

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Our thoughts, prayers and condolences are with all those people affected by the Pike River Mine Tragedy.
SHS Community

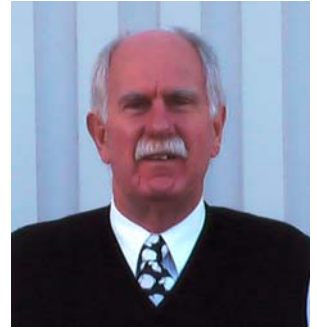
Greetings to you and your family.
Nga mihi o te wa ki a koe me to whanau
THANK YOU!

As this is our last newsletter of the year, the school would like to extend sincere thanks to all parents, community supporters and sponsors who have given so much to our school and our students over the year. Your support has made it possible for our students to achieve highly in academic, sporting and cultural dimensions of the school. Thank you very much.

Over the last two weeks we have celebrated with our seniors as we acknowledged their academic, sporting and cultural successes at the senior prizegiving. The ceremony showcased the real heart of our school with the community coming together to recognise the success of our senior students this year.

One could not help but be impressed by the breadth of talent on display—students succeeding in all dimensions that make SHS so special. We congratulate the prizewinners and those who supported them on the day. The day was also made special by the contributions of our Kapa Haka group, school choir and our guest speaker, Sarah Mako, whose speech was very timely for those leaving us.

Junior prizegiving will be held at 11.30 am on Friday 3rd December. I extend an invitation to all parents, family and friends to join us for this occasion. I would like to remind students and parents / caregivers that school does not finish until Thursday 9th December, which is at the conclusion of our activities days. Normal school expectations re absences are expected.



In 2011 we will be modifying our absence system so that when a student is absent from school we will send a text message to the parent or caregiver. At the beginning of 2011 we will be asking for all details to be updated or checked by parents and caregivers.

At the senior prizegiving I made mention of the schools Charter and Strategic Plan needing updating. This will mean the school community will have an opportunity to have input into the schools direction over the next 3 to 5 years.

Finally my thanks to the staff and BoT at SHS for their hard work this year. It is a joy to lead such a willing, highly skilled and dedicated group of people. Best wishes for a safe, relaxing and happy Christmas and I look forward to 2011.

Philip Keenan, Principal

Rostering Home

On Wednesday 1st December staff will not be teaching classes for Year 9 students. This means that we advise you to keep your Year 9 student at home on this day.

STARTING DATES 2011

Monday 31st January—course confirmation for all Year 12 and 13 students. Peer support training for Year 13 students.

Tuesday 1st February Year 9 and 13 students 8.45 am start
Other new students 8.45 am until 11am.

Wednesday 2nd February Y 9, 12, 13 students 8.45 am start

Thursday 3rd February Y 9, 11, 12, 13 students 8.45 am start

Friday 4th February whole school starts

Wednesday 9th February ID Card photo day

Cans 4 Christmas

Junior students will have a mufti day on Tuesday 30th November. Payment is in the way of cans for the Stratford Food Bank. The form class that collects the highest number of cans per student will receive a morning tea provided by the Home Economics department.



Books & sports uniform

The school loses a significant number of textbooks, library books and sports uniforms each year through the failure of students to return them at the end of the season. Senior students need to return all school items on Thursday 2nd December or Friday 10th December to the library.



Invoices

All students who had unpaid accounts were sent invoices at the start of term. Please pay these accounts at the student office. If you would like to set up internet banking please contact Mrs Terry, Executive Officer, to get the details of the school account. We do not publish the school account number as we have many parents paying into the school already and if your deposit is not correctly identified on the bank statement your student's account will not be credited. Mrs Terry is able to assist parents if they wish to set up an automatic payment.

Uniform Sale

The SHS Parent Teacher Association (PTA) will be having a uniform sale on Tuesday 14th December. Clean, tidy items for sale can be dropped off from 12 noon. The sale will be from 1.00 to 3.00 pm in the school hall. Contact Mrs B Mitchell via the school email for any more information.



Firewood for sale: Summertime special—usually \$100 per load but \$90 per load now. Call 06-765 8641 and ask for Andrew.



Bubble Dome

Have you ever wondered how computer games and 3D movies like Toy Story are made? Learn the latest in 3D Animation and games design on a Bubble Dome school holiday workshop in December and January. For students aged 6 to 15 years. Tel: 0800 GET BUBBLE (432 282) or email: info@bubbledome.co.nz or www.bubbledome.co.nz



Yarrows bread bags - urgently needed by the netball teams to raise money for running costs. Drop clean bags into the student office.