



## NEWS



Community - Acceptance - Respect - Excellence

Issue 13 16th September 2021



# CONFERENCING

Wednesday 22nd September 2021



*Please note due to COVID limitations we have changed the format of our Conferencing Day - Interviews on this day are for **SENIOR STUDENTS ONLY***

Students in Years 11-13 and their families are invited to book parent teacher interview appointments between the hours of 2.00pm and 6.00pm on Wednesday 22nd September:

- Code **bh9tt** on the [schoolinterviews.co.nz](https://schoolinterviews.co.nz) website
- Appointments are for **ten minutes each**, it will be essential families arrive on time.
- We highly recommend senior students meeting all subject teachers.
- With the constant changing of Alert Levels and precautions around Delta, we appreciate that some of you may prefer to have these interviews via Zoom, on the phone or in person. Regardless of how you would like to meet, please use the booking code and book a slot with your teacher/s. Teachers will then communicate with you closer to the time to see how you would like to meet.
- Bookings will be unable to be made on the day.
- Please contact the school office if you require any assistance.

**For all parents of students in Years 7-10, you are encouraged to contact teachers at any stage if you have concerns or problems. Please do this by either e-mailing them or contacting the school office.**

*We want to remind families that you do not have to wait for conferences to discuss any issues with subject teachers. You are more than welcome to contact teachers at any stage and arrange a meeting.*

**Book your Conferencing Appointments now**

# *From across the Principal's desk...*



## **Welcome Back!**

I would like to extend my gratitude to everyone who has played their part over the last 3 weeks while our region has been in Alert Level 4 and 3. Lockdowns are a challenging time for families, and we really appreciate all the hard work that has gone into keeping our young people safe. Thank you very much to the teachers and staff at Opihi, who have worked hard by preparing work (both online and hardpack), teaching remotely, making countless deliveries and staying in regular contact with families. Last Thursday saw the long awaited return of all students to school. It is now a good time to remind everyone that we need students at school by 8:40am in their correct school uniform. With only 10 school days until the October holidays, our teachers need to make the most of all possible teaching time.

## **Welcome to Miss Busson**

I warmly welcome Miss Raquel Busson who will be teaching BG1 and BG2 for Integrated Studies. Miss Busson has come to us from the West Coast. She has already met some of her students during lockdown via lessons on zoom.

Thank you very much to Mrs Verge who taught these classes until Miss Busson could move here. We look forwards to having Mrs Verge back with us teaching English in Term 4, when she returns from maternity leave.

## **Delta Level 2**

An email has already gone out to families outlining what Delta Level 2 looks like at school. Here is a recap of our main points:

- Face coverings are recommended if a student can wear them properly, but they are not mandatory
- Stay home if unwell. If a student becomes unwell during the day, they will be required to go home.
- Sanitizing and hand washing will become part of our routine
- Sharing of classroom equipment will be discouraged, so please check that your child has the correct stationery
- Drink fountains remain on during Level 2, however we encourage students to bring their own water bottle
- School lunches continue as normal. Canteen is open as normal.
- We recommend students bring their own device to school to eliminate the sharing of devices. An ICT agreement needs to be signed for a personal device to go onto our system. These are available from the school office.

## **Practice Exams**

Our senior students will be completing Practice Exams during Term 4 Week 2 (26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> October). These exams are very important as the grades may need to be used for derived grades. Senior students will be off timetable for those dates and will only attend school when they have an exam or a practical session. A confirmed timetable will be sent out shortly to students and parents. Exams will run from 9am-12pm and then from 1pm-4pm.

## **NCEA exams**

NCEA exams for 2022 are now from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November until Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December. The exam timetable can be found on the NZQA website.

## **Senior finish date**

Because NCEA exams have been rescheduled, seniors will now finish school on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November. During the following week, some senior students will continue coming into school for tutorials or to finish practical classes. This will be arranged with individual students.

## **Last day of School**

Our last day of school for 2021 is Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December. Y7-10 students will attend school for that day. All students (Y7-13) will attend our Awards Ceremony that evening from 7pm at the Temuka Stadium.



### Course selections

An email has been sent home to all current Y10 – 13 students regarding choosing their subjects for 2022. It is important that this is completed by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September as we use this information to set our classes up for next year. If you are struggling with this or would like to sit down and discuss subject options, please get in contact with either your child's Dean or Vicki Henderson.

Our current Year 8 & 9 students will select their courses for 2022 during Term 4 as planned.

### Sporting events

Unfortunately, the netball and basketball tournaments were cancelled this year due to Covid. We would like to acknowledge the hard work that coaches, managers, students and parents put into these teams with fundraising and training. We are crossing our fingers that the basketball finals still go ahead this Friday night since we are now in Level 2.

The Pleasant Point Primary Exchange for Y7 & 8 students has also been cancelled. Because schools are unable to have visitors onsite under Level 2, we cannot hold this sporting event until we get to Level 1.

### Ski Trip

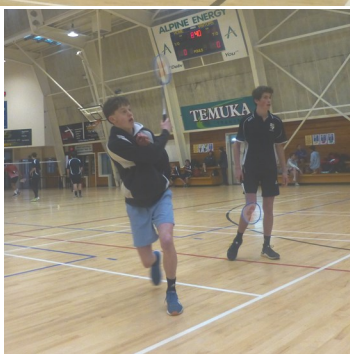
Yet another cancellation, is the ski trip to Mt Hutt. Mt Hutt is fully booked leading up the end of the year with existing bookings, and with Level 2 restrictions in place, they cannot accommodate our school. The money will remain in your account unless you request for it to be refunded by ringing the office.

Nga mihi

*Tony Robson*  
Acting Principal



*Opihi College students attended the Aoraki Girls and Boys Badminton Tournaments on August 10th and 12th. All of the students involved competed with Pride, achieving some great results. Thankyou to Mr Goodman and Debbie Cuthbert for managing these teams.*



## OPIHI COLLEGE VESTS



*An extra layer to help keep you warm on these chilly days!*

**SPECIAL PRICE**  
**Only \$10 each**

Available from the school office  
During office hours.  
*Only while stocks last!*

## CARE CARD DRAW WINNERS

Congratulations to our recent winners:

Lyric Murray-Maaka  
Piper-Lee Suddens  
Logan Larsen  
Taylah Tindall  
*Well done to you all!*



## WELCOME

We would like to welcome new students who have started at Opihi College recently:

Taylor Buckland  
Princess Capote  
Matthew Sullivan  
Jax Anderson

*We hope you all enjoy your time here!*



## BUILDING WORKS

Construction work is continuing at Opihi College with renovations to our Music Department and Staff Room areas now underway. The construction teams have all returned to site after lockdown, and work is hoped to be completed early next year.

## ABSENCES

Just a reminder when leaving an answerphone message or texting the absence line to please give a reason for your child's absence (such as sick, family holiday, course, funeral, and so on). We are required by the Ministry of Education to code all student absences.

If you are wishing to contact the school by text message, please send your messages to our:

**Absence phone on 027 317 7512.**

*Please only text this number as we cannot answer any calls or retrieve any voice messages.*

Also, please do not reply to the number on our computer generated texts as unfortunately there are issues with our computer receiving text messages sent to these numbers.

Messages are able to be left on the absence line at any time by phoning the **Opihi College office on 03 6157 442.**

## FOR YOUR CALENDAR 2021

<b>September</b>	16	HPV Vaccines <i>Year 7&amp;8</i>
	22	<b>Parent Conferences</b> Senior Students Only <i>Appointments available 2-6pm</i>
	27	<b>South Canterbury Anniversary Day</b> <i>Statutory Holiday.</i> <i>School closed for instruction</i>
<b>October</b>	1	<i>End of Term 3</i>
	18	<i>Start of Term 4</i>
	25	<b>Labour Day</b> <i>Statutory Holiday—School closed for instruction</i>
	26	Board of Trustees Meeting <i>6.30pm</i>
	26-29	Practice Exam Week
<b>November</b>	12	Senior Students begin Study Leave
	22	<i>NCEA External Examinations begin</i>
	25	NZQA Teacher Only Day
<b>December</b>	13	<i>Awards Ceremony</i>

## TEACHER ONLY DAYS

Upcoming NZQA Teacher Only Days which the Ministry have set for us. These are for schools to work through the changes that are happening for NCEA. Please note this date:

**Thursday 25th November 2021**

*Please note the school will be closed for instruction on this day.*



## DAFFODIL DAY

Well done to senior students Hailey Larsen, Baiden Halkett and Nahia Crawshaw who assisted at the Daffodil Day Breakfast held at the Temuka RSA recently. This was a very successful fundraiser for the Cancer Society.





# OPIHI COLLEGE

# OPEN DAY



**Missed our Open Day with the wild weather?**

**Tours of Opihi College and a meeting with the Principal, for families interested in enrolling students, can be arranged at any time by phoning the school office.**





# Discovery Camp and Nano Camp

Applications are open for two opportunities for year 12 and 13 students with a passion for Science. Both of these are FREE to attend. All flights, accommodation, meals and fun activities are fully paid for!!

Hosted by the MacDiarmid Institute, DiscoveryCamp is a full week of residential lab experience with top scientists, completing hands-on investigations into a range of topics including electron microscopy, laser physics and nano-electronics. For current Year 12 and 13 Maori and Pasifika students with a passion for Science. (16-21 January 2022, Wellington).



Hosted by the MacDiarmid Institute, NanoCamp is a full week of residential lab experience with top scientists, completing hands-on investigations into a range of topics including electron microscopy, laser physics and nano-electronics. For current Year 12 and 13 students who are passionate about Science. (16-21 January 2022, Auckland). Applications close on September 17th.

For more information and to apply go to:

<http://www.macdiarmid.ac.nz/.../events/discoverycamp-2022/>

<http://www.macdiarmid.ac.nz/news.../events/nanocamp-2022/>



South Canterbury Amateur Athletic Club

1871-2021

150 Years

The South Canterbury Amateur Athletic Club invite all past, present and future members to the 150th celebrations of the club's formation.

**Saturday 23 October 2021**

**12.00pm** Display of memorabilia from the club's past

Aorangi Pavilion

**1.30pm** Athletics Programme from the early days of the club

All-Weather Track facility at Aorangi

Standing Jumps, Throwing the stone, 100 yards, 1 mile running (Period costume optional)

**6.00pm** Meet and Greet

**7.00pm** Dinner

Upstairs Lounge Southern Trust Events Centre

Chance to take part in a question and answer session with the club's Olympians

Tomas Walsh and Lauren Bruce

**Sunday 24 October 2021**

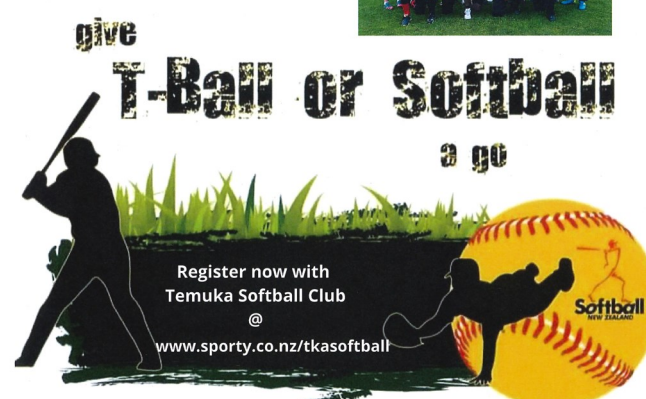
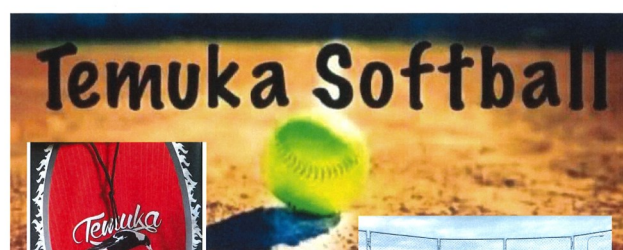
**10.00am** Past, Present and Future Tour of Timaru

Covers the grounds the club has used over the years

Concludes with Morning Tea at the Aorangi Pavilion

**Interested?**

Register your interest by emailing [scaac150years@gmail.com](mailto:scaac150years@gmail.com)



Register now with  
Temuka Softball Club

@  
[www.sporty.co.nz/tkasoftball](http://www.sporty.co.nz/tkasoftball)

**South Canterbury Softball Association : 2021-2022 Season Dates**

	Pre Christmas	Post Christmas
T-ball & Junior Softball	Friday 22 October - Friday 10 December	Friday 4 February - Friday 11 March
Secondary Softball	Wednesday 27 October - Wednesday 8 December	Wednesday 9 February - Wednesday 16 March
Senior Softball	Friday 22 October - Friday 10 December	Friday 21 January - Friday 18 March
Slow Pitch Softball	Tuesday 26 October - Tuesday 7 December	Tuesday 25 January - Tuesday 15 March