do make sure that you ask questions about the education your child will receive.

### Student Progress

Today is the day that Year 11 to 13 Reports are posted home. I encourage you to read them carefully and contact school to make an appointment to see your child's teacher if there are any concerns raised. This is the time of the school year where the right intervention can make a huge difference to each students N.C.E.A. success. For those of you with reports to read, enjoy the weekend as an opportunity to have conversations with your children about their progress. For those of you who do not have reports arriving, just enjoy your weekend in the knowledge that there are only two more weeks of school this term.

He waka eke noa. Nau te rourou, naku te rourou ka ora ai te iwi.

Nga mihi.

Tina Johnson  
Principal



*Congratulations to Hailey Larsen and Cody Kereopa who won books in a recent Extra! Competition.*



### WEEKLY CARE CARD DRAW

10th June Jasmine Uren  
 Toni Doake  
 17th June Kaitlyn Morrison  
 Roselee McKenzie

*Congratulations on winning a canteen voucher*

### CARE BADGES

#### Congratulations to the following students:

Ryan Bagrie ~ received his Bronze R badge  
 Cameron Fikken ~ received his Bronze E badge  
 Soraya George ~ received her Bronze E badge  
 Soriya Halkett ~ received her Bronze C badge  
 Alex McDonald-Solway ~ received his Bronze C badge  
 Zane Nolan ~ received his Bronze E badge  
 Tyler Plumridge ~ received his Bronze E badge  
 Caleb Rippin ~ received his Bronze C badge  
 Victor Savage ~ received his Silver E badge  
 Quintessa Schoknecht ~ received her Bronze E badge  
 Alicia Staniford ~ received her Bronze R badge  
 Jasmine Uren ~ received her Bronze E badge  
 Emelia Livingstone ~ received her Bronze C badge  
 Dylan Donehue ~ received his Bronze A badge  
 Sophie Hall ~ received her Bronze E badge  
 Joshua Lovatt ~ received his Bronze C badge  
 Liam Pelvin ~ received his Bronze E badge  
 John Reyes ~ received his Silver E badge  
 Jaykob Reid ~ received his Bronze E badge

### FOR YOUR CALENDAR

<b>June</b>	30	Vision testing (Year 7 only)
	30	ODT Extra! Central South Island Spelling Quiz
	30	Parent evening (of students Years 11-13)
<b>July</b>	6	Science Fair and Art Exhibition Night Assembly Hall 6-7.00pm
	8	End of Term 2
	25	Start of Term 3
	28	Christchurch Tertiary Trip

### SPELLING QUIZ

Congratulations for being chosen to represent Opihi College in the upcoming Extra Magazine Spelling Quiz:

*Year 7/8 team*

Matthew Anso, Caleb Rooney, Courtney Leonard, McKaren Teng, Brooke Thomas and Emily Wells.

*Year 9/10 teams*

Xavier Hitchen, Jamie Callaghan, Joshua Lovatt, Victor Savage, Alex Uden, Evan Crosse, Issy Livingstone, Kaia McPherson, Jayda McNoe.

**Congratulations for showing the school value of Excellence. Best of luck to you all.**

### SOCCER

Congratulations to Sarn McCone and Logan Kerslake who have both been selected for the Aoraki Academy football team who are travelling to Canberra Australia to compete in the 13th Grade Kanga Tournament. The week long tournament is to be attended by teams from all over the world.

*Best of Luck to you both!*

### SOUTH CANTERBURY CHESS CLUB

Following the success of the schools chess tournament held in Timaru recently, a number of parents and schools expressed an interest in forming an informal chess club. St Josephs School Timaru is happy to host it on the first Monday of each month, starting at 3.30pm to 5.00pm. The first one will be on Monday 2nd July 2016. It is open to primary and secondary school students and any parents who can help out or adult chess players willing to help the novices. Please bring your chess set and clock if you have one.

Any queries please call  
 Stu Piddington 0274 378 896

### UNIFORM

*A reminder that new uniform items are being phased in.*

It is OK to wear navy socks with the kilt if you still have them. It is OK to wear grey trousers if you still have them. Ties are now optional unless you are wearing a blazer when they are compulsory.



A selection of just some of the un-named items currently in our lost property!

*A reminder to please name all uniform*



## Second Place for the Fushigina Fugu!

Year 10 students Evan Crosse, Mukesh Gaddam, Allicia Kelly, Jia Prentice and Alex Uden represented Opihi College as the "Fushigina Fugu" (the Mysterious Blow Fish). They drove down to Otago Girls' High School in Dunedin to participate in the 2nd Annual New Zealand Japanese Trivia Championships. To get ready for the event they scoured the internet for bits of Japanese cultural trivia that might come up in the contest in the categories of: Japanese Sports/Festivals, Pop Culture, Geography, Food and Daily Life. They couldn't retain the 1st place trophy that last year's Opihi team won, but they were only 2 points away and they can be very proud of their efforts.



*Yoku dekimashita (Well done!) to Alex, Allicia, Evan, Jia and Mukesh!*



## SPECIAL OLYMPICS

On Tuesday 14th June Josh Welford and Logan Scott-Walton competed in the Special Olympics Football and Ramahi King-Reeves went as their supporter. The boys competed in a football skills competition against other students in a football skills exercise and Logan was placed second in his group and Josh was third. After this they played a fun game of football against the other teams and then had a staff students match (won by the students).

*Right: Ms Cuthbert, Logan Scott-Walton, Joshua Welford and Ms Johnson*



Opihi College band **Stained Glass Hearts** (from left: Caleb Rippin, Jessica Marshall, Dylan Stone, Sophie Nolan and Mahaliya Etti) performed their two original songs for the school at assembly this week. **Well done to all the musicians who represented Opihi College at Rockquest this year.**





# COMING UP



## OPIHI COLLEGE TWILIGHT GALA



### THURSDAY 25 AUGUST

### 4 – 6 PM



Please have a look at home. We would love some donations for white elephant stall, books, toys and items for a silent auction.

These can be left in the library or the office.

Also could all Opihi College families please start to think about the mystery bottle/jar stall. All that is required is a bottle or jar filled with something eg sauce, jam, buttons, lollies, paperclips, anything really. These will then be numbered and when a number is purchased you receive the corresponding bottle or jar.

Gala Stalls—Book your own stall space for only \$10.

---

Good luck to Wiremu, Shae, Gary and Shayden who are competing in the Regional Pool Tournament to be held at The Oamaru Club on Sunday 3 July.

---

**Students need to be aware that if they put their name down for a sport and/ school trips - we organise it, plan transport, relief teachers etc and work out costs with the numbers. Once a student pulls out this changes everything and can mean an activity has to be cancelled.**

**SCPSSA have cancelled the Skateboard/Scooter due to poor numbers**

**Unfortunately we had to withdraw from the Girls football tournament in Oamaru on Thursday/Friday because permission forms have not been returned and we had low numbers.**



# 40 Hour Famine Experience

by Eddy Zhang Duan.

Opihi College students had a great opportunity to think, imagine, and support refugee children in Syria last week by taking part in the 40 hour famine. The 40 hour famine has always been about living in someone else's shoes, and this year we lived with only one small back pack just like refugee children leaving Syria. On Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> of June, over 25 students from juniors to seniors slept over in the school library. First, we built our own houses using cardboard and sellotape. Students had only an hour and limited cardboard to make their houses, but each student had very different ideas and designs. After building our houses, we played spotlight, watched movies and the rugby. All the students had a lot of fun and not much sleep, but it was only one night and a small bitter taste of what it must be like to be a refugee. Honestly, it is beyond my imagination what it would be like to be a refugee. They are in danger, they have to walk a long way to a refugee camp, they might not be able to get there, they might run out of food. Even when they arrive at the refugee camp, they still don't have much food at all, and some of their houses are made from just cardboard. Their families and friends might not be in this world anymore. All of the students were serious when the teacher was talking about this. "Finally, I want you to imagine one more thing. They were just like you." the teacher said. When we cleaned up in the morning, it was fantastic the way the students co-operated with each other. All the students had fun and great times however, every student had also gathered donations from their friends, families and neighbours. Some students raised over \$250, and the money will help the refugee children from Syria.

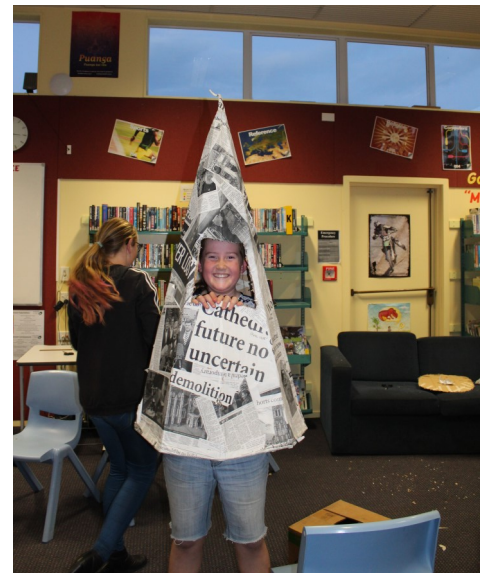
**Thank you very much for sponsoring all of us.**



*Tyler Plumridge & Eddy Zhang Duan*



*Above: Alyssa Price*



*Above: Aaliyah Lovatt*



*Cameron Doake, Toanui Taputu & Flynn Coskerie*



*Above: Takila Howell & Megan Calder*





Original Digital Artwork by Opihi College Student Alicia Staniford

## Write like an Author

Does your child love to write stories? Do they dream of being an author?

We are excited to let you know that our students will have the opportunity to attend a school holiday camp for young writers, called "Write like an Author".

It is an internationally acclaimed writing course that teaches young writers the skills and techniques that professional authors use to create their stories.

The camp will be held at **Mountainview High School** during the school holidays, starting on **Monday, 11st July 2016** and running until **Thursday, 14th July 2016**. The number of places on the camp is strictly limited and is open to students from all local schools, so we recommend that you register early if your child is interested in attending the camp.

The camp runs from **9am - 3pm** each day. Students will need to bring their own device (a laptop or tablet to write their stories on).

The course fee (with early registration) is \$297.

The Creative Communities Funding Scheme is contributing \$100 towards every participant's fees.

This means the total fee payable is only **\$197**.

This is an extraordinary opportunity for budding young writers who would like to learn how to turn their wonderful ideas into wonderful stories.

For more information and to register, please visit [www.writelikeanauthor.com](http://www.writelikeanauthor.com).

## SITUATIONS VACANT

### FORECOURT CONCIERGE

Z Temuka are seeking a forecourt concierge to work Saturdays 9.30-5.00pm and Sundays 10.00-2.00pm. If you are aged 15 years or older, and are interested in this position, please pop into Z Temuka and pick up an application form.



## LIAISON AT OTAGO



## Information Evening

What's it like to study at the University of Otago?

Wednesday 6 July | 7.00pm – 8.30pm  
ASB Pavilion | Benvenue Avenue | Timaru

### Hear About

Entrance | Accommodation at Otago | Courses available  
Degree structure | Being a successful student | Support services  
Scholarships | Transition from school to university | Fees

### Information Evening Enquiries:

[liaison@otago.ac.nz](mailto:liaison@otago.ac.nz) | (03) 479 8247

0800 80 80 98 | [otago.ac.nz](http://otago.ac.nz) | txt 866 | [university@otago.ac.nz](mailto:university@otago.ac.nz)





# SCIENCE FAIR AND ART EXHIBITION NIGHT

Opihi College Science and Art departments would like to invite all  
Community and Whanau members to the  
2016 SCIENCE FAIR AND ART EXHIBITION.

When: Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July, 6-7pm

Where: Opihi College Hall

## What is going on?

- Our year 7 and 8 students have been focussing on Scientific Investigations this term and have been preparing presentations of their projects for community and whanau members to view. You will have a chance to discuss the learning process with our students and vote for the best Science Fair project. A ballot box will be placed in reception for your Best Science Fair presentation voting slip.
- Take the opportunity to view a range of art work produced by our art students. You will be delighted to witness the accomplishments of our talented students from a range of year groups. Please take the time to write a comment regarding your favourite piece and drop it into the comments box which will be located in reception.

