

Stratford High School

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Newsletter

STAYING LOCAL, GOING FAR

EDUCATING THE CHILDREN OF CENTRAL TARANKI SINCE 1897

Principal's News

Welcome to 2011 and a particular welcome to those who are here for the first time – both students and staff. We are sure you will enjoy your association with our school.

We welcome three new staff members to the school this year, Mrs Rachel Neild replacing Mrs Broadmore who is leave from the Maths department, Miss Jodie Sullivan in the Social Studies department and Mr Daniel Woodd who is replacing Mrs Brebner who retired from the English department at the end of 2010. The deans for 2011 are:

Year 9 – Mrs Radich and Miss Apperley

Year 10 – Mrs McKerchar and Mr Walker

Year 11 – Miss Kay and Mr McGeoch

Year 12 – Mrs Hart and Mr Tough

Year 13 – Mrs Baldwin and Mr Armond

The deans are available to discuss your son / daughter, by ringing the school. Please leave a phone message for them.

The new year began with peer support training on Monday 31st January. Tuesday we welcomed our new students and staff with a powhiri and it was great to see parents attending. For the rest of the day the Year 9 and 13s were involved in activities including the annual tabloid sports – Amess were the winners. Congratulations to all involved; it certainly was a great way to start the year. We now have all students at school it appears that our roll is slightly up on the Education Ministry's predictions. Some classes in the senior school are larger than we would like and we are working on balancing these.

At our first school assembly the Year 13s who had just returned from camp, set out their plan for the year. It centres on the ideas of **'teamwork'** and **'pride'** which they hope all of the school family will embrace.

At our first school assembly I spoke about 'doing it right'. This means attending school every day possible, having all the required equipment, wearing the correct uniform and coming to school with the determination and commitment to learn. I also spoke about **'respect'**: for themselves, their peers, teachers and the environment. We want to promote a learning culture at Stratford High School and encourage all students to take responsibility for their learning.

We were very pleased with the achievements of our senior students in NCEA and their success reflects a lot of hard work by students and their teachers. It is pleasing to see the number of students striving for 'Merit' and 'Excellence' endorsement as this shows that our students are prepared to challenge themselves to do their very best.

In last year's newsletter I congratulated all the staff and students involved in Peak 2009 magazine. A challenge was issued and the 2010 committee certainly accepted the challenge. The magazine is a wonderful record of life at SHS in 2010. Well done to all involved. Some students still need to collect their magazine from the main office.

On Friday 11th we celebrated our NCEA success by presenting students with their endorsement awards and also presented the leaders to the school. Congratulations to the students involved and I am sure the leaders will have the support of the school at large. As principal I look forward to working with all involved in the education of the students attending Stratford High School. When we all work together, for the good of the student, the results are extremely powerful.

Philip Keenan, Principal

Kapa Haka

Are you keen for a new challenge in 2011?

Want to learn poi or Haka? Do you enjoy singing? Then Kapa Haka is for you!

Sign up on 14 and 15 Feb. for Kapa Haka 2011. You must register during the day with Whaea Tina, Te Amorangi. The first practice will be on Thursday 16th at 10.15 to 11.15 am in Te Amorangi.

Relay 4 Life

Relay for life is an annual event held in most regions around the country. It is to raise awareness for those living with, and affected by cancer, as well as bringing people together to fight back and raise hope.

Each team member raises funds through sponsorship prior to the event and then participates in the relay over the two days. Each team has one batten that must travel around the track for 24 hours with all members taking their turn.

The relay has four main parts: the opening ceremony, survivors' lap, candle remembrance ceremony, and closing ceremony. Along with the relay, there is on site entertainment, a Relay Idol competition, and big screen movies. It's a great social overnight event, that brings people together.

Stratford High has been involved in Relay for life for the last three years, with 2009 being crowned Relay Idol champs. We want to make the 2011 event the best yet. Please support our students as they seek sponsorship from the community.



Change of address & emergency numbers

Please advise the school office if your address has changed. We post letters home regularly during the year. Please be sure we are aware of your emergency contact numbers and if they change please advise us. This is very important if your child is sick or has an accident and we need to contact someone.

Paid Union Meeting

A regional PPTA meeting will be held at 1.00 pm on **Tuesday 22nd February** at Stratford High School. This means that school will finish at 12.30 pm and students will be released to go home.

- Stratford students will be released to go home
- A bus will be organised for Eltham students leaving at 12.45pm
- All other bus students – either make arrangements to get home or: remain at school, under supervision until the buses arrive at 3.15 pm

Please note that this is not a stop-work meeting but an entitlement under the Secondary Teachers Collective Agreement. The meeting is a regional meeting and we have no say over the timing of the meeting. Thank you for your cooperation.



NCEA News

Congratulations to all of those students who were successful with NCEA in 2011.

- The result notice received by all students from NZQA is provisional only and this will not be finalised until April. At this time Records of Achievement and National Certificates will become available
- Students have until February 18th to make any applications to NZQA for the Reconsideration (re-mark) or Review (recount) of exam papers
- Year 11, 12 and 13 students will be issued with a Parent-Student handbook (on February 11) which outlines the nature of NCEA and sets out a list of procedures important in managing NCEA at Stratford High School. Ask your son/daughter for this handbook and store it for reference during the year

I hope to hold a parents' information "session" some time this term. More details will follow at a later date. If you have any enquiries regarding NCEA matters, please contact Mr. Wayne Smith at school.



Returning uniforms

Students are being reminded that they need to return any sports uniforms to the sports coordinator's office. Any uniform items not returned will be invoiced to the parents (an average uniform costs the school \$100). It is an

NCEA Scholar Medals 2010

NCEA scholar medals were presented at the school assembly on Thursday 10th February. These medals are awarded to students who have gained a merit or excellence endorsement on their results from NCEA examinations in 2010.

The following students were awarded a Merit badge and bar (silver) for NCEA Level 1: Michael Boag, Nicole Booker, Jonathan Campbell, Shaymas Carroll, Leah Coxhead, Rebekah Frost, Aimee Hinton, Andrew Hunger, Jessica Jane, Amy Luckhurst, Kimberley Madden, Hannah Martin, Savarna Pease, Sarah Rohe, Luke Scherrer, Nicole Shearer, Matt Simpson and Dale West

Year 13 students who gained a NCEA Level 1 endorsement in 2010, were awarded a Merit badge and bar (silver): Zachary Cole, Jack Espin, Rebekah Hodson, Connor Kelson, Rebecca Nager, Jason Simpson, Courtney Single, Kate Terry, Hamish Walker and Daniel White. An Excellence badge and bar (gold) for NCEA Level 1 were awarded to Cameron Johnson and Matthew Sullivan-Brown. Elizabeth Corbett also received an excellence badge and bar Level 1 for her work in 2010.

Merit bars (silver) for NCEA Level 2 were awarded to: Taylor Bailey, Sarah Cooper, Katelyn Craig, Emily Paterson, Adrian Pitman, Natasha Sinclair-Taikato and Tim Stanners. An Excellence bar (gold) for NCEA Level 2 was awarded to Melissa Watts. Year 13 students in 2010 Dylan O'Neill, Aimee Schumacher and David Walsh were awarded a Merit bar (silver) for NCEA Level 2.

Merit bars (silver) for NCEA Level 3 were awarded to: Anya Albot, Olya Albot, Tracy Kivell and Henry Marchant.

Year 13 Camp

If I could describe year 13 camp it would be "Oh my gosh freaking amazing." We all learnt something new, how to work as a team and leadership skills. It tested us physically, mentally and emotionally. It was a massive but enjoyable learning curve.

We would all like to thank Paul and the girls at Vertical Horizons for showing us what makes a good leader. Our deans Mrs Baldwin and Mr Armond for coming along with us to camp and dressing up in some trendy clothes. The following teachers who came to see us; Mrs Butler, Matua Jack, Mr Keenan and Mrs Hart, thanks for letting us show you our aerobics efforts. I personally would like to thank all the year 13's who went on the camp. I haven't had that much fun in ages. You guys are all "oh my gosh freaking amazing". *Daniel Stieller*

The year 13 2011 pledge:

We are here to serve and help make Stratford High School the most freaking amazing place in Taranaki, a place we can all be proud of.



Round the Mountain Cycle Race

On Saturday, January 29th, a team made up of staff (Mrs. Bishop, Mr. Daughtery, Mr. Smith) and students (Laureen Cox and Simon Terry) took part in the relay event of the Taranaki Round the Mountain Cycle Race. Mrs. Bishop completed the first two legs from New Plymouth to Opunake into a very strong south-westerly wind before Simon took over the battle along the coast to Manaia. Laureen cycled the next leg, an uphill slog from Manaia to Kapinga and onto Pembroke School. Mr. Daughtery then rode the next leg through to Inglewood before handing over to Mr. Smith who cycled the last leg through to New Plymouth.



We finished a creditable 15th in six hours, 18 mins. Despite the conditions it was an enjoyable day and some of the team continued cycling (in support) once they had completed their own leg.



Uniform

Thank you to all parents and caregivers who have ensured that their students are in the correct uniform and are wearing it with pride this year. It is timely, however, that we remind you of a few points regarding the uniform:

- Students can wear sandals in term one and term four. 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.
- Students are able to wear a single pair of plain sleepers or studs in their ears. No other facial piercing is permitted.
- Tattoos must be covered at all times.
- Students' hair is expected to be clean and tidy. Extreme hair styles or colours are not permitted.

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



Styles of acceptable sandals. They must have black soles



Activities week

Junior students had a very successful activities week at the end of term 4. We are hoping to report back on this school activity in later newsletters and the 2011 peak magazine. If you wish to write an article please do so, and email it to the school mail@stratfordhigh.school.nz



Electronic Equipment

Cell phones, Ipods and other personal music equipment are not permitted at school.

If a student needs to bring these items to school they are to be left at the Student Office for the day. Students who have a cell phone confiscated repeatedly will need a parent to collect the cell phone from the school. The school will not accept responsibility if any of these items are stolen or lost.

Expectations in Junior Physical Education Classes

All classes have been informed of these requirements. We would ask that parents support the school in reinforcing these standards, as they are the start of a healthy lifestyle for your son/daughter.

- It is our philosophy that if a student is too sick to do physical education then they are too sick to be at school. If students are unable to participate due to injury a note is required from a parent or guardian. If a student is unable to participate for three consecutive lessons, a Doctor's Certificate will be required.
- Students are required to wear correct PE gear. This includes black shorts and a Stratford High School PE shirt (appropriate shoes are optional). If for some reason this gear is not available students are required to bring a note (from a parent or guardian) explaining the reason for their incorrect gear. In this case it is important that students bring alternative gear, so they can still take part.
- Students are required to take an active part in all lessons and therefore become physically educated.
- When the teacher is speaking, students are listening.
- On the sound of the whistle – ***stop, look and listen.***
- It is expected that on swimming days students bring both swimming togs and PE gear, as the weather dictates the activity.



Family Vintage Hay Day

Toko Lions are running a vintage hay days on 19th and 20th February from 10am to 4pm at York Road, Midhurst. These days are about turning the clock back and showing how the agricultural sector has changed in eighty years. Admission is \$10 per adult, with school-age children free. Support them, because they support our students with scholarships via the TET grants each year.

Mymaths.co.uk

Stratford High School has subscribed to MyMaths.co.uk, an interactive Maths website that we hope will prove to be very useful for teaching maths in our classrooms as well as a solid revision base for our students. To access the website, go to www.mymaths.co.uk and use the login and passwords which your son/daughter has been given.

MyMaths.co.uk provides ready made lessons which allow us to take a topic from the beginning and pursue it to its conclusion. This is an internet resource, so our students can use it within school and at home for revision and learning.

MyMaths.co.uk allows pupils to select their level of work, and thus choose their own learning pathway through the material. Pupils can work on lessons at home which they have been taught in class, choosing appropriate material for their level, thus encouraging independent learning.

David Daughtery, HOD Mathematics

School Photos

ID Photos for all students were taken this week. The cost for an ID card is \$6 until 18 February payable at the student office. After this date the cards will increase in price to \$7.50. Class photos will be taken later this term on Thursday 3 March.

SHS AUSSIE TOURING NETBALL TEAM

2011 FUNDRAISER

BAGS OF PINE CONES

\$5 per bag or

5 bags for \$20

Contact: Denise Kay at SHS 765 6039 to order.



School Accounts and Donations

The school materials fee/donation is now payable. The Board of Trustees has set the donation for 2011 at \$70 per student with \$100 per family. All students have been invoiced for this donation as well as a compulsory administration/computer fee of \$20.

Subject fees and workbook costs are also being invoiced. We would appreciate prompt payment so students can start working straightaway. The school does not have an EFTPOS facility; however an automatic payment or internet banking can be used instead. To set up an automatic payment please contact Mrs Terry at school. Parents who require financial assistance should phone or write to Mrs Terry, Executive Officer or Mrs Gall, Deputy Principal. All requests for assistance will be held in confidence.

A full list of course charges is available from the school office.



Coming Events

The events calendar is on the school website. There are a number of events happening in the school which students are encouraged to participate in. We encourage parents to come to school for athletics and swimming finals day. Parents are also welcome to attend any TSS events and we ask that you contact Mrs Kofoed, Sports Coordinator if you are able to assist with managing or transporting a team.

Information about events will also be posted on the school blog: www.shsinfo-centa.blogspot.com If you have information about events please contact the school.

AFS Host Families

AFS and other exchange student organisations are still seeking host families. Currently the school has two exchange students, Gauthier and Olivia. Hosting an exchange student may be for a brief time such as six to eight weeks, or could be for a full year. Many students who have been at school in the past continue to keep in touch with friends made during their time here. Please contact Mrs Butler at the school if you are interested in finding out more about being a host family.

Flannagan Cup Success again

Stratford High School had a fine showing at the Flannagan Cup Open Water Swim on 6th February in New Plymouth. In the Duncan Laing Race 1.2km for 14 yrs & under Ryan Cooper made it home with the fastest time of 18:02 and finishing 2nd overall. Mhirron French came in 17th and Dayna Kivell 20th. The Flannagan Cup 3.6km swim saw Lauren Cox finishing in 13th spot, and was the 2nd woman home in a time of 1:07:15 followed by Brittany Kivell who was placed 28th. Well done to you all for some fantastic swimming.

Canteen prices

Pies	\$3.00
Sausage rolls	\$1.50
Pork Riblets	\$3.00
Chicken burger	\$4.00
Cheese burger	\$4.00
Paninis	\$3.50
Chicken nuggets/sweet & sour sauce	\$4.00
Salami sticks	\$3.50
Chicken sticks	\$3.50
BLT sticks	\$3.50
Sandwiches	\$3.50
Muffins	\$3.50
Lamingtons	\$3.50
Caramel/fudge slice	\$1.00
Lollie cake	\$1.00

A variety of drinks also available.

Most days there will be a special; eg nachos, Mac and cheese, fried rice, butter chicken, noodles, etc. Students can order their lunch at morning tea. Requests for other items can be given in writing to Mrs Van Veen.



Tabloid Sports 2011

Pictured: Mr Gilgenberg's form class; members of the victorious Amess House at tabloid sports.

