

# Opihi - on campus



Community – Acceptance – Respect – Excellence

Issue 2 21 February 2020

## REMINDER: **PAID UNION MEETING - Tuesday 25th February 2020**

Please note that classes will finish at 1.20pm on this day so that our teachers may attend a Paid Union Meeting. Supervision will be available for students by request - please contact the school office.

# STUDENT LED CONFERENCES

**Monday 9th March 2020**

Appointments available 8.30am to 4.30 pm

***Please note that there will not be any classes on this day***

**Tuesday 10th March 2020**

Appointments available 1.30pm to 6.30 pm

***Please note that classes will finish at 12.30pm on this day***



To book go to [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz)

And use the Event Code **kbrfs**

Appointments are for 20 minutes each  
with your child's **Whanau / Mentor Teacher**.



All students must attend an interview, even if parents /caregivers are unable to attend, as the conferences will include goal setting for the coming year. If parents / caregivers require an alternative appointment day or time, please contact the office to arrange.

## **NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION**

The Opihi College Newsletter is published every fortnight on the Opihi College website. Paper copies will be printed **only for those who request them**. If you would like to continue to receive a paper copy of this newsletter, please complete slip below and return to the school office.

***I would like to receive Newsletters in paper form***

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Tutor Class \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

## From Across the Principal's Desk



Dear Parents/Caregivers

Kia Ora Tatou

All of our students and staff seem to be settling well into the new academic year. We have managed to include a lot of activity and opportunities into a short time, and I hope students are having some interesting conversations with whanau about their learning so far.



Congratulations to the **House Captains** (more details later in this newsletter) who were elected last week. Their responsibilities begin with two major calendar events in the next fortnight with Swimming Sports next week and Athletics Sports the week after.

**Swimming Sports** are on 26<sup>th</sup> February (next Wednesday) at the Temuka Pool. Following positive feedback from last year's event, we are keeping with the same format this year. The swimming will be a full day event. The whole school will attend, with students starting at school at the usual time. Students are to wear their House colours – a reminder that no body or hair paint, or makeup, should be used. We welcome community support and encourage you all to come along for all or part of the day. Don't forget sunblock, hats and plenty of water.

**Athletic Sports** are to be held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March, with full school participation. The information about the day is on our website, but will also be on social media before the event. Once again, students are encouraged to wear house colours. As always, we love having whanau and community support on the day and look forward to seeing as many of you here as possible.

### Attendance and Lateness

As you are aware, attendance at school, for the whole

school day, is a requirement. Sadly we are already dealing with some lateness issues and I need to remind students and whanau that school starts at 8.45a.m., therefore students are expected at school by 8.40a.m. In order to ensure that our students have the best opportunities for learning, it is necessary for them to be at school on time.

National Attendance data has recently been released, resulting in a number of articles in the media. Opihi College's message on attendance is clear. We take our responsibilities for student's attendance seriously and work closely with families and whānau to help ensure regular attendance at school. We want all our students to do well, and coming to school every day is really important if your students are to achieve to their potential. While the reasons for poor attendance are varied we work closely with our whanau to raise awareness of the relationship attendance has with achievement and wellbeing.

Opihi College takes all the steps we can to improve attendance including our sustained focus on quality teaching practice. While we have strategies for addressing poor attendance, tackling this issue is not done in isolation. We work with families and local agencies in supporting children's learning.

The following are our key messages to you with regard to attendance:

- \* Our first message is that "Every day matters; there is no safe level of non-attendance".
- \* Alongside effective teaching, attendance has the biggest in-school influence on student engagement and achievement.
- \* If students are not in school they are unlikely to be accessing the curriculum and therefore missing out on key learning.
- \* Higher rates of attendance are linked to better wellbeing levels of students.
- \* If a child or young person stops attending school regularly, it becomes more difficult to stay connected to school friends and teachers and to catch up with work.
- \* It is never too late to improve attendance and achievement but the longer poor attendance lasts the harder it becomes to successfully remedy.

### Uniform

Another matter we are currently dealing with is incorrect uniform. If a student is wearing non-uniform items they need an explanatory note from their parent/caregiver. The student needs to take the note to their Dean at the start of the day.

A reminder that, because we encourage students to take sun protection seriously, we have three different styles of uniform hat available. There should be no need for students to be wearing non-uniform ones.

In 2018 we changed our uniform code to allow students to wear multiple plain silver or gold studs in their ears; however, the taonga rules did not change. Our uniform code states: "A Taonga or other item of religious or cultural significance may be worn inside clothing. It is to be removed for health and safety reasons as required." Please note that this does not give students permission to wear 'jewellery', the item must have cultural or religious significance. The taonga, given its significance, should also be worn close to the heart – inside clothing. Our full uniform code is available on our website should you be unsure of the guidelines.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our swimming and athletic sports. Hopefully our next newsletter will contain a range of photos from both events.

E waka eke noa  
We are all in this together.

Nga mihi.

Tina Johnson  
Principal

FOR YOUR CALENDAR 2020		
February	24	First Aid course <i>Gateway students</i>
	24	YES Kickstart Event <i>ARA Timaru</i>
	25	Paid Union Meeting for Teachers <i>Classes finish at 1.20pm on this day. Supervision available for students by request.</i>
	25	Board of Trustees Meeting <i>6.30pm Opihi College</i>
	26	Swimming Sports <i>Temuka Domain Pool</i>
	27	Swimming Sports postponement date
	28	Animal Handling course <i>Day 1 - Group 1</i>
March	2	First Aid Course <i>Gateway students</i>
	3	School photos
	4	Opihi College Athletics
	5	Opihi College Athletics postponement day
	9	Student Led Conferencing 8.30am to 4.30pm <i>Please note there will not be any classes on this day</i>
	10	Student Led Conferencing 1.30pm to 6.30pm <i>Please note that classes will finish at 12.30pm on this day</i>
	13	Aoraki Bowls

## WANTED

OLD DENIM JEANS SUITABLE  
FOR AN UPCYCLING PROJECT



If you have any old denim jeans that could be used for an 'Upcycling Project' in our Technology classes, please deliver to the school office.



Remember to come check out our amazing breakfast club! We've got a yummy nutritious breakfast to help KickStart your day!

*Every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 8.15am  
in Kowhai House. Everyone Welcome!!*



# Welcome to Japanese in 2020!

All students at Opihi College get a small taste of the Japanese language and culture in Years 7 and 8. Then they can choose to study the language more in depth from Year 9 to 13. The goal for many of the students is to travel to Japan and use what they've learned in real-life situations on the biennial school trip to Japan. Others choose Japanese because it's a bit different; it's a challenge and fun at the same time. Visit our school website for more information in the section called "Curriculum".



**February:** At the end of the month students who are studying Japanese will go to Christchurch to participate in Japan Day. It will be a fun filled day of Japanese cultural activities and Japanese musical entertainment. **March:** Three students from our Japanese Sister City (Eniwa, Hokkaido) will visit us for three weeks! **May:** Language Perfect World Championships – A world-wide competition with big prizes open to all students. **June:** Our senior students will travel to the University of Canterbury for a full day of studying Japanese with 300 other students and teachers from around Canterbury region. **June:** The Year 10 Japanese Trivia Competition will be held in Dunedin. Let's keep up our winning tradition in this competition! **July/August:** They're coming again! Don't miss out on your opportunity to host a student from Shigakukan High School (Chiba, Japan) for three weeks! Please tell Mr. Lindblom if you are interested. **September:** Japanese Language Trip 2020! – A small group of Opihi College students will go to Japan for one week of train travel through Japan and two weeks attending a Japanese high school while living with a family in our sister city.

Arigato gozaimasu!



# Introducing our 2020 Opihi College House Captains



## **Rata House Captains**

*Alissa Whitman, Israel Pearce & Cole Robertson (deputy)*



## **Pacific House Captains**

*Kyal Dickson & Hailey Larsen*



## **Aoraki House Captains**

*Jaxson Cullen & Olivia Andreassend*



## **Opihi House Captains**

*Sophie Hall (deputy), Charlie Te Haate and Nahia Crawshaw*



**OPIHI COLLEGE**

P O Box 175 Temuka 7948, New Zealand

4<sup>th</sup> February 2020

## OPIHI COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### CASUAL VACANCY FOR AN ELECTED TRUSTEE

A casual vacancy has occurred on the board of trustees for an elected parent representative.

The Board has resolved under section 105 of the Education Act 1989 to fill the vacancy by selection.

If ten percent or more of eligible voters on the school roll ask the board, within 28 days of this notice being published, to hold a by-election to fill the vacancy, then a by-election will be held.

Any eligible voter who wishes to ask the board to hold a by-election should write to:

Chairperson  
Board of Trustees  
Opihi College  
PO Box 175  
Temuka 7948

By 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

Ph: +64 (3) 615 7442 | office@opihicollege.school.nz | www.opihicollege.school.nz



## Engage Your Brain

Timaru Girls' High School - Timaru  
Tues 25 Feb 2020 - 7:30pm - 9:00pm  
Tickets at Eventfinda.co.nz



Nathan Wallis, New Zealand's favourite Neuroscience Educator (and host of the documentary "All in the Mind", and co-host of the TV Series "The Secret life of Girls") is coming to Timaru for another of his sell-out talks about brain development from childhood to adulthood. He will be at Timaru Girls' High on Tuesday 25 February 2020 - 7.30-9.00pm. Nathan's talks are very popular with parents, teachers, coaches, leaders and anyone else who is interested in learning about the workings of the brain. Nathan has a profound reputation as a lively and engaging speaker. He uses humour and plain language to condense 25 years of neuroscience research into his unique 'tell you how it is' style. You'll be absolutely captivated and walk away jam-packed with more than a few "ah-ha" moments. More information can be found by following this link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2020/engage-your-brain-timaru/timaru>



Our school is proud to be part of  
**KickStart Breakfast!**  
All tamariki are welcome to come  
along for breakfast!

# Wagging warning to parents: Take school attendance seriously

NZ Herald 14 Feb, 2020 2:00pm



Fewer students are attending school regularly, new data reveals.

NZ Herald

Fewer students are attending school regularly as figures reveal "patterns of absences". And the Government is warning parents to take their child's school attendance more seriously.

Data taken from Term 2 last year showed there was a drop in the number of students going to school regularly, while Mondays and Fridays were the most frequently skipped days. And 22 per cent of students nationally weren't present on the last day of term. Associate Education Minister Tracey Martin said parents needed to take school absences seriously. "Education really matters and we all have to take attendance seriously. Going to school is what sets our young people up for life."

The data, released this afternoon, showed while most of the absences were justified - for example if a child was sick - there were some increases in unjustified absences. The average attendance rate was 88.6 per cent last year while "regular attendance" is measured as a student being at school 90 per cent of class time.

Research showed that every day away from school could affect results, Martin said. For example, students attending 95 per cent of days in Year 10 later get an average of 75 credits at Level 3, which was plenty to achieve the qualification.

But of Year 10s who attend 85 per cent of the time, only about half go on to achieve NCEA Level 3, Martin said. The downwards trend in attendance had been going on for a few years - except for 2018 - and it had to stop in order young people got the education they needed, Martin said. It was justified if a child needed to stay home because they're ill and most of the absences recorded in the data were because of this, Martin said. The minister acknowledged this "is a tricky thing to talk about at the moment with the fears around the coronavirus".

"But it is clear from the patterns of absences – they are worse on Mondays and Fridays, and 22 per cent of students weren't at school on the last day of term – that something else is going on."



# OPIHI COLLEGE UNIFORM ITEMS AVAILABLE AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE



## OPIHI COLLEGE CAPS



*Opihi College caps are made from a cotton fabric.  
One Size Fits All with an adjuster on the back.*

**\$10**

## OPIHI COLLEGE SUNHATS



*Bucket style sunhats made from sturdy cotton drill  
fabric. Two sizes available.*

**\$10**

# OPIHI COLLEGE UNIFORM ITEMS AVAILABLE AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE



## OPIHI COLLEGE WHITE SHIRTS FOR SENIORS



*Opihi College have a stock of an alternative white  
shirt for senior students. These shirts are made from  
a thicker, higher quality fabric. Available in short or  
long sleeve.*

**\$40**

## OPIHI COLLEGE WHITE BLOUSES FOR SENIORS



*Opihi College have a stock of an alternative white  
blouse for senior students. These shirts are made  
from a thicker, higher quality fabric. Available in  
short or long sleeve.*

**\$40**

# Opihi College Uniform – School Regulations

## Junior Uniform (Years 7-10)

### Tops

- Mid-blue polo shirt with school crest
- Dark Royal, V-necked, long sleeved jersey with school crest
- Dark Royal, V-necked, vest with school crest
- Black soft-shell jacket with crest; or any plain black water-resistant jacket.



### Bottoms

- Navy blue dress shorts (not cargo style)
- Inverted 2-pleat navy skirt
- Navy blue skort
- Long black dress trousers
- "Blue Watch" tartan kilt



### Socks

- White or black turn over top ankle socks (not sports socks)
- Black stockings
- Black over the knee socks (to be worn with kilt/skirt only and must look like tights, therefore not visible as socks)
- School socks - dark grey with black, blue and white hoop



## Senior Uniform (Years 11-13)

### Tops

- White straight hem, short sleeve, collar band, shirt
- White long sleeve, collar band shirt (must be tucked in)
- Dark Royal, V-necked, long sleeved jersey with school crest
- Dark Royal, V-necked, vest with school crest
- Black soft-shell jacket with crest; or any plain black water-resistant jacket
- School blazer and tie



### Bottoms

- Navy blue dress shorts (*not cargo style*)
- Inverted pleat skirt navy
- Long black dress trousers
- "Blue Watch" tartan kilt

### Socks

- White or black turn over top ankle socks (*not sports socks*)
- Black stockings
- Black over the knee socks (to be worn with kilt/skirt only and must look like tights, therefore not visible as socks)
- School socks - dark grey with black, blue and white hoop

*Uniform items are only available from SchoolTex online, The Warehouse Timaru or the College Office.*



## Other items - Junior and Senior

- All students to wear black, leather or leather look, shoes of a plain design with enclosed toes. Shoes must be able to be polished, not suede or canvas. They must be shoes, not boots. They must comply with Health and Safety requirements for protection of the foot in technology and science areas.
- Students are strongly advised to wear a plain black or navy-blue bucket hat or cap in warm weather. Both styles can be purchased from the school office.
- Plain navy blue or black beanies and scarves may be worn outside during Term 2 & 3.
- PE uniform - Opihi College PE shirt with black shorts (mid-thigh maximum length and no cycle type shorts). A change of socks is to be worn with gym shoes. On cold days a black tracksuit or a plain coloured sweatshirt in your house colour and black track pants can be worn. *(The P.E. shirts are only available to purchase through the school office.)*



## **Personal Presentation – School Regulations**

These regulations apply to all students.

- Hair must be clean, tidy (out of eyes) and tied up if longer than shoulder length. No extremes including changing hair to unnatural colours. Boys must be clean-shaven. Plain elastic hair ties must be in school/hair colours. (Blue, black, brown and white.)
- A Taonga or other item of religious or cultural significance may be worn inside clothing. It is to be removed for health and safety reasons as required.
- Students may only wear **plain** silver or gold stud earrings in their ears at their own risk. No other jewellery should be visible. Facial piercing, nose studs, tongue piercing and visible tattoos are not permitted.
- Make-up and coloured nail polish are not to be worn with school uniform.

The school uniform is to be worn correctly and neatly at all times.





# OPIHI COLLEGE

## 2020 Japan Trip Movie Fundraiser



Where: Geraldine Movie Theatre.

Date: 27th February 2020 7.00pm

Cost: \$15 Per Ticket

Lucky tickets will be drawn on the night.

Bring cash for snacks, raffles etc.

Contact Opihi College For Tickets: 03-615 7442



## Temuka & Geraldine A&P 146<sup>th</sup> Winchester Show

Saturday 7 March 2020

**Gates Open 8am**  
**Adults \$10 – Kids Free**

- ✓ Face Painting
- ✓ Wood Chopping Events
- ✓ Agri Kids
- ✓ Children's Sawdust Dig
- ✓ Home Industry
- ✓ Cam Scott Entertaining
- ✓ School Shed
- ✓ Police Dogs
- ✓ Carnival Rides
- ✓ Pet Parade
- ✓ Balloon Artist
- ✓ Plus Heaps More!

### Silent Auction

Bring your Family & Friends – See you at the Show!  
Go in the draw to win Jewellery made by Jewelfcraft Jewellers  
and 2x Children's Scooters

**HYUNDAI** | SOUTH CANTERBURY

## GERALDINE MULTI CHALLENGE

*Run • Walk • Bike*



**SUNDAY 15 MARCH 2020**

PRESENTED BY THE GERALDINE LIONS AND BIKE GERALDINE

[www.geraldinemultichallenge.co.nz](http://www.geraldinemultichallenge.co.nz)



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK



geraldine

KUMHO TYRE



EARTHWORKS  
AORAKI

BARKER'S

GERALDINE GLASS  
as Glazing



## Seido Karate

**Beginner's  
Class**

**Alpine Energy  
Stadium  
Temuka  
Every  
Tuesday**

**Children's  
class 5:15pm**

**Adults' class  
6pm**

For more info go to the  
Temuka Seido Facebook  
page  
or contact Senpai Cherie  
0276937576

誠道塾