

Opihi - on campus



Community – Acceptance – Respect – Excellence

Issue 15 - 26 September, 2014

Current Events Quiz

Well done to **Scott Wright, Evan Crosse, Hamish Fikken, Karlana Jackson, Jessica Marshall** and **Shania Cochrane** who represented Opihi College at the South Canterbury Year 7/8 Current Events Quiz on Wednesday night in Timaru (at the time of printing their results were not available).

Japanese Language Study Trip - Itte Kimasu!

This weekend Jessie, Kyissha, Samantha, Teá, Wiremu, Miss Henderson and Mr Lindblom are off to Japan. These Year 11 and Year 12 students will spend one week on a culture tour of Tokyo, Kyoto, Nara, Nagasaki and Kagoshima. Then they'll travel up north where the students will experience a two-week homestay and Japanese language study program at two high schools in our sister city, Eniwa, Hokkaido. A huge thank you to the Temuka community who generously supported our many fundraising activities. See you next term! Itte kimasu!



From left: **Miss Henderson, Kyissha Friend, Jessie Evans, Wiremu Te Haate, Teá Prentice, Samantha Haley** and **Mr Lindblom**
Wishing you all safe and happy travels, we look forward to hearing all about your experiences.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

	26	End of Term 3
	28	Japanese Language Trip Departs
October	13	Term 4 starts
	16	PED101 Castle Hill trip
	18	Rugby 7's Tournament
	20	Japanese Language Trip students return
	27	Labour Day (school closed)
	31	Aoraki Sports Awards
November	3	Sports and Cultural Awards Assembly
		Final Senior Assembly
	3 - 4	Yr 8 Girls' Self Defence
	5	Last day for Seniors
	10	NCEA Externals begin
	12 - 14	Yr 10 Tramp - Mt Somers Walkway
	13	SCPSSA Skateboarding Yr 7 and 8
	18	Tri exchange - Opihi/ Mackenzie/ Waimate
	21	Temuka Sports Group - Athletics
December	2 - 5	Yr 7 Camp
	2	SCPS Athletics
	5	Graduation Dinner
	8	Activities Day Yr 7-10
	9	Awards Ceremony



From Across the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents/Caregivers
Kia ora tatou

As the final two weeks of the term have passed it has been an unusually quiet time in terms of activities for students. However, for the staff and senior students it has been a very hectic time with many students starting to prepare for their end of year assessments and also starting to plan for 2015.

By the time this newsletter goes home staff and students will be looking forward to a well earned break. For those students preparing for NCEA external assessments it is worth remembering that there are just four school weeks until these start. Now is the time to plan revision and study time, to avoid the last minute panic.

Education Review Office and Reflections.

When school re-opens for Term 4, we are expecting a visit from the Education Review Office who will be in school from Monday 13 October until Wednesday 15 October. In preparation for this visit we have been reflecting upon the changes in the school during the last three years, since the last full review. As the Principal, I am extremely proud of the changes that have been made by both staff and students. The feedback I receive from our community has been overwhelmingly positive. Opihi College students continue to achieve to a very high standard academically and culturally. Feedback from parents tells us that students are enjoying being at Opihi College.

Course options

Many of our students have been making course selections during the last few weeks. This information is now providing guidance to the timetable team who are starting on plans to create the timetable for 2015. Teachers and Deans will be starting discussions with students and offering advice and guidance with their course selection. Our aim is to ensure that students have the opportunity to achieve their goals and to ensure that they are successful as they move through the senior school and onto tertiary study or employment.

Staff changes

Each year we see teachers and support staff come and go. This year is no different.

At the end of this term we say farewell to Mrs Jo Tarver who is returning with her family to live in the UK. Jo has worked at Opihi College for nearly ten years. She has been a wonderful asset for the school and has given much of her own time to coach basketball teams which have played in numerous tournaments in Timaru on a Friday night. We wish Jo and her family well for their return to the UK.

At the beginning of Term 4 we welcome Mrs Sharyn Patrick to our Support Staff. Mrs Patrick will be replacing Miss Cindy Coskerie in the front office. Cindy has moved down the corridor and is now our Executive Officer,

taking over from Mrs Noeline Clarke, who retired at the end of Term 3.

For next year we have recruited two new teachers to the school. We are looking forward to welcoming Miss Georgia Griffiths to the Maths Department in 2015. Miss Griffiths comes from Timaru and is not related to our other Mrs Griffiths!

We will also be welcoming Mrs Ashley Herbert to the Science Department who will be joining us from Botany Downs Secondary College. I am sure that the community will make both of these new teacher welcome when they arrive at Opihi College.

Report evening

Last week many of teachers met with the parents and senior students to discuss the achievement and offer advice in the final stages of the school year. I hope that the senior students who attended have taken note of the advice that has been given and will work hard to ensure that they are successful.

Teacher Only Day

Last week teaching staff benefitted from a Teacher Only Day which provided the opportunity to review courses and plan strategies for students in the last quarter of the school year. This was an opportunity to reflect upon the goals and targets which were set at the start of year and review the progress to maximise the chances of success.

TEZ

On the 15th September Opihi College attended a meeting to discuss the Transport Entitlement Zone. Following the meeting a statement was issued which details the outcome. Below is a copy of the statement:

A meeting has been held to discuss future options for providing secondary school transport to the greater Pleasant Point community. Represented at the meeting were the Ministry of Education, Opihi College, Aoraki Schools Transport Network, Geraldine High School, Mountainview High Schools and Timaru Boys and Girls High Schools. At this facilitated meeting an agreement was reached to form a working party to gather further data and to offer independent consultation with the Pleasant Point Community. This process is expected to be completed by mid-November with a recommendation made to the MoE.

We will keep the Opihi College and wider Temuka Community informed as this situation develops.

Finally

To all staff and students please make sure that you have a restful and safe break during the next two weeks. I look forward to seeing you all when we return for the final term of the school year.

Ka kite ano
Mike Wright, Principal

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Bellyful Temuka

Is a non-profit organisation who cook and deliver meals for families with newborns and families struggling with illness at no cost to the families at all.

We cover Temuka, Winchester, Pleasant Point and Timaru so if you know of someone who has had a baby please contact us on:

Phone: 0508 bellyful

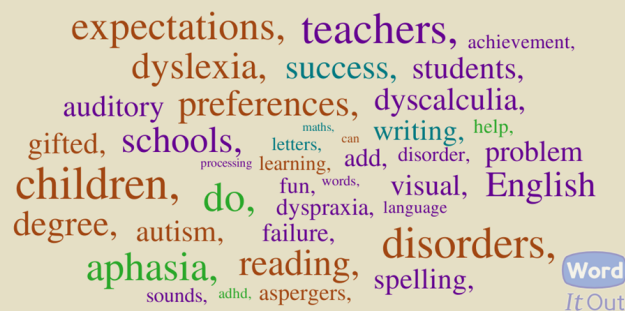
or by emailing kim.dynes@bellyful.org.nz

or follow us on our Facebook page

www.facebook.com/BellyfulTemuka

We rely solely on donations so if you would like to help you can sponsor a cookathon which costs us \$200 per month or donate domino pasta sauce, Diamond lasagne and/or Diamond Macaroni then please contact Kim on kim.dynes@bellyful.org.nz or 027 733 4082.

We look forward to hearing from you.



Come and meet Timaru's new Parent Support Group

Are you interested in a helpful discussion and helpful tips on how to support your children to achieve all they can, and to keep them moving forward at school. Are you interested in general information about learning difficulties and how best to deal with them?

Then come along Thursday the 25th September from 7pm to 9pm.

We are going to meet at the Polytechnic Room G3.

Guest speaker - Jenny Tebbutt an international educational consultant will be in attendance. She has kindly offered to be part of our meeting to support parents with her professional knowledge and advice.

Everyone is very welcome, no matter what your worries or interests are. There is no cost to attend.

For any questions please contact:

Andrea Heinicke

Email: heinicke.andrea@googlemail.com

Phone: 022 6517568

Roller-skating School Holiday Sessions

Tuesday and Thursdays - 2pm to 4pm

Cost: Entry Fee - \$2.50, Skate Hire \$3.50

(Bring helmet and socks)

Every Sunday

Public Session - 2pm to 4pm

Learn to Skate Lessons - 2pm to 3pm

Cost: Entry Fee - \$2.50, Skate Hire \$3.50

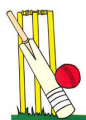
(Bring helmet and socks)

CRICKET

Practices start: Wednesday, 15 October 4 - 5pm
at Gunnion Square

Saturday morning games start: 18 October, 9 - 11.30am

Subs: \$30.00



Coaching available at school
Monday, Wednesday and Friday lunchtimes

Free Youth Health Clinic for Under 25s

Tuesdays: 2.00 - 4.30pm

18 Woollcombe Street
(Corner of Woollcombe and Barnard Streets)
Ph / Text 027 247 9301

No appointment necessary (drop in)

TENNIS SOUTH CANTERBURY

School Holiday Squad

Monday 29th & Tuesday 30th September

9.30am - 11.30am

at the Temuka Tennis Courts,
Temuka Domain

For all abilities (Ideal for ages 6 -14)

Cost: \$30.00 each

Tennis NZ Registered Coaches

Low player to Coach ratio

Maximum of 20 children

Contact Letitia: teshgreg@xtra.co.nz



From Temuka Lawn Bowls Association

Lawn Bowls is one of the easiest sports to learn to play; Lawn Bowls is one of the most challenging sports to play; Lawn Bowls is one of the hardest sports to master no matter what your age is. Many top athletes have been humbled on the green.

Should you take up the challenge you will benefit from increased hand-eye co-ordination, your ability to concentrate and focus on the task in hand will be increased and the physical strength of your legs, back and arms will be enhanced.

Of equal or greater importance is the sportsmanship and camaraderie that you will enjoy when you play bowls. People from all walks of life can be found on the bowling green. Generally they are a fun loving group of people who are delighted to welcome new bowlers to the green and the Club.

Opihi College students wanting to try the challenge of bowls can try it for themselves at the Temuka Bowling Club, in the Domain on Thursdays from October 16th at 5.00 p.m. We have lots of new, coloured, bowls waiting for you. Heelless footwear is needed. Should there be sufficient interest the Club is considering donating a trophy for Interhouse competition in Bowls starting next year.

If you want more information email Brian Blackwell at babyjb2@hotmail.com

From the Performing Arts Department

Well done to the students that performed in last nights Soirée! It was great to see so many keen young musicians making so much progress in instrumental and contemporary vocal music.

Also a big thank you to the people in the community who have helped us with donations of unwanted guitars to help build our rock music program.

Russell Fleming

NCEA Examinations

The NCEA examinations begin Monday 10 November and go through until 2nd December.

We encourage all students over the holiday break to take advantage of this time to prepare well for the upcoming examinations.

Check the NCEA and Scholarship exam timetable on your smartphone at timetable.nzqa.govt.nz

Careers

Following are some websites that will provide valuable information for senior students who are looking to either move on to Tertiary Study or the Workforce next year.

For information and advice, please see www.careers.govt.nz

This is our national website and has what subjects you need to enter into study/careers, where you can apply for training etc.
www.careers.govt.nz/careerquest.html

CareerQuest is a great tool that suggests jobs based on your interests
<http://www.careers.govt.nz/plan-your-career/im-at-school-and-need-ideas/thinking-about-leaving-school/>

For students thinking of leaving school <http://www.careers.govt.nz/jobs/>

Jobs by interest <http://www.studylink.govt.nz/financing-study/student-allowance/index.html>

Student Allowance <http://www.studylink.govt.nz/financing-study/student-loan/index.html>

Student Loans <http://www.careers.govt.nz/education-and-training/scholarships-grants-and-awards>

Scholarships: The largest scholarship database can be found on the 'Breakout' website at the local library.

If you would like to talk to someone, please contact our Careers Advisor, Mrs Louise Heenan.

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



Tom Johnson	Bronze	Excellence
Issy Livingstone	Bronze	Excellence
Mercedes Mulder	Bronze	Excellence
Toni Wilson	Bronze	Excellence
Peter Wilson	Bronze	Excellence
Martin Johnson	Bronze	Acceptance
Deanne Lilley	Bronze	Excellence
Alice Brookland	Bronze	Acceptance
Tegan Robertson	Bronze	Acceptance