



Stratford High News

Staying Local, Going Far©

Friday 16th September, 2010

Donation to HE

The new food room is the proud owner of donated tea towels from La Nuova in Inglewood. Mr Brad Craig visited the school recently and toured the new facility with Mrs Walker.

Invoices to parents

Enclosed with this newsletter is an invoice if any amounts are outstanding for the 2010 or 2009 school year. A number of students still need to pay sports fees or classroom fees. Please pay these at the student office.

All students who have paid their school donation in full by next Monday will be in a draw for a \$25 book voucher and some other minor prizes donated to the school. If you would like to donate a prize to our draw please contact the principal.

Cricket coach wanted

We have a group of keen girls who need a cricket coach for the Vern Betts Competition which runs from November until February. Please contact Wendy Walker at the school 765 6039 if you are willing to assist.

Lions Music Award competition

This has been postponed until 14th October 2010 (the first week of term 4). You have plenty of time to enter and practise. Entries must be into the Arts Coordinator by Friday 23rd September. Forms at the student office.

Contact Details:

Ph: 06 765 6039
Fax: 06 765 5356
Email: mail@stratfordhigh.school.nz
Web: www.stratfordhigh.school.nz

Dear students, parents and caregivers

Nga mihi nui Ki a Koutou Katoa.

As we near the end of term three I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those parents who have assisted our students in activities during this term and also to the students for their participation. There have been many successes during the term: Rugby (3 teams in finals – Under 63kg winners), basketball (senior girls / boys winning the local club competition), senior boys winning the Zone 3 qualifying tournament), netball (4A and Bullets of note), NZSS Indoor Bowls (2nd place at national level), ICAS Science, Writing, English and Maths competitions to name a few. Well done to all those involved in all teams and all others who have been prepared to 'have a go' this year.



Last week we had senior examinations and teachers have been busily marking and returning scripts to students. It is important that students listen and act on the advice given as ncea examinations are on **eight weeks away**. As winter sports have concluded students need to set academic goals for as their first priority for the next eight weeks of school. A good revision programme must be in place and this needs to include the holiday period.

On Monday night our group of students leave for Noumea and it is timely to thank Mrs Bullen and her parent helpers for all the work they have undertaken in organising the trip and fundraising. Bon voyage, meilleurs vaeux, amusez-vous bien!

During the week the school has been reviewed by the education review office. The team was here for a week looking at the student achievement and areas of compliance. As well as conduction 24 classroom observations, reviewers held interviews and discussions with the Board of Trustees, staff and students from various year levels and ethnic groups. We will receive a report in about six weeks.

Over the year we have been fortunate to gain funds from some outside agencies to assist us around the school. These are:
New Zealand Community Trust – sound system in the hall
Southern Trust: basketball, netball, indoor bowls tournaments
Pub Charities: uniforms for rugby, basketball, athletics
TET: classroom equipment - data projectors and screens
We are very grateful for the generosity and support offered by these organisations. Their support enables our school to enrich and enhance the lives of our staff and students.

Enjoy the break and term four starts on Monday 11th October, day 6. Students ensure that when you return your focus is on academic success.

Philip Keenan, **Principal**

2010 Literacy Quiz Summary

The Literacy Quiz was held on Thursday the 2nd of September and was enjoyed by all participants. Special thanks must go to the SPEC and year 13 students who did the marking and helped make the Literacy Quiz such a success.

<i>Year 9 Form</i> 1 st BE (133) 2 nd BR (110) 3 rd GD (108)	<i>Year 10 Form</i> 1 st CW (141) 2 nd VM (136) 3 rd OC (129)	<i>Senior Form</i> 1 st Mc 1 (86) 2 nd Am 2 (75) 3 rd Ty 2 (68)	<i>Overall House Results</i> 1 st Amess (11) 2 nd Tyrer (8) 3 rd McAllister (6) 4 th Trimble (5)
<i>Year 9 House</i> 1 st Amess (583) 2 nd Trimble (555) 3 rd McAllister (543) 4 th Tyrer (542)	<i>Year 10 House</i> 1 st Tyrer (683) 2 nd Amess (658) 3 rd McAllister (651) 4 th Trimble (593)	<i>Senior House</i> 1 st Amess (245) 2 nd Tyrer (164) 3 rd McAllister (86) 4 th Trimble (60)	

Year 12 Health Intensive

On 3 September, our Year 12 students rotated through a series of five workshops the content of which related to student health and well-being. The workshops were facilitated by professionals from the Taranaki community and we are extremely grateful to them for giving up their time to work in our school. Those we wish to thank are: Marlene Mason from the National Bank, Kerry Daly - NZ Police, Andrew French - Alcohol and Drug Service, Ebony Sampson and Alan Jackson from Sport Taranaki and Marilyn Chittenden - Ruanui Health Centre.

Congratulations Corner

- **Jessica Short, Nathan Heine and Alexandra Merson** were presented with a Level 1 Basketball Umpires certificate at assembly last week. We hope to see them umpiring at Stratford games in the near future.
- **Maria Gaudin** won first place with her dog Dream at the Taranaki Toy Dog Show on 29th August.
- Ex pupil **Bryce Looms (2002)** has recently finished a Diploma of Digital Media at the Media and Design College in Auckland. Bryce is now working the website design field, updating and design websites. This college offers other diplomas in the graphic media fields of game development, VFX and 3D Graphics.
- **New Caledonia Grocery Raffle:** winner was Mr P Keenan.
- **Anya Albot and Olya Albot**, have both been awarded an excellence scholarship from Victoria University in Wellington. This scholarship is worth \$5000 in the first year and will continue if excellence is gained each year.

NZ Secondary Schools Indoor Bowls

Anjela Frost, Taranaki under 15 Indoor Bowls Champion was placed 3rd in the NZ Junior Indoor Bowls Championships on Saturday 28th August in Wellington. She was knocked out by 2009 NZ champion Teri Anderson in the semi final. One champion from each region competes in this tournament.

In the NZ Secondary Schools Champs on Sunday 29th August, **Anjela Frost** was 9th in the championship singles, while **Rebekah Frost (5th)** and **Kylie Rowlands (9th)** played in the consolation round. In the NZSS Pairs competition on Monday 30th August Anjela and Rebekah won all qualifying games and finished 9th in NZ. Jacinta Frost and **Kylie Rowlands** also won all qualifying games and finished 5th in NZ at their level.

Access on the school grounds

We would like to remind all parents and caregivers that they need to go to the front office if they wish to see a student during the day. We have had a number of instances where parents have wandered around the school looking for a student when they should have approached the office staff who can find them directly. This is vitally important in the light of the Canterbury earthquake when unauthorised persons on the school property would not be safe and searched for. Please adhere to this for the safety of yourself and your students.

PTA Meeting

The Stratford High School Parent Teacher Association will hold their next meeting on Tuesday 21st September at 7.00 pm at the school. All parents and caregivers are welcome to join the PTA, to gain information about the school, support your child's education and assist in small projects around the school.

Cyber Bullying

Unfortunately this is becoming a more common problem and we are concerned about the safety of our students online. The school has a zero tolerance to any form of bullying, including abuse and misuse of the computers and internet. Parents can help us in a number of ways as teenagers are often reluctant to report it happening to them.

If you think that your student is being cyber bullied there are a number of things that you can do.

- Talk with them calmly and listen to what they have to say. They may be nervous or embarrassed to admit they are being bullied.
- Ask to see their cell phone and look at numbers being sent to/from. Save any texts or emails so you can report to the SMT at school.
- Support them but don't tell them to fight back or threaten to speak to the bully as your child will see this as making a bad situation worse.
- Work with them to deal with this problem and explain how the school needs to know and they will get bullying stopped.
- Make sure their mobile phone is switched off at night and be aware of any mood changes your child may show after receiving texts.

Please immediately contact your child's form teacher, their dean, the guidance counsellor or a member of the SMT if you know or think cyber bullying may be happening.

Contacts for Stratford High School are:

Year 9: Mrs R McKerchar, ext 756, Mr J Walker ext 768, **Year 10:** Miss D Kay ext 783, Mr McGeoch ext 731, **Year 11:** Mrs J Hart ext 778, Mr H Tough ext 767, **Year 12:** Mrs J Baldwin ext 771, Mr R Armond ext 732, **Year 13:** Mrs J Radich ext 760, Mr W Smith ext 746, **Guidance Counsellor,** Mrs T Butler ext 722

Summer Uniform

Students are reminded that summer uniform rules will commence at the start of Term 4. Thank you to all students who wear our uniform with pride. It is timely, however, that I remind you of a few points:

- Students can wear sandals in term 1 and term 4. Sandals must be black, have a back strap and no adornments.
- Boys must be clean shaven.
- Make-up is ***not*** permitted for Y9 - 12 students.
- Tattoos must be covered at all times.
- Students are able to wear a single pair of plain sleepers or studs in their ears. No other facial piercing is permitted.
- Students' hair is expected to be clean and tidy. Extreme hair styles or colours are not permitted.

If you have any queries about your student's uniform please contact the school for clarification.



Styles of acceptable sandals. They must have black soles

Newsletter via Email

If you would like to receive the school newsletter via email please send an email to mail@stratfordhigh.school.nz with school newsletter in the subject line and with your email address and student name in the body of the email. A copy of the newsletter and high school corner is placed on the school website / blog www.shsinfo-centa.blogspot.com when applicable.

Preparation for exam hints:

How can students help themselves to prepare for the exams?

1. Go to the homework centres in the library after school.
2. Attend extra classes available in some subjects.
3. Go to exam preparation classes during the holidays.
4. Find out how the exam paper in each subject is organised.
5. Find out what content the exams will assess.
6. Ensure folders and notes are in order and complete.
7. Organise a study plan.
8. Study by practising answers to previous exam questions.
9. Answer exam questions in exam conditions e.g. with a time limit.
10. Learn through active revision: **READ, WRITE** and **RECITE**.

Maths Buddy Initiative

The Maths staff of Stratford High would like to announce a new initiative just introduced into our mathematics teaching programme. www.MathsBuddy.co.nz is an online e-learning resource that is designed to improve your son/daughter in the areas of self confidence relating to Mathematics.

Some of the features that this programme has are;

- More than 200 full lessons relevant to your child's school maths programme each covering a separate concept, with a voice over and numerous examples of varying difficulty. Every lesson has a pause and rewind facility to help students grasp concepts at their own pace.
- Every lesson has an accompanying printable summary and worksheet to consolidate the concept, with fully worked solutions provided also.
- A student's ongoing use and progress in the program is stored for theirs and their teacher's perusal at any time.
- The program can be accessed from any internet ready site, not just at school.
- The entire Level 1 to Level 8 program is available to every student, not just their particular year group or course.
- ***Parents are encouraged to register to get weekly updates on their child's programme use and progress, by clicking on the 'Parents area' tab within their child's account.***

Given that the program covers most of the concepts that we teach, and as good as this resource is, the school wishes to make it clear that it was never intended by its creators to replace the work that our mathematics teaching staff already do. This program is best used as a support/supplement to the classroom teaching/learning experience.

All students have been issued with their unique logins and passwords and are encouraged to use this resource as directed by their own teacher. The trial will finish at the end of this term but it is hoped that we may be able to extend access until the end of the year for a small fee. This would be of most benefit to senior students taking NCEA exams.

D. L. Daughtery
HOD Mathematics