



From Across the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Kia Ora Tatou

The last term of the year is already underway. The first

excitement is the new My Time choices, which began last week. I see we have a wide variety of opportunities with some students going out fishing, others remaining at school for the likes of cricket and athletics, some working on aspects of the Haunted House, just to name a few of the activities available

Of course October also means that our senior students have almost finished for the year. They now only have one week to go to complete their assessments and course work! This is our final newsletter before they leave so I will take this opportunity to wish our Year 11 and 12 students well for the break, and wish a sad farewell to our Year 13 students. I hope that everyone who is enrolled for external exams has a well planned study timetable, and keeps their focus on those exams until they are complete.

Changes for 2018

Following further discussion and consultation with our curriculum committee and with students, 2018 will look slightly different from what I reported in our earlier newsletter. In balancing our curriculum we have found that the best way to offer additional class time to subject areas and other activities is to use a 6 day timetable.

With so many of our students on Dual Pathways, Gateway and STAR courses the best way to ensure they do not lose too much individual subject time is to have a 6 day revolving timetable.

I can confirm other aspects that I mentioned in our last newsletter:

- 1 hour periods (with some 2 hour opportunities)
- Shorter daily whanau time
- Continuing with the student Whanau Mentor system

I can also confirm that we intend to hold a Parent/ Teacher Interview session next year, whilst also continuing our 3 Way Conferencing. So families will also have a planned opportunity to meet with their child's subject teachers in Term 2. This has been included in our planning as a result of parental requests.

Buildings

A number of our staff and Board members travelled up to Christchurch last week to look at the three different types of buildings we are able to choose from for our new build. We had gone over the plans but the opportunity to actually see the buildings in use helped clarify a lot of our ideas. Over the next few weeks we will be in meetings with the Ministry's Planning Team, planning for our needs for 2018.

We know that there will be some disruption to our classrooms next year as H Block is to come down over the holidays and obviously our new buildings will not be ready to move into until much later in the year. Our current proposal is to set the school hall up as additional learning spaces to replace some of those we are using. The new build is exciting – but there will still have to be a lot of work go on behind the scenes to ensure that it does not disrupt the learning of our students.

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

School, whanau and community are in this together so if we share our resources and skills we will achieve great things for our tamariki.

Nga mihi.

Tina Johnson Principal





Pictured are some of the original lamps created by our junior technology students. (Above –Chimera Miller)





WEEKLY CARE CARD DRAW

End of Term 3 prize Saxon McNoe

20th October 2017 Alex Drummond Ava Venn



CANS FOR GOOD MUFTI DAY Monday 30th October

On Monday the 30th October the school will be holding a fund-raising Mufti Day for the Salvation Army and Watties Cans for Good Charity. Rather than a gold coin donation students are encouraged to instead bring along a can or two to donate instead. Please try to bring items that would be appealing to those in need.......

CONGRATULATIONS

Kiarn Prentice has been nominated for the Aoraki Secondary School Sports Awards to be held on 3rd November for Softball. *Good Luck!*

MANDY'S TUCK SHOP

Please note the school canteen will close for the year on Friday 1st December 2017.

Your support is appreciated.

OPIHI COLLEGE CAPS

We've added a cap to our school uniform lineup. Order now at the school office -\$10 each. A sample is available to try on.



FOR YOUR CALENDAR		
October	31	Haunted House fundraiser 7pm Assembly Hall
November	1	Mountain Biking Yr 7&8
November	3	Study Leave begins for Senior students
	9	NCEA External Examinations begin
	9	Aoraki Junior Volleyball
	17	Close of nominations for Opihi College Board of Trustees Parent Representative Election
	21	Aoraki Ki-O-Rahi Cricket –Year 7&8 Boys
	23	Cricket -Year 7&8 Girls
	29	BOT Meeting
December	5-8	Year 7 camp, Raincliff
	11	OED Day, Year 10
	12	 Senior Returns Day Day Prizegiving 11 am Evening Awards Ceremony 7.00pm

RETURNS

Could the following items please be returned to the school as soon as possible:

- Netball uniforms (washed)
- Basketball uniforms (washed)
- Gymnastics uniforms (washed)
- Rugby uniforms (washed)
- Overdue Library Books
- Cups and Trophies
- Blazers (Dry cleaned please)

Thank you

CARE BADGES

Congratulations to the following students:

Silver Awards

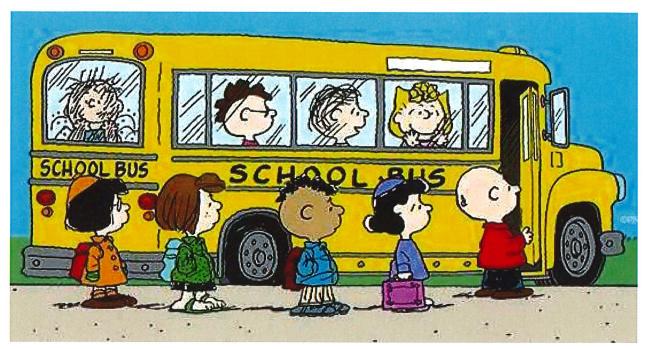
E = Hannah Morrison, Sam Murdoch, Blake Morris

R = Kayla Bagrie

Bronze Awards

- C = Kyal Dickson, Bronwyn Halkett, Calan Meechang, Anasta Ruaine-Boaza
- A = Nicholas Johnstone, Jacinda Kelly, Kalani Lawson
- **R** = Kyal Dickson, Hamish Fikken, Cameron Stone
- **E** = Paxton Bennett, Jared Dickson, Shalai Gibson, Bronwyn Halkett, Eli Kerse, Luke Smith, Fergus Talbot.





Situations Vacant

Casual Bus Driver

Opihi College is looking for someone with a bus licence who can fill in on a casual basis when required.

We need someone to drive our Mitsubishi Rosa who might be available for school trips and a few relief days on one of our small school runs.

If you are interested and think this might suit you, please make contact with Tina Johnson, Principal, to discuss.

Geraldine Giant Pumpkin Competition



Join in the fun this summer and grow a giant pumpkin! Seeds can be purchased from Robbies Cafe and Milkbar, Geraldine, for \$2 until end of October or feel free to use your own! Judging will be held in conjunction with Anzac in Action 2018.

Find us on Facebook <u>www.facebook.com/Geraldine-Giant-Pumpkin-Competition</u> to post updates and pictures of your growing success!

PRE-LOVED SHORTS FOR SALE

\$5 per pair

The school has limited numbers of black elastic waist shorts suitable for PE to sell. These shorts are a unisex style and in as new



condition. Sizes range from 12 –14 and XS to XXL.

SUMMER WRITING SCHOOL FOR TEENAGERS

The School for Young Writers are very excited to share our line up for Summer Writing School for teenagers, January 22 to 26, 2018. Early bird registrations are open now and some popular workshops are already filling up with previous participants keen for another round!

<u>Karen Healey</u>, <u>Lisa Tui Jonathan</u>, Jenna Heller, <u>James Norcliffe</u>, <u>Gail Ingram</u> and <u>Heather McQuillan</u>, will be leading workshops on fantasy, story, song, poetry, blogs, flash fiction and odd forms.

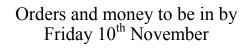
All of the <u>workshop</u> and booking details are at youngwritersnz.wordpresscom.

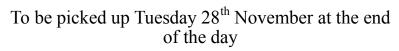


CHRISTMAS TREATS



TERM 4 FUNDRAISER
Truffles Salted Caramel 4 pack = \$3.00
Shortbread Giftbox 20 pack = \$5.00
(School makes \$1.00 per pack sold)







More order forms available from the office





BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTION

Nominations are invited for the election of TWO parent representatives to the board of trustees.

A nomination form and a notice calling for nominations will be posted to all eligible voters.

You can nominate another person to stand as a candidate, or you can nominate yourself (make sure you sign both parts of the form).

Additional nomination forms can be obtained from the school office.

Nominations close at noon on 17th November 2017 and may be accompanied by signed candidates' statements.

The voting roll is open for inspection at the school and can be viewed during normal school hours.

There will also be a list of candidates' names, as they come to hand, for inspection at the school.

Voting closes at noon on 1st December 2017.

Signed

S. Patrick Returning Officer



Make a difference. Become a school trustee.

Nominate yourself or someone you know today.

Being a school trustee is an important role that needs people with a range of skills and experiences, who will make a positive difference to our children's learning. Make a difference and nominate yourself or someone you know by filling out a nomination form available from your school.

Learn more at www.trustee-election.co.nz

YOUR RETURNING OFFICER IS:

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03 6157 442
office@opihicollege.school.nz

SCHOOL TRUSTEE ELECTIONS











Unravelling the adolescent brain



Support adolescents in navigating the transition from child to well adjusted adult

Adolescent Seminar Thursday 2 November 2017 @7-9pm

Hosted by: Tao Temuka Scout Group Venue: Opihi College Library, Richard Pearse Drive, Temuka

Tickets can be purchased from Temuka Pharmacy for \$20 or at the door on the night.



