

# NEWS



**Community - Acceptance - Respect - Excellence**

Issue 15 21st October 2021



**Agriculture Trip**



The Year 9 & 10 Agriculture trip had a very enjoyable and interesting trip to the Peel Forest Estate in September to look at Animal Handling and Venison Production Systems. Students were very well behaved, and enjoyed visiting the deer farm. Many thanks to Jan, Anna, Debbie and Mr Mills for their assistance on this trip; and to Peel Forest Estate for their support.



*Our Senior Technology students busy completing their projects.*



## From Across the Principal's Desk



### *Kia ora and welcome to Term 4*

I hope that you all were able to spend some quality time with your children during the school holidays. Term 4 is a really exciting part of the school year for everyone and especially for the seniors. This is a hugely important time for the seniors who need to make sure they understand what they need to focus upon to achieve their own personal goals. With practice exams and final exams all happening this term, students need to be making sure they are using their time wisely, prioritizing study time and catching up with their teachers if they are unsure of any of the material.

### **A returning welcome to Mrs Verge**

This term we have the pleasure to have Mrs Rebecca Verge back with us as she returns from maternity leave. Mrs Verge is working with our Year 9 and 10 students in English, Drama and Social Sciences.

### **Covid Update**

As with the rest of society, Covid is continuing to effect life here at school. Due to the nature of the virus the situation is very fluid and what is required is often changing. We endeavour to keep you informed but if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.

You may have already received a request for details of your student's vaccination status. Under the Covid-19 Public Health Response (Vaccinations) Order 2021, secondary schools are required to maintain an up-to-date register with the vaccine status of all eligible students. This information is confidential and will be stored at the school. We will not share your personal information unless we are required or authorised to do so by law. In the situation of an outbreak, we may share your personal information with a Public Health Authority for the purposes of planning and implementing appropriate public health responses. Where possible we will only disclose aggregate level information.

For students who travel to school on a school bus we are expecting that the rules will change slightly, with face masks becoming mandatory for all people 12 years old or more.

We are still hoping to be able to run this year's Awards Ceremony as normal on the 13<sup>th</sup> December, however this is very dependent on the alert levels status at the time. As we do understand what a special event this is for the students, their whanau

and the staff here at Opihi College, we will make a final decision as late as possible.

### **Senior Students**

Since the last newsletter the Ministry of Education has revised its stance on who is eligible for [Learning Recognition Credits](#). Students at Opihi College do now qualify for the Learning Recognition Credits. Therefore, the following rules apply

- \* For every 5 credits a student earns towards their NCEA through assessment, they would be entitled to one extra Learning Recognition Credit to acknowledge the disruption to their learning.
- \* Students undertaking NCEA Level 1 would be eligible for up to a maximum of 8 additional credits, while those at Levels 2 or 3 would be eligible for up to a maximum of 6 additional credits.

### **Seniors Final Day and NCEA Exams**

The end of the year is fast approaching for the Seniors with their final teaching day being the 12<sup>th</sup> November and the NCEA exams starting 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Teacher will be running tutorials between these dates and students sitting external exams are highly encouraged to attend. The exam timetable can be found on the NZQA website or by clicking [here](#).

### **Last day of School**

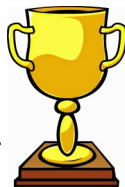
Our last day of school for 2021 is Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December. Year 7-10 students will attend school for that day. As discussed earlier we hope to being able to run the Awards Ceremony as planned for all students (Years 7-13) starting at 7pm at the Temuka Stadium.

Nga mihi  
Tony Robson



## OPIHI COLLEGE CUPS AND TROPHIES

It's that time of year again - please clean and return all Opihi College cups and trophies to the school office ready for the end of year prizegiving. We would appreciate return of these as soon as possible.



## WELCOME

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

Awatini Dooley  
Xavier Webb



This term we would like to welcome Mrs Smith to the staff. Mrs Smith will be assisting in Kowhai House as a Teacher Aide.



## PROPERTY PROJECTS

Construction work has continued over the holidays to upgrade our Music Department and Music Room. Our Richard Pearse Drive entranceway has been re-sealed. The old Maths and Science block has been partially demolished, and work will continue on this project in the next school holidays. We are eagerly awaiting the arrival, and commencement of installation, of an all weather surface on our courts.

## TEMUKA SWIMMING CLUB

Lessons on Tuesday and Thursday evenings held in the Temuka pool.

Children must be 6 years old

Please look at the website for more information and to register:

<https://www.sporty.co.nz/temukaswim>  
or email Kirstyn at [temukaswimmingclub@gmail.com](mailto:temukaswimmingclub@gmail.com)

Registrations close 31st October 2021



## FOR YOUR CALENDAR 2021

October	25	<b>Labour Day</b> <i>Statutory Holiday—School closed for instruction</i>
	26	Board of Trustees Meeting 6.30pm
	26-29	Practice Exam Week
November	10	Yr 9 & 10 Course Selection Meeting 7.00pm
November	12	Senior Students begin Study Leave
	22	<i>NCEA External Examinations begin</i>
	24-26	Year 9 & 10 PE Expedition
	25	<b>NZQA Teacher Only Day</b>
	26	Science Roadshow
December	7	Year 7 camp
December	13	Awards Ceremony

## 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.*



Looking for a new challenge or just wanting to keep fit over the summer?

Come join the Temuka Athletics club (formed in 1894) in a great fun, family friendly environment either casually or competitively.

## Season starts Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Regular Friday night and Sunday interclubs competing against all the other local clubs over the summer

Training with qualified coaches available

Events : Running , Walking , Throwing and Jumping – Caters for all abilities and ages

Ages : from 5 years to senior adults

When : Monday nights ( Term Four and One )

Time : 6.15pm start

Where : Opihi College sports ground ( Guild Road entrance )

For further information and registration details :

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

Facebook : Temuka Athletics Club

Email : [temu.athletics@gmail.com](mailto:temu.athletics@gmail.com)

Phone : Nicola 021 622 942





# PRACTICE EXAM WEEK

From Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October till Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October, we are having practice exams at school for all senior students. Unfortunately due to lockdown last term, we had to push these practice exams into Term 4. During this week, all senior students are off timetable, which means that they will be permitted to be at home unless they are coming in for a practice exam or a practical session.

Those students who travel on a school bus are allowed to stay at school all day and will be in a designated study room when they are not in an exam. The exams run from 9-12pm and 1-4pm. It is really important that students spend time preparing and studying as the grades might be used for derived grades should we go into another Level 4 lockdown, or a student is unable to sit the exam. Students will need to wear school uniform and will also need to follow the rules from NZQA as to what they are allowed to bring into the exam. All of that information has been given out to students on Tuesday and has also been sent to them via email.

## Timetable

Date	Time	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
<b>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October</b>	9am – 12pm	Science	Chemistry Physics	
	1pm – 4pm	Geography History Japanese	English	English
<b>Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October</b>	9am – 12pm	English	Health	Health
	1pm – 4pm	Music	Biology	Biology
<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> October</b>	9am – 12pm	Mathematics	History Geography	Statistics
	1pm – 4pm		Music Japanese	History
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October</b>	9am – 12pm	Health	Mathematics	Calculus
	1pm – 4pm			

## Practical Sessions

### Science Level 2 Practical in Lab 2

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October                      9am – 11am

**Art and DVC** with arrangement with Mr Peters

### MTE Workshop for Year 11-13

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October                      12:30 – 3:00pm

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October                      11:10 – 1:10pm

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October                      9:00am – 12pm

# YEAR 9 and 10 COURSE SELECTIONS FOR 2022



As many of you are aware, we run an innovative “choices” programme here at Opihi College for our Year 9 and 10 students. We believe that by giving students choice, it engages them in their learning, which increases academic progress and improves behaviour.

## What does this mean for current Year 8 and 9 students?

On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November we will hand out the 2022 Course Booklet. This will show all the topics that are running next year, along with a blurb about what is covered in that topic.

On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November, we will have a community meeting to explain all about how the Year 9 & 10 programme runs and to also go through how to select the courses. This will be an optional meeting, but we really recommend all current Year 8 families to come to it so that they have a clear understanding before selecting.

In Week 6 and 7, we will then be having our 3 way conferences to select your child's choices for 2022. This conference, which takes place with the student, family and a member of the Senior Leadership Team, is vital in the success of this programme. It is where we make certain that the choices are the best fit for the student according to their academic needs and potential pathways.

## How do I book a 3 way conference?

Via [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz) by using the code **4qhx6**.

Conferences are for 15 minutes each, however we do recommend booking a double slot if you are having trouble with the course selections. Appointments are available from Monday 22nd November until Friday 3rd December.



## Timaru Altrusa Scholarship In memory of Olwen Norton

This scholarship is intended for:

- undertaking vocational study in order to return to the workplace
- training for a new vocational career
- anyone who as a result of circumstance has been unable to take up study until now.
- payment of tuition fees
- South Canterbury residents

Further Information:

- \$1500 will be available for distribution
- More than one recipient may share this award

For application forms and further information please contact

Robyn Brien  
[robyn.brien@gmail.com](mailto:robyn.brien@gmail.com)  
0211525088

Closing Date: Friday, 19 November 2021

ALTRUSA International of Timaru supports our local community

# HAUORA WANANGA

POWHIRI

WAKA AMA

10:30am

MATT KIORE

Waiata

TOA WORKSHOP

Songs

Kapa

WHĀNAUKATAKA

Haka

Relationships

Mahika kai

KEMU  
Games

TO REGISTER CONTACT THE OFFICE 03-684-7906  
OR [ADMIN@TEAITARAKIHI.CO.NZ](mailto:ADMIN@TEAITARAKIHI.CO.NZ)  
ACCOMMODATION AT TE AITARAKIHI IS  
AVAILABLE FOR THE FRIDAY 19TH



19  
&  
20

NOVEMBER

Till  
late



# OPIHI COLLEGE UNIFORM ITEMS AVAILABLE AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE



## 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!



*Opihi College have two styles of PE Tops available for purchase at the school office.*

Currently we have stocks of both new and pre-loved PE tops. New PE Tops are \$40 (black with white piping style) or \$50 (black with white collar style). In the event of not having the size you prefer in stock, we can order for you.



## 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 also stock a limited range of pre-loved uniform items - these are available for viewing at any time the school office is open. We are able to sell your pre-loved uniform items for a small commission - please bring any items you wish to have sold on behalf in to the school office.