

From the Principal's Desk

We are now halfway through term 2 and this week has been set aside as an assessment period for senior students. These exams set a very clear indication as to how students are going in their particular classes and that certainly is something we need to ensure all of our senior students focus on. Reports will be issued on Thursday July 7th with a parent interview night on July 13th. I would urge all parents to take advantage of this opportunity to discuss their child's progress. One of our goals this year is improving student achievement and this is one way we can all work together to ensure our students achieve to their potential.

Attendance

At Stratford High School, attendance is a high priority. We know that students who attend regularly are more likely to succeed. To further improve our attendance procedures we will be informing parents/caregivers about any unexplained absences for their child. We ask that you let us know in advance if you know that your child will be absent.

We are now using an absence notification system, funded by the NZ Ministry of Education to communicate with parents on the day of an absence. If your child does not arrive at school as expected, you will be informed by text message each time they are away from school. We would really appreciate it if you could reply either by text or phone the school within 1 hour. The Ministry have said that this text will not cost you anything. We would also ask that you update your contact details with us when there are any changes.

Lateness to school: we appear to have a number of students who are regularly late for school. When a student is late they must have a note from a caregiver and sign in at the student office. There are consequences for those students who do not bring a note. Being late has an effect on the teaching and learning in the classroom that the student is late for. The start of the lesson is a very important time and it is essential that students are prepared and ready when the lesson begins.

School happenings

This term so far has seen some great events occur around the school, variety concert, mufti day, form class challenge, cross country and the start

of winter sports.

Interhouse indoor soccer is being competed for at the moment.

Congratulations to all involved and a huge thank you for your contributions to the

Canterbury fund (as a Cantabrian I feel incredibly proud of what our school has contributed).

During the weekend our Kapa Haka group are involved in the Manu Korero (speaker – Miss Alison Matthews) and Pae Rangitahi (on Saturday 11th June at War Memorial Hall, Waitara) and we wish them well.

It is always great to see our students contributing to school life in such a positive manner.

'Le Grand' Bal

The SHS 'Le Grand' Bal will be held this year on Saturday 2nd July from 8pm to midnight. This event has always been a highly successful event and every year we are complimented on the behaviour of our students. The Ball starts at 8pm and students will not be admitted after 8.30 pm. The Ball finishes at midnight and students are expected to remain at the Ball until that time unless prior arrangements have been made with the school. Students must dress formally.

The ball committee are working hard on the event; planning decorations, ticketing and other items to make this another successful event in the school calendar. Students can pay for tickets at the student office until Friday 24th June. Tickets are \$35.00 per person.

Stratford High School has **NOT** arranged any pre-ball or post ball functions and takes no responsibility for any that may have been arranged. School rules apply with regard to behaviour, alcohol and smoking and the venue security has the right to refuse entry to patrons if this is deemed necessary. Outside partners forms are to be completed and they are expected to comply with Stratford High School rules and are the responsibility of the student of whom they are the partner. With everyone's co-operation we are sure to have an enjoyable evening consistent with the intention and spirit of the School Ball.



Uniform

It is more than appropriate to remind parents and students (who get reminded regularly in assemblies and notices) that uniform is a continual focus at SHS. There are a number of students, in the winter months, who decide that their shoes are too wet to wear, or that their T-shirts need to be a different colour, or they need to wear long sleeved skivvies under their polos.

None of these items are acceptable and all parents and students know that. No skivvy is acceptable, and the fact that students "shoes get wet in the evening on the way home from school" is no excuse that they should not be worn the next day. **The majority of homes have hot water cylinders** – please assist us by ensuring that students who have wet gear get it completely dried out overnight before they return to school. Extra layers, worn for warmth, are not to be visible. Juniors are allowed to wear a black t-shirt underneath and seniors a plain white undershirt if needed.

Non-regulation jackets, non-regulation hairstyles and non-regulation jewellery are all items that are prohibited at SHS and, once again, it is important to note that we take a strong stand on these items – **please support us in this.**

Jackets and Raincoats

As winter approaches, students need to ensure that they are dressed warmly and that they keep dry. The uniform options for students are the polar fleece, red jersey with the school crest on or black school jacket. When it is raining, students may wear a school rain jacket which is available at "Off the Cuff". The way our students behave and the way they wear the uniform are the two biggest factors beside academic achievement that the community uses to judge our school. We cannot emphasise enough how important this is. We ask for the support of parents in making sure that your son or daughter is correctly dressed for school. Thank you for your co-operation.

Philip Keenan, Principal



Congratulations

Congratulations to ex-pupils Blake Old (2006) and Peter Zimmerman (2005) who are in the Massey University School of Engineering and Technology Yearbook 2010 with their graduate projects. There is a copy of their projects on the display board in the foyer.

NCEA News

- ◆ A reminder that all Year 11-13 students have to pay NZQA fees on a yearly basis. Financial Assistance forms should be completed and returned to the student office at school as soon as possible. For those who qualify for financial assistance, there is a significant saving to be gained - \$20.00 instead of \$76.70. For those who applied in 2010, you must make a new application for 2011.
- ◆ Spare forms are available from Mr. Smith or from the Student Office.
- ◆ Students will receive their NSN (National Student Number) cards in mid-June through school.
- ◆ Any students who will need to sit the external NZQA exams (in November-December) at another location other than Stratford High School, need to let me know as soon as possible so that I can make the application to the **host school**. In such circumstances, **all** exams must be sat at the alternative location and a successful application is dependent on the **host school** actually providing those exams to their own students.

If you have any general enquiries about NCEA, please ring me at school – 765 6039 (extn. 706)

Wayne Smith, Principal's Nominee



Computer safety tips

There have been a number of students misusing the school computer network. As part of the school net safety process all flash drives should be checked prior to use. This is a common way for computer viruses and Trojans to be passed around. To make your home computer safer follow the hints below:

- ◆ Make sure your computer at home has a trusted anti-virus software and perform regular software updates.
- ◆ Use strong passwords and never allow your computer to remember a password.
- ◆ Don't save your surfing history
- ◆ Log out of all applications or shut down completely when you are leaving the computer. (Don't leave the internet connection on especially if you have wireless that is not password protected.)

Students are also reminded that they need to protect their password while using the computers at school also.



Canteen Prices

Pies	\$3.00
Sausage rolls	\$1.50
Pork Riblets	\$3.00
Chicken burger	\$4.00
Cheese burger	\$4.00
Panini's	\$3.50
Chicken nuggets / sweet and sour sauce	\$4
Salami sticks	\$3.50
Chicken sticks	\$3.50
BLT sticks	\$3.50
Sandwiches	\$3.50
Muffins	\$2.50
Lamingtons	\$2.50
Caramel / fudge slice	\$1.00
Lollie cake	\$1.00

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.



Unpaid School Donations - A Plea!

You will be well aware that all schools (not just SHS) need every cent they can get from parents. We would appreciate all parents paying their school donations as soon as possible. It is of huge importance that we get as big a take as possible with donations so the students can take advantage of the 'extras' that are so necessary in this day and age. The money the Ministry of Education provides for schools in the Operations Grant is unrealistic and it is most important that parents and caregivers support the school by contributing their donation. Please note that this donation is claimable on your income tax. Thank you to all parents who paid their fees in Term One. It is paramount we get as many of the donations as possible so we can do the best job possible with the limited funding that we have.



Suit Hire

Available at Off the Cuff in Stratford and Hawera. Van Meer Suit Hire for school balls. Be in quick to guarantee you get the suit you want. You'll also benefit with a 15% discount on all full suit hire. Also a full range of accessorises available eg: shirts, ties, hats, shoes, etc. Some conditions apply.



Poutama

Your young people have recently reviewed their Poutama goals in their form classes. Many have already achieved one or more of their goals and have set themselves new goals. Some have been reminded of their goals and renewed their intention to achieve them. Some have realized that one of the goals they set was not realistic so they have set a new goal.

PLEASE talk with your young person and find out how their goal setting and achieving is going.



Roadsafe Taranaki

Roadsafe Taranaki is partnering with The Edge radio Station to modify or "Revamp" a car to give away to one lucky person in September 2011. The Edge is running a competition on line asking the community to vote on what they want to see on the "modified" car and local businesses are helping create a "Revamped" car that is legally modified, roadworthy and safe. Check out the competition on facebook (Roadsafe Taranaki Ride Revamp) or go to The Edge website to see how to enter the competition to go in the draw to win the car.

<http://www.theedge.co.nz/Roadsafe-Taranaki-Ride-Revamp/tabid/253/articleID/13725/Default.aspx>



Students showing their support for Canterbury at the red and black disco held earlier this term.

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.

Mr Caldwell and Miss Kay.



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.

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.



Gateway

We have 27 students currently enrolled on the 2011 Gateway Programme. The students are working on units towards National Certificates in their chosen career as well as going out into the workplace one day per week.

This year we have students working in the following industries, building, agriculture, hairdressing, early childhood education, sports training, joinery, graphic design and print, plumbing, electrical engineering, equine, infrastructure, mechanical engineering and event management.

This is my second of working at Rainbow Stratford as part of the Gateway Programme. I have really enjoyed getting to know the children and the staff. This year as part of my Gateway Programme I will complete the National Certificate in Early Childhood Care and Education Level 3. Next year I will be enrolled at WITT where I will complete the National Certificate in Early Childhood Care and Education Level 5.

By Danielle Langton



Partnership rules

Rule 5: Communication goes two ways.

Parent-teacher interviews are far more effective than written communication.

- ☺ Teachers want personal communication with parents because of its effectiveness.
- ☺ Teachers encourage parents to attend parent-teacher interviews wherever possible.
- ☺ Don't fear parent-teacher interviews – they aren't about criticism and complaints but more about working together to solve problems and help your child succeed.
- ☺ Grab every opportunity to communicate with teachers – formal and informal.
- ☺ Teachers want to ensure parents are informed. Please be sure you participate when the school asks.

Rule 6: Support your child's teacher and school

Promoting the school at every opportunity can be done at the basic level by parents encouraging healthy attitudes towards school in their own children, as well as friends and the community.

- ☺ Know the policies and values of your child's school.
- ☺ Talk about the importance of policies and values in the home with your child.
- ☺ Mirror the rules and consequences of the school in the home.
- ☺ Promote the school to your child to encourage a healthy attitude.

Many elements combine to enable children to gain a quality education that provides them with a platform for their future lives, not the least of which is the opportunity to experience their schooling with the full support of their teachers and parents.



TSSSA TABLE TENNIS CHAMPS 2011

Table Tennis is a new event added to the TSSSA calendar. Sport Taranaki ran a trial event so its popularity could be gauged for inclusion as an annual event. It was held at Spotswood College on Sunday 29th May, with Senior and Junior grades for Individuals and Pairs. The event was a huge success with intense, but fun competition.

SHS only had a boy's team competing. As it was a trial event, player numbers were limited, so trials were held in the hall, the week leading up to the Champs.

Our Senior Boys Kerrie O'Hanlon Taputoro and Matthew Sullivan Brown represented SHS in the singles and narrowly missed out on a place, with some close and skilled rallies. Junior Boys Levi Fletcher and Dylan Blair survived some long games to come out in 3rd place overall. The Senior pairs, Ryk Fergusson and Jordan Haakma were also placed 3rd overall in their grade.

Well done to the SHS team, it was a great day, and it will now be an annual fixture on the TSSSA Calendar.



TSSSA INDOOR BOWLS CHAMPS 2011

Stratford High school usually performs very well in this event, which this year was no exception. As usual it was held at the Central Division Hall, Belt Road, New Plymouth on Wednesday 25th May 2011. This event is very popular and 13 schools sent teams to compete.

Our individual player was year nine and 1st timer Jacinta Frost. This normally would have been huge pressure, but Jacinta took it all in her stride and disposed of all her competitors methodically, most much more senior in age. She came out the overall winner a great start for SHS.

Our pairs team of Shayna Heal and Anjela Frost showed class throughout to take the Pairs Team award. We all waited with fingers crossed as our relatively new team of Fours, skipped by an able Rebekah Frost, with Matthew Sullivan Brown, Kylie Rowland and Year Nine newbie Sharena Holgate, improved dramatically with each game, but just went down to Coastal Taranaki. Coastal won the Overall Trophy that SHS won 2 years ago. The scoring must have been very close as we were just pipped at the line for this.

Our young SHS team will be back next year to challenge strongly again. Best of luck to our young players who will be going on to compete at the Nationals, we look forward to hearing their results on their return. Thanks to Alan Frost and Jackie Kofoed for managing the team.



Peak reports

If you have been part of a school event now is the time to get your name into print. Drop your completed article into Mrs Bishop or email it to her at the school on bf@stratfordhigh.school.nz Remember you can add photos as well.

STRATFORD HIGH SCHOOL CROSSCOUNTRY: 2011

The 2011 Cross Country was run in perfect overhead conditions. Again, the 'Fun Run' section proved the most popular but it was unfortunate that once again a few 'walkers' had to be disqualified for lack of effort. It was very pleasing to see the effort made by the competitive runners though and some very good finishes were seen. It was once again one of the largest field of 'runners' and walkers we have had. While Matt Simpson and Sam Bunn were comfortable winners of their grades, the eye-catching run of the day came from Sarah Kowalewski who not only won the Junior Girls event but was also clearly the first girl to finish. Congratulations to all entrants and particularly to Individual and House winners.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS:

Junior Boys: 1. Quinlin Bosson-Thompson (Tr) 2. Kody Simpson (Tr) 3. Robbie Howatson (Mc)
Junior Girls: 1. Sarah Kowalewski (Ty) 2. Emily Short (Mc) 3. Jessica Taunt (Mc)
Intermediate Boys: 1. Sam Bunn (Ty) 2. Ryan Cooper (Ty) 3. Matthew Kowalewski (Ty)
Intermediate Girls: 1. Lara Williams (Ty) 2. Shayna Heal (Ty) 3. Noeleen Venter (Tr)
Senior Boys: 1. Matt Simpson (Tr) 2. Jack Espin (Am) 3. Craig Mischefski (Am)
Senior Girls: 1. Alana Mako (Tr) 2. Taylor Bailey Ty) 3. Clare O'Neil (Ty)

HOUSE TEAM RESULTS:

Junior Boys: 1. McAllister 2. Trimble 3. Amess 4. Tyrer
Junior Girls: 1. McAllister 2. Amess 3. Trimble 4. Tyrer
Intermediate Boys: 1. Tyrer 2. Amess 3. Trimble 4. McAllister
Intermediate Girls: 1. Tyrer 2. Trimble 3. Amess 4. McAllister
Senior Boys: 1. Amess 2. Tyrer 3. Trimble 4. McAllister
Senior Girls: 1. Tyrer 2. McAllister 3 Amess 4. Trimble

OVERALL HOUSE RESULTS:

Boys: 1. Amess 2. Tyrer 3. Trimble 4. McAllister
Girls: 1. Tyrer 2. McAllister 3. Amess 4. Trimble
Overall: 1. Tyrer 2. Amess 3. McAllister 4. Trimble

HOUSE PARTICIPATION RESULTS:

Boys: 1. Trimble 2. Amess 3. McAllister 4. Tyrer
Girls: 1. McAllister 2= Amess and Tyrer 4. Trimble
Overall: 1. McAllister 2. Amess 3. Trimble 4. Tyrer

FORM PARTICIPATION RESULTS:

Boys: 1= Ag and Bn 3= Bf and Tc
Girls: 1. Bn 2= Be, Gb, Me and Wd
Overall: 1. Bn 2= Ag, Be and Me

MOST SUCCESSFUL FORM RESULTS:

1. Br 2. Ag 3= Lr and Gv

CROSS COUNTRY TROPHIES

Robbie Howatson: Junior Boys Team (Herbert-Smith Trust Cup 1st McAllister Runner)
Sam Bunn: Intermediate Boys Team (Mrs R E Carryer Cup 1st Tyrer Runner)
Jack Espin: Senior Boys Team (R Masters Cup 1st Amess Runner)
Emily Short: Junior Girls Team (H C Thompson Cup 1st McAllister Runner)
Lara Williams: Intermediate Girls Team (Pugh Cup 1st Tyrer Runner)
Taylor Bailey: Senior Girls Team (SHS Senior Girls Cross Country Team Trophy 1st Tyrer Runner)

TSSSA CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPS

This year the Cross Country Champs were held at Hawera on Thursday 26th May 2011. The weather when we left Stratford looked to be testing with gusty wind and downpours of driving rain, but amazingly turned out to be ok at the Hawera Showgrounds.

Eight competitors entered this year, down on numbers from the last few years, but all put in a good effort despite the large fields. With 24th being our lowest result, three of our students were in a top ten position for Taranaki. Lara Williams was 6th in the Intermediate girls. Sarah Kowalewski was placed 7th in the Junior Girls event. Cody Bibby was 10th in the Intermediate Boys after leading the large field for half the race. Taylor Mackie put in a fine effort in a fast senior field to keep up with the leaders for 11th place. Well done to all who competed for SHS. Taranaki is very strong when it comes to Secondary School Cross Country and we held our own on a very challenging day.