

Opihi - on campus



Community – Acceptance – Respect – Excellence

Issue 17 8th November 2018

"Tadaima! We're home!"

Opihi College students, Louise, Lucy, Jessica, Aaliyah, Allicia, Emilie, Ava, school secretary, Mrs Walsh and Japanese teacher, Mr Lindblom spent three weeks in October in Japan. We spent the first two weeks living with host families and attending two high schools in Eniwa, Hokkaido, our sister city. We then activated our JR Rail Passes and travelled by Shinkansen train at 300kph to cultural highlights for an additional week. Some of our destinations were Osaka, Kyoto, Nara, Hiroshima and Tokyo.



"I think the purpose of this trip was not only to have the opportunity to use and better our Japanese communication, but to have the chance to experience many different things and appreciate a different style of life. It gave us a real understanding of the language and culture we are studying, all with making amazing friends and memories along the way." (Lucy) All of the participants have been studying Japanese for 2, 3 or 4 years and it was an opportunity to be exposed to language that's impossible to replicate in the classroom. While living with Japanese host families, the students got to see firsthand the daily lives of Japanese families. At school they observed classes, after school sports and cultural activities. They came to realise that while there are many differences in our daily lives, there are also many similarities to our school and family values. It was great to hear the students excitedly describe a new experience that they had with their homestay family or at school. There were of course communication problems and some homesickness, but that's to be expected and it's through the difficult

situations that students rely on their resilience and work through their challenges.

"A definite benefit of this trip is that we gained valuable skills such as resilience, teamwork, and how to tackle any problem that came at us, such as getting around the daily language barriers." (Lucy) The students extended their knowledge of the Japanese language, but more importantly they experienced tangible Japanese culture that will give their future Japanese study real context. They grew in confidence and learned a lot about themselves and what they can handle when put in stressful situations.



We are very grateful to AsiaNZ and the Kewpie Corporation, the Sasakawa Fellowship Fund for Japanese Language Education, the Temuka Community Trust, Juice Products NZ and also the Temuka community who generously supported our many fundraising activities. **Arigatō gozaimashita!**



From Across the Principal's Desk



Dear Parents/Caregivers

Tēnā koutou katoa,

Seniors

External exams have begun this week. Congratulations to those who have been using their time to study and complete assessments. I would wish you "good luck" in your exams, but we all know that it doesn't come down to luck. It is all about your hard work and diligence.

Union Meeting

The Post Primary Teachers' Association (Secondary teachers' union) has called a Union Meeting for all members on the afternoon of Wednesday 21st November. We would like to enable all of our members to attend. This means that although school will be open for instruction that afternoon, students will not be in normal classes but will be managed by the non-union members on our staff. We will send home a letter closer to the date advising you of this. At that time you will be offered the option to withdraw your student at lunch time if you choose to.

Armistice Day Parade 11th November

Meet in correct Opihi College Uniform at Commerce Street carpark
at 10.15am on Sunday

Show your loyalty to your school and your pride in our Temuka community
Take a selfie of you and some friends in the parade.

Send them to principal@opihicollege.school.nz to receive CARE cards
(and maybe appear on facebook)

Thank you for representing our school.



Tohaina ō painga ki te ao.
(Share your gifts with the world.)
Ka kite ano.

Tina Johnson
Principal



CUPS AND TROPHIES

Could all Opihi College
Cups and Trophies
please be cleaned and
returned to the office.

Thank you





MUSIC

A huge thank you to the 'Jolly Potter Temuka' for the donation of a brand new drum kit to Opihi College. This will be of great benefit to our school Music program. Also a general thanks to all other parents and members of the community for their donations of unwanted instruments - we can usually find a home for any guitars, recorders and other instruments that people have no use for any more!!

SCIENCE ACADEMY (OUASSA)

I would like to congratulate Jess Marshall for being accepted into the 2019 Science Academy.

About Science Academy (OUASSA)

The University of Otago is New Zealand's oldest and most attractive university, an institution with an international reputation for excellence in scientific research and teaching.

Science Academy (OUASSA) is designed to introduce potentially high achieving Year 13 students to cutting edge research by means of practical projects held over two 5-day residential science camps and online support through our Virtual Academy.

The goal of science camps is to introduce the students to the world of science research, through a range of practical projects that will excite, challenge, inspire, and motivate them to excel in their final year of school and on their way to a possible career in science. By the end of the second camp students will not only have increased their knowledge of the sciences but gained practical skills, learned how to communicate science, and be familiar with the range of career options open to scientists.

Science Academy (OUASSA) has a strong focus on analytical thinking and problem solving, the important role of communication and the way science in the 21st Century considers social and ethical concerns.

I know you will have an awesome time and share your experiences with us.

Ashley Herbert

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

November	14	Aoraki Junior Volleyball
	15	Aoraki Junior Touch
	21	1.30pm PPTA Paid Union Meeting for teachers <i>School will be open for instruction But students will be able to finish school at lunchtime if the parents wish</i>
	22	Aoraki Ki O Rahi
	29	Yr 13 Graduation Dinner
	30	NCEA Examinations End
December	4-7	Year 7 Camp at Raincliff
	4	SCPSSA Athletics
	11	Awards Ceremony

2019 CALENDAR

January	21	Office opens
	28	Senior Course Confirmation
	29	Senior Mentors
	30	Year 7's start
	31	Whole school starts
February	6	Waitangi Day <i>Statutory Holiday—School closed for instruction</i>



PE HOD Mr Grace accepting a cheque for \$1,411.14 from the Triathlon Club being the profits from the Opihi College Duathlon Series. Thank You!

CASTLE HILL BASIN OED TRIP

