

Opihi - on campus



Community – Acceptance – Respect – Excellence

Issue 14 - 12 September, 2014

Parent Teacher Interviews

Opihi College Parent / Teacher Interviews for Senior Students (Year 11 - 13)

Interviews with individual subject teachers are planned for
Tuesday, 16th September 4 - 8pm

Make your booking at
www.schoolinterviews.co.nz using code
XSVGG, or call the
school office on (03) 615 7442

Parents...



SISS Senior Netball Team Raffle Results

\$100 Raffle No. 1 - K Fisher

\$100 Raffle No. 2 - Barbara Henderson

Gift Basket:

1st: Dana McGillen

2nd: Jackie Ogg

Thank you for your support.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

September	16	Studylink Presentation @ Craighead—6.30pm
	16	Parent Teacher Interviews
	18	Disco for Year 7 - 10 students - 1980's theme
	19	Teacher Only Day
	22	SC Anniversary Day
	26	End of Term 3
	28	Japanese Language Trip Departs
October	13	Term 4 starts
	5	Last day for Seniors
November	10	NCEA Externals begin



Opihi College

C.A.R.E.
COMMUNITY | ACCEPTANCE | RESPECT | EXCELLENCE



Congratulations to the following students for receiving C.A.R.E. awards

18 August		
Jaime Gould	Community	Bronze
Georgia-Rae Marriner	Excellence	Bronze
Brittany Armishaw	Excellence	Bronze
8 September		
Jamie Pearson	Community	Silver
Brooke Valentine	Community	Bronze
Emily Bennett	Excellence	Bronze
Katie Black	Excellence	Bronze
Ebony Keeley	Excellence	Bronze
Cole Robertson	Excellence	Bronze



From Across the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents/Caregivers
Kia ora tatou

During the last two weeks I have been reflecting upon the opportunities that are available to students at Opihi College. So much so, that I think we should market ourselves as 'Opihi College, the school of opportunities'. The first thought came as some feedback from a parent after the Careers Option night held two weeks ago. The parent commented that there were 'so many opportunities for students' in the possible courses available to them at Opihi College.

My second thought came to me as I started to write my entry for this newsletter. We have had so many trips and activities that students are spoilt for choice as to what they could do. Many of these are as a result of staff giving up their time to work with students when they could be at home with their own families. With so many of these activities and trips, parents are welcome to assist. I urge parents to ignore the protests of your children and volunteer to assist with the activities. In my view, the parents often get so much out of the experience and the students enjoy having other adults about.

Tournament week

Last week was the annual Tournament Week for Secondary Schools' winter sports throughout New Zealand. Our Senior A Netball team competed in Invercargill, 1st XI Football in Timaru and a combined Rural Schools' Hockey team played in Westport. The teams all performed well and the students learnt a lot from their experience of being away with their respective teams. The best placed team was the Combined Rural High School Hockey team who placed third in their tournament in Westport.

Year 7 Netball

On Saturday, the Year 7 netball team played in the final and won their grade. The final score in that game was 30 - 9. An outstanding result for the team! My thanks goes to their coach, Year 13 student, Shawna Connell and Ms Branaye Wylie.

Tekapo, star gazing!

On the 27 August a large group of students and some staff travelled to the Mount John Observatory to learn a little about astronomy. Feedback from the students was really positive. Thank you to Mrs Heena Shah for organising this trip and the opportunity for the students.

Band Quest

On 30 August, Mr Russell Fleming took a group of students to the Smokefree Band Quest Competition in Christchurch. The band, 'Future Shock' is made up of Allicia Kelly and Sophie Nolan (Vocals), Bradley Reid (Drums), Sophie Pye (Bass guitar) and Billy Cook (Guitar). This was the first time the school has been represented in the competition and we are very proud that Sophie Pye won the award for the Best Bass Guitar player.

The band also performed in assembly on Monday and it was wonderful to see so many of their parents at assembly watching them. The students, quite rightly are very proud of their work and achievement so far. We look forward to seeing the students perform again in the future. Thank you to Mr Fleming for your work with the group.

Year 9 Ski Trip, Wanaka

Last week I had the pleasure of taking a group of students to Wanaka to ski for two days at Cardrona Ski Field. The sun shone and the snow was excellent. The students had great instructors and thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to ski independently. The students were great ambassadors for the school and had a fantastic time. On the last morning, when I asked who would like to go on the trip next year, all their hands went up which is a good indication that they had a great time too! I would like to thank Mrs Natalie Bergamini, Alastair and Debbie Millar for assisting with the trip.

In 2015 we will be running a trip again and will also be making an opportunity available for senior students to ski for a weekend too. Details will be available before the end of the year.

Cultural Competition

It is now less than two weeks until the cultural competition and students are working hard to prepare for this inter house event. Parents and whanau are encouraged to attend and I hope that we shall see great performances, like last year. We will be sending a text to parents to advise the start time for this event. I hope to see you there!

Ultra Fast Broadband

In the last two newsletters I have talked about the imminent arrival of the Ultra Fast Broadband internet. Since the first mention where we anticipated being connected late in Term 4 we have had visits from a series of technicians who have been adding hardware to our system and plugging in new cables. We have another visit scheduled for this week. It is quite possible that we may have our connection running for student use in time for the start of Term 4.

Finally

Last week I was talking to a parent about Opihi College. He asked me, did I think that the culture of school had changed in the last two and half years, since I started. After a few seconds I responded 'Yes' and then went on to say that it was not just my work but also that of the very committed staff and the students who have worked hard to provide a safe environment where all students have the opportunity to learn and to be successful. The parent responded in agreement but went on to say 'The kids enjoy coming to school now!' What a great endorsement from our community to:

Opihi College, the school of opportunities

Ka kite ano
Mike Wright, Principal



Purchase Ballance Agri-Nutrients fertiliser this spring to earn \$\$\$ for your local community.
We'll donate \$1 for every tonne you buy!*

Nominate your cause at www.cashforcommunities.co.nz

If you signed up to the autumn 2014 programme you're automatically registered for spring!

*Open to PGG Wrightson account holders only. \$1 per tonne of Ballance Agri-Nutrients fertiliser purchased (excluding Lime, Gypsum and Hatuma), between 1 September and 30 November 2014, will be donated to your nominated cause. See full terms and conditions at www.cashforcommunities.co.nz. Minimum donation per cause applies. The 2014 Spring Cash for Communities programme runs in place of a 2015 Autumn Cash for Communities programme.

STUDYLINK PRESENTATION

for Senior Students

Craighead Diocesan School Auditorium

Tuesday, 16th September 2014

from 6.30pm

Parents are also invited to attend this presentation



1980's themed Disco

for students in Years 7 - 10



**Tickets - \$3.00 pre purchased
(tickets outside room 4 interval and lunchtime)**

\$3.50 on the night

Thursday 18 September

7 — 9pm

Opihi College students only



Sport Canterbury Active Kids Holiday Programme 6 - 10 October 2014

The Southern Trust Events Centre, Morgans Road, Timaru

Session times available: 9-12, 9-3 or 9-5

Transport available for Temuka children

Morning sessions focus on a range of modified sports with the afternoons offering fun activities

**Sports Festival
Stage Challenge
Pita Pizza Party**

**Inline Skating
Cricket Coaching
Wind Chime Making**

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE MONDAY 29TH September 2014
(Our Programme is OSCAR approved so you may be entitled for a subsidy)

Register online at www.sportcanterbury.org.nz
for more information phone 03 686 0751 or
email lee-anne@sportcanterbury.org.nz



Baby Sitting

14 year old available for babysitting in Temuka. Had some experience. Call Hayley on 615 5139 between 3.20pm and 9pm Monday to Friday or 8am - 9.00pm on Saturday and Sunday.

With the change from winter to summer uniform, the PB4L team thought it was a good time to remind students what is accepted for uniform at Opihi College.

ABSOLUTELY NO JEWELLERY (other than a toanga, and silver or gold studs).

ABSOLUTELY NO MAKE-UP (other than light mineral foundation)

SHOES (must be able to be polished – Girls' shoes should have a **LEATHER** strap across the arch of the foot)

We will be carrying out a uniform check during Tutor time over the next few weeks.

Remember our school-wide expectation for Community – 'Wear your uniform with pride'.

From the Music Department



Wanted - Musical Instruments

The students at Opihi have been showing a high level of interest in learning to play guitar and bass.

To help me get as many students started, I am looking for a little help from the Temuka Community. Any unwanted acoustic, electric or bass guitars (even damaged or unstrung) would be a great way to help us train up some future musicians.

Smokefree Bandquest

Last weekend a group of musicians from Opihi College competed in the Canterbury II final of the 2014 Smokefree "Bandquest". Members, **Bradley Reid** (drums), **Billy Cook** (guitar), **Sophie Pye** (bass) and **Allicia Kelly** and **Sophie Nolan** (vocals) performed 2 songs in front of a packed Aurora Centre in Christchurch. The students were well supported by parents and played with confidence and flair. Some of the students only had weeks playing their instruments which made the award of "Best Bass Player" to Sophie Pye even more of a surprise in a competition that traditionally favours bands that have been involved for a year or more.

The group known as "Future Shock" worked extremely hard to achieve this result, making their parents and school very proud in the process.

Russell Fleming - Teacher in Charge Music

WORD Christchurch Writers and Readers Festival Read Aloud Programme

On Thursday the 28th of August, Miss Manson and ten Year 7/8 students attended a writers' workshop which was part of the WORD Christchurch Writers and Readers Festival Read Aloud Programme. We listened to three amazing authors (Jackie French, Melinda Szymanik and Donovan Bixley) tell us about what inspired them to write books. They were enthusiastic and inspiring speakers. We learnt that a good book can be a magic potion to make you more intelligent. Jackie French said to always 'taste' a book and only read books that excite you. Melinda Szymanik said that all you need to write a good book is imagination, curiosity and experience. Donovan Bixley has just written a 'part novel, part comic, all action' book called Monkey Boy and Sally has just purchased copies for the library. We look forward to reading books from all these authors.

Kayleigh Wright, Stevie Loudon and Sophie Nolan



Enjoying a stop at McDonalds in Ashburton on the way home from their trip to Christchurch.

Piano exam results

Congratulations to the following two students who performed extremely well in their recent piano examinations.

Jessica Marshall passed the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music Grade 2 theory exam in June with **Distinction** (91 marks).

Isobel Livingstone passed the NZ Music Examination Board Grade 1 piano exam on August 22nd with an **'A' Distinction** grading.

Well done to you both!

Temuka Athletic Club - Registration Night Wednesday 24th September in the Temuka Rugby Clubrooms, Temuka Domain, 6.30 - 7.30pm. First 60 registrations get a free drink bottle. Opening night and late registrations Monday 13th October, 6.30pm onwards, at the Opihi College back Field (entrance off Guild Road, Temuka). Club nights - Mondays. For more information check out our facebook page - [Temukaathleticsclub](#), email: temu.athletics@gmail.com or contact Helen 6159467.

SPORTS REPORT

CONGRATULATIONS to our students who competed in the Secondary Schools' Winter Tournament. Netball in Invercargill, Soccer in Timaru and Hockey in Wespport. All students showed excellent sportsmanship and pride in themselves and the school. Soccer and Netball write-ups feature later in this newsletter.

WINTER SPORTS

Basketball – The junior girls team and senior boys teams made the semi finals. The senior girls team made the finals. WELL DONE!

Netball 2014

Well done to all girls for their participation in netball this season.

Teams that were placed in their respective grades were:

- Senior A team were successful and won the A Plate Grade .
- The Year 7 team, under Year 13 coach **Shawna Connell**, won the Development 1 grade
- Senior JB team were placed 2nd in the Secondary School BIII grade

Many thanks also to our coaches and managers, and all parents and families for their support and encouragement throughout the season.



SISS 2014 – Netball Report

On Sunday 31st of August our senior 'A' netball team travelled 7 hours to Invercargill to compete in the annual South Island Secondary Schools (SISS) tournament, accompanied by coach Dianne Manson, Manager Mrs Cumming and school representative, Miss den Baars. It was a challenging tournament as it was Opihi 's first time in 'A' grade. In order to compete in 'A' grade at this tournament, you needed to qualify in the top three of 'B' grade the previous year and due to our victory in 'B' grade the previous year we won our very well deserved place in 'A' grade. We played two games a day from Monday to Thursday and travelled home on the Friday.

Our first game on the Monday morning was against the highly ranked South Otago team, who had two regional players. Despite our nerves, we all played exceptionally well and calmed down during the game. Unfortunately we lost 38-9 but the score wasn't an indication of how we actually played.

On Tuesday, after our two games, in which we also lost unfortunately, we went to the aquarium called 'Splash Palace' where we did hot and colds which the pool had set up especially for the netball teams. We split up into two groups, we started in the cold inflatable pool, which had ice water in it and then switched to the spa, repeating the process. Hot and colds helped to repair our bodies and sped up our recovery, so we could deliver the same performance of netball throughout the week.

On Wednesday afternoon, we played James Hargest. The game was tight throughout and was goal for goal for the majority of the game. In the end we lost by four but we all developed as the game went on and we were all very proud of the way we played. We finished off at the pool again on Wednesday.

Thursday, was finals day. Having lost our first game that day, we were playing off for 31st and 32nd. After a rough start, we soon calmed down, kept our focus and finally we had a victory which we so desperately deserved. We played Nayland and won 19-15. This win was what we all needed and it was a happy end to the tournament. On Thursday evening, we all went out for an enjoyable dinner at 'The Rocks'.

On behalf of the team I would like to say a huge thank you, to our amazing coach, Dianne Manson who put all her effort into not only this tournament but also the season. Also to Mrs Cumming for accompanying us on this trip, even though she wasn't originally planning on coming with us to be our manager, and for giving up all her Saturdays throughout the season Thanks also to Miss den Baars, for taking the time to come with us to Invercargill, and support us every step of the way. Finally, I'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone who came to Invercargill and played, and also our supporters.

Sarah Millar (Year 13)



Football Tournament 2014

In the first week of September the day had come for the boys involved in the 2014 Football Tournament held in Timaru. It was just a short drive up the road, keeping it close to home, with teams ranging from sailing from the north, to the deep depths of the south.

We weren't prepared for the level of football displayed by these teams who had been training together for years. Some schools have over a thousand students to choose from, but in our case the use of students ranging from Year 9 - 13 was all we needed to take these schools on.

Monday came and we left full of excitement. The nerves of playing the first game out of the six to be undertaken over the four days, was against the boys of Pukekohe. The level of skills compared to our small school wasn't comparable and we used it as learning curve to then counter act other teams in the tournament. Down and defeated but not detoured, we powered on to play the team from John McGlashan College, a Dunedin based team. They were able to beat us but we didn't go down without a fight and we were able to lessen the gap of the previous game, which led to having hope for the next few days.

Tuesday, a new day a new team! This said, the mission of taking on local team Timaru Boys' High was seen to be our game to shine. Going in with fresh heads the boys were more than determined to make a name for ourselves and win this match. After 70 minutes of

football TBHS were able to break away and win but WE improved with every minute played.

Bringing us to the last day being the final, Opihi College came up against the boys from St Kevin's. Both teams with players who had given their all, were wearing the tears of muscle strains, that other days of playing had brought, meant for slow warm ups with extensive stretching in order for us to be as fresh as we could be. Once the whistle went it seemed to be the spark to the fuel with both teams giving it their all. By the end of the first half, cracks had appeared in the lines of defense for both sides and the score was 2 - 2. As the game went on, we powered on as a team helping out players who were seen to be getting weak from the full effort they had put in. With five minutes remaining, the score was a 4 - 4 rumble, every play from this point on was seen to make or break the final score. Seconds remaining with the crowd of ten plus getting out of control, the boys of St Kevin's put a long ball down the right wing and were able to sink the ball in the back of the net, bringing us to a 5-4 loss. This was not seen as a disappointment by us but as a vast improvement from the first day.

Looking back on the time spent with the team, this has brought us as a group closer. I'm proud to say we were once a group of boys from Opihi College, but now we are a Team of boys from Opihi College.

Many thanks to Mr Ray Morland for giving up his time to coach us and to Mr Grace for being our Manager.

Jonnie Hickey - Vice Captain





Cardrona
2014