

## From the Principal's Desk

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

It is a very busy last few weeks of the term. Staff have been busy writing senior reports and these reports will be the basis for our parent – teacher interviews to be held on Wednesday 13th July at 4.00pm. I would encourage parents of senior students to make appointments to meet their child's teachers. It is very important to realise we are now already past the mid-way point of the academic year for senior students and a number of NCEA assessments have already been completed. Results for these completed assessments will be included in the mid-year school report but parents need to realise that for several subjects the majority of the assessment are completed at the end of the year. The parent-teacher interviews will therefore be an important opportunity to find out some detail about the progress of your son/daughter is making in all subject areas.

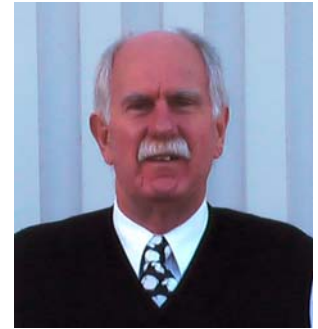
Recently the Minister of Education announced that secondary schools will be given two teacher-only days to assist with the implementation of new NCEA standards in 2012. Stratford High has chosen Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July as the first of the two days. The second will be in term 4 and we will inform you of that date closer to the time.

Over the last two weeks "Peregrine" have competed in the local Rockquest heats. Congratulations to the band members and all involved. Our annual ball took place last Saturday – it was a fantastic event and a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Thank you to all involved.

Next week the netball touring team leave for Australia. Good luck and enjoy the tournament, weather and shopping. To everyone who has helped in any way towards this trip – a huge thank you. Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July (last Thursday of the term) is our house Haka competition. Students and staff have been working very hard on this and it will be fantastic to see it performed. We have not had a school Haka and this is the start of the journey. The Haka was written by Matua Clive Tonga-Awhikau and Senior Māori Language students (2010). Parents and caregivers are invited to attend in the stadium at 2.00 pm on Thursday 14 August.

Next Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> July we farewell Mrs Lesley Roberts. Mrs Roberts has held many positions in

the school since she began in 1969. Students will remember her as an outstanding teacher and as a person who took a genuine interest in them. Her expertise, loyalty and sense of humour will be sorely missed by the school.



This term has been a long term. There have been many events that students have been involved in. My grateful and sincere thanks to all students who have been 'doing it right' and to all our supporters for their assistance during the term.

I would like to finish this newsletter with a reminder that school does not finish until 3.15 pm on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July and students should be present until this time.

*Quote: "Learning is not attained by choice. It must be sought with ardour and attended to with diligence."*

*Philip Keenan, Principal*

## Parents taking students out of school

This is a perennial concern that raises its head regularly throughout the year. Parents have every right to withdraw their student for good reason. It does, however, become an issue when parents expect work to be set while their student is out of school. The general guidelines are as follows:

If a student (at whatever level) has a serious illness and is expected to be off school for an extended period then we will most certainly set work and assist in their education as much as we can while they are convalescing.

If parents decide to take extended holidays to benefit from lower fares and rates, then the school takes a slightly different view. While parents can withdraw their student on such occasions, students must take responsibility for the work they will miss by individually approaching their teachers to find out what work they should do in order to catch up.

These are just general guidelines and common sense must prevail. Parents must always send a letter at least a week prior to the expected absence to the Principal, Mr Keenan to ask permission to take their student out of school. I

ask that if you have any concerns about these guidelines. Please do not hesitate to contact me.

## Uniform

Now that winter is well and truly here, it is important that students dress well in their uniform to keep themselves warm and dry. We are concerned that a number of students arrive at school poorly clothed. Some are wearing only the school polo shirt on the upper part of their body. Temperatures are now decreasing and the weather is definitely colder, especially in the mornings. Inadequate or damp clothing is not conducive to students learning and feeling comfortable about being at school.

Students can wear extra clothing under their uniform, as long as it is not seen. Juniors can wear black tops and seniors can wear white tops. A hoody, however, is not to be worn and is not a Stratford High School uniform item. Neither is a beanie or woolly hat. Scarves can only be plain black. Shoes should be plain black leather shoes with no adornments. There is an advertisement from Number One Shoe Warehouse regarding suitable types of shoes in this newsletter.

Uniform items that are purchased to allow for growth will last the student more than one year and are a good investment in providing for the student's well-being for his/her future at this school. If a family is in financial need, assistance can be given by the school. In such cases, please contact the Deputy Principals or the student's dean.



## Congratulations

- ☺ Emily Paterson and Natasha Sinclair-Taikato for their performance in the Waikato University Mooting Competition.
- ☺ To all year 9 and 10 students who participated in the Public Speaking competitions.
- ☺ To the students who performed at Manu Koorero and Pae Rangitahi recently. TJ Robinson, Dylan Walters, Alexis Marriner, Portia Marriner, Moana Robertson, Shaye Poa, Taylah Acero, Asia Loveridge Acero, Mihirangi Rice, Thomas Yeates, Mikaere Goble and Tameva Robertson
- ☺ To Thomas Yeates, Mikaere Goble and Tameva Robertson who were presented with the Kapa Haka Badge at assembly recently.
- ☺ To Alison Matthews who received a Manu Koorero Participation Certificate

## Junior Public Speaking

"We're here because you are looking for the best of the best of the best, sir!" The line from *Men In Black* crossed my mind as the top speakers from the Year 9 and 10 English classes gathered for the Junior Speech finals for 2011, on Thursday 23 and Friday 24 June.

The speakers addressed the audience on a range of entertaining and informative subjects. We listened to an account of the trials and tribulations of "being the youngest", an extended case for cell-phones being allowed at school, how to survive as a minority male in a house of eight females, the effects of smoking, some fine reasons to move to Eltham, learning to ride a bike, the importance of safety belts, a discussion of the topic of boys, how to work an iPod, the problem of bullying and some straightforward solutions to it, and many other topics.

Congratulations to Beth West, who won the Year 9 section with Sarah Kowalewski and Sarah Malone placing second and third, respectively. Rachel Martin won in the Year 10 section, with Robbie Howatson and Matthew Kowalewski unable to be separated for points, and thus placing second equal.

Mrs Goble and I were impressed with the preparations and presentations made by the twenty young people. Such a high standard of competition didn't make our work as judges easy. We look forward to seeing another strong range of contenders in action, next year.

*Mr. Woodd*



## SADD At Youth Expo

On Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May the Stratford High School SADD Committee attended the Youth Expo held at the War Memorial Centre. This event was hosted by the Stratford District Youth Council. The SADD committee members got alongside Roadsafes Taranaki to help bring awareness about drink driving and promote the good that the SHS SADD committee do, are involved and are about. This opportunity to be part of the Youth Expo gives our SADD committee the chance to be a community backed group, not just at school.

*Chelsea Saywell*

*SHS SADD Committee*



## Poutama

We were fortunate recently to have Casey Eagar as our Poutama inspirational speaker at assembly. Casey is an ex-pupil of Stratford High so our students know that she has been where they are. Casey's life story is full of inspiration and examples of the value of never giving up on a dream or a project. She left us with three main sayings that have kept her going and will be useful for all of us:

*"Keep your eyes and ears open and your big mouth shut."*

*"In the game of life, players must accept the cards they have been dealt, but can decide how to play them to win the game."*

*"When you feel like giving up, you are almost there."*

We had a form class quiz on Thursday to see which class had remembered the most of what Casey had said. Form Gb was first, Tc second and Mj third. Amess House gained the most points in the quiz. You might like to talk to your young person and find out what they remember and what they might apply to their own lives.



## 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.



## Library donations

The school would like to thank the ladies at the Inglewood Library who donated a number of books to our school library. This donation helps us to make our funds go further. Students are encouraged to suggest books that they would like the library to purchase.

Mrs Campbell, Librarian



## NZALT Certificates of Excellence

Congratulations to Natasha Sinclair-Taikato and Melissa Watts who have received Certificates of Excellence from The New Zealand Association of Language Teachers. These awards recognise exceptional achievement in second language learning. In Level 2 French in 2010, Natasha gained four Excellences and Melissa gained six Excellences. Félicitations!



## Bot Surveys

There are two Board of Trustees surveys linked to the school website. One is regarding the community consultation for Strategic Planning and the other is to get feedback on our school uniform. Please complete these to assist the Board and Senior Management team with future planning.

## Tasty Indian Trip



On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July, a group of Year 11 English students went on a field trip. As part of their English programme, they are studying the film *Bend it Like Beckham*. Themes from the film include understanding other cultures. As part of the thematic study the group went to 'Tasty Indian' on Broadway for lunch. What an amazing time! The food was plentiful and tasty and the service was awesome. The Year 11 class would like to thank the management and staff at Tasty Indian for creating a banquet style meal just for us! It was delicious and 20 of us enjoyed ourselves.



## Gateway Programme

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.

Students in 2012 who wish to take part in this programme have to apply and then are interviewed twice by the Careers advisor and Gateway Co-ordinator. Students need to have an idea about the career pathway they wish to explore so now is a good time to make an appointment to discuss careers with the careers team of Mrs Milner and Ms Hodson.

## Gateway student – Astyn Buckland

I do a gateway course at the Stratford District Council studying Event Management. Events I have been involved with the organising of have been ANZAC Day, the Youth Expo and currently the Citizen's Awards and a positive aging forum.

*By Astyn Buckland*

## Top 8 Science Trip

Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2011, 8 science brainiacs from each year 9 class travelled by bus to New Plymouth. First stop, The Transport Museum. We were split up into 4 groups. The Museum had exhibitions of old cars, typewriters, phones and also an old fire engine. Some people were amazed to find that the old telephones actually still worked. After a look around the museum we each got a label with our names hole punched onto it. Some of us enjoyed the simple things in life like the seesaw at the museum. As we got back on the bus the teachers told us that we weren't going to Puke Ariki almost everyone was saying Yes. That meant we had just over an hour in centre city to do whatever we wanted to do. For the girls it was a good time to go shopping and boys a good time to show off the girls. After an hour in Centre City we grabbed our bags and walked to the Todd Energy Aquatic Centre. We spent about an hour and a half there. The favourite time of the trip for me (probably some others) was definitely the pools. You could hear the girls screaming as they went down the hydro slides, even though they were told not to. Funny!!! After a tiring day of being cool, we headed back to Stratford.

*Sarah Malone*



## 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](mailto:bf@stratfordhigh.school.nz) Remember you can add photos as well.



## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon 11 July ..... staff only day  
Wed 13 July ..... Senior parent interviews 4pm  
Thu 14 Aug ..... House Haka Competition 2pm  
Fri. 15 July ..... End of Term 2  
Mon 1 Aug ..... Start of Term 3  
Tue 9 Aug ..... Ryder Hall NPBHS 7pm—  
Ellen Varoy—Social Media  
Wed 10 & Thu 11 Aug. ....Taita exchange  
Fri 12 Aug ..... New Caledonia students first day  
of visit.

## CENTRAL MAKAHU PONY CLUB

### Opening Rally and Registration Day FOR NEW AND EXISTING MEMBERS

Stratford A & P Showgrounds

13<sup>th</sup> August 2011 at 11.00am

This is an unmounted rally to welcome new Members, revise and learn Pony Club, Showjumping and Show Ring etiquette, first aid, gear cleaning (please bring bridle) and veterinary care. We will also be having a shared lunch so please bring a plate.

Any queries please contact Mechelle 06 7628552



## Social Media and your teenager

August 9 at 7pm Ryder Hall, New Plymouth Boys High School Ellen Varoy will give a presentation to the parents and teenagers on Facebook, Twitter and other social media. This evening is for all parents and their sons/daughters.

## TSSSA Darts

TSSSA Darts were held at the Stratford Club on Sunday July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011. Judging by the numbers competing and the standard of play, this event will be added to the TSSSA sporting calendar every year. Five schools attended and 21 competitors were split into three grades for individual competition. Girls and Boys were mixed in each section.

Stratford High Schools' Kerrie O'Hanlon Taputoro was placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in Section 3 and Rebekah Frost was placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in Section 1. Well done, you two, as the competitors were of a very good standard.

# Ball preparation



## Number One Shoe Warehouse Discount

Number One Shoe Warehouse has supplied the flyer below with samples of shoes that are suitable for our school. No canvas shoes are acceptable. If you take this newsletter with you to purchase shoes you will be eligible for an extra 10% discount including that which may already be on the shoes in store.

### BOY'S



**CLAYTON SCHOOL**  
\$19.99  
sizes: 10-12Luk

**VIREN SCHOOL**  
\$29.99  
sizes: 13-15Luk

LEATHER LINING AND SOLE



**TERRANI SCHOOL**  
\$29.99  
sizes: 6-12Luk

**HERMIT LACEUP**  
\$34.99  
sizes: 6-12Luk



**SCHL SKATE**  
\$39.95  
sizes: 6-12Luk

**LEAT SKAT**  
\$39.95  
sizes: 6-12Luk



**OL SCHOOL**  
\$29.99  
sizes: 11-13Luk

**CASCADE SCH**  
\$39.95  
sizes: 4-12Luk



**HARITH DAB**  
\$24.95  
sizes: 10-13Luk

**UNIFORM**  
\$44.99  
sizes: 6-12Luk

### BEST SELLER

NZ'S FAVOURITE SCHOOL SHOE!

Supportive moulded heel cup



**DETENTION**  
\$39.95  
sizes: 2-13Luk

Synthetic coated leather upper

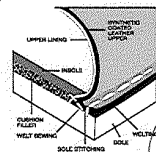
Padded collar for ankle support

Goodyear welt construction

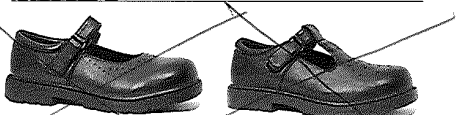
Non-slip and oil resistant soles

#### What is Goodyear Welt?

Goodyear Welt Construction is a process used to make top quality shoes where a welt and supportive insole are stitched to a leather upper. The outsole is then stitched to the welt for a strong and durable bond. This process provides a better fit over the life of the shoe and natural cushion filler provides all day comfort and support. The result is a shoe which is comfortable as well as sturdy and long wearing.



### GIRLS



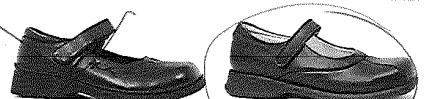
**BEKKA SCH**  
\$24.99  
sizes: 11-13Luk

**EAVEN SCH**  
\$24.99  
sizes: 11-13Luk



**ZIRZA**  
\$29.99  
sizes: 13-15Luk

**ZIPPER SCH**  
\$29.99  
sizes: 13-15Luk



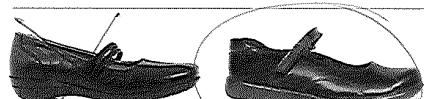
**ISOKE SWAY**  
\$27.99  
sizes: 10-13Luk

**ALLY SCH**  
\$39.99  
sizes: 13-15Luk



**TRISHY**  
\$34.99  
sizes: 5-11Luk

**TEACH**  
\$39.95  
sizes: 5-11Luk



**SABRIJA**  
\$39.99  
sizes: 6-11Luk

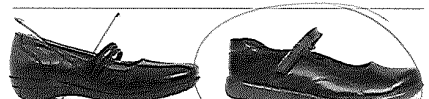
**BISSAU SCH**  
\$49.95  
sizes: 5-10Luk

### GIRLS



**MERIT**  
\$19.99  
sizes: 6-9Luk

**PEARLLE SCH**  
\$39.99  
sizes: 6-10Luk



**SABRIJA**  
\$39.99  
sizes: 6-11Luk

**BISSAU SCH**  
\$49.95  
sizes: 5-10Luk