

From the Principal's Desk

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

As the end of a long term 3 approaches and Rugby World Cup fever grips the country we are reminded of the reason behind the alteration to the terms and breaks this year. Whether we are rugby fans or not, the RWC has certainly had an effect on the year, so let's all hope it's all worth it. Examinations have been high on the list of important activities for Years 11 – 13 students this term. Our school internal examinations have just finished and it is important that students follow up on any necessary work with their teachers. From this point on, students must be focussed on their goal to achieve well in NCEA, and if we use the rugby analogy, they must be prepared to go for the bonus points: Merit and Excellence endorsements must be the target for students who are capable of this level of achievement. Students must have a well-planned revision programme leading up to the November examinations, and this programme must include time set aside each day during the next term break, between 10th to 25th October.

A number of teachers are running revision programmes during this break and I urge students to take advantage of these.

Term 3 has involved many of our students in extracurricular activities and I am extremely grateful for the time parents, volunteers and staff dedicate to ensure that our children have the opportunity to enjoy and excel at what they love. It is a privilege for me to have the opportunity to watch and support your child in their extra-curricular activities. Your children are fantastic and you should be proud of them and the heart and passion they show when they perform and participate. To the students: well done and thank you for the way in which you represent our school in the wider community. There have been many achievements this term and I am sure you will enjoy reading these in our school magazine "*Peak*".

The Board of Trustees is presently considering a strategic plan for 2012 – 2014 and is seeking community input. A copy of the plan is enclosed with this newsletter and comments should be sent to the school: via letter or email: mail@stratfordhigh.school.nz

It has been a cold and wet term with students and teachers hit hard with flu like illnesses. Everyone is very tired and in need of a break. It is important that students and teachers return well rested for the final, important term of the year, when academic achievement needs to be the focus of our students' lives. NCEA exams begin on November 10th and success will depend on effort and regular study from now on.



I would like to invite all parents and caregivers to the Senior Prizegiving on Tuesday 8th November commencing at 1.00pm. This is our opportunity to celebrate the academic, cultural and sporting success for 2011 of our senior students, and it is a pleasure to be able to celebrate with parents and caregivers.

Annual Election of the Student Rep to the Board of Trustees

Students will be voting this week for the next Student Representative on the Board of Trustees. The successful candidate will be announced on Friday 7th October, in time for them to attend the next board meeting on 13th October.

*Kaore he hua, ki te kore he kaha
Palma Non Sine Pulvere
No reward without effort*

Philip Keenan, Principal



Congratulations

- ☺ To Lauren Cox who was 3rd in the TSSSA Senior Girls Road Cycle champs and who also won one of the spot prizes on the day.
- ☺ To Sarah Cooper, Melissa Coull-Herewini, Rebecca Poole, Daniel Stieller, Kate Thomas who were presented with Peak 2011 bars as acknowledgement of their involvement in the production of the school magazine this year.
- ☺ To Josh Hunger and Quinlin Bosson-Thompson who were selected for the Taranaki Under 14 rugby team. They play against a visiting Australian school next Thursday in Tikorangi. Scott Caskey and Jarvis Gotty are in the Under 16 team and

Adrian Pitman was selected for the Taranaki Under 18 team.

- ☺ Laureen Cox (Y12) competed in the TSSSA cycling champs on Sunday September 4 in Lepperton. She rode in a mixed team with NPBHS and NPGHS around a 16km course and was placed 3rd in the senior girl's individual time trial event around a 16km course.
- ☺ To Crystal Melville-Grace (Y13) who came third in the Taranaki Foodstuffs Checker of the Year competition recently.



NCEA News

1. After the holidays, Year 11-13 students will be given two NZQA documents:
 - ⇒ Instructions for NCEA external examinations [including the complete examination timetable]
 - ⇒ Their personal examination admission slip. They must **NOT** lose this as they are required to present it to the supervisors at each of their examination sessions. Students need to check these and any mistakes need to be notified to me as soon as possible.
2. I have had a number of enquiries about students not receiving their NCEA Certificates, Records of Achievement and School Results Summary (for leavers only) from last year. Students have to order these through their personal learner login. The first copy of this document is free.

In January 2012 the provisional results from this year's NCEA will be available online to students sometime by January 17th under their personal learner login (there will be NO automatic posting of these results as has happened in the past). Students can order a posted copy through their personal learner login but this needs to be done between now and December 31st this year.

ALL Year 11-13 students should create their own personal learner login.

3. The opportunity to pay NCEA fees directly to school has passed. Payments must now be made directly to NZQA with an additional late fee of \$50.00. Applications can still be made for financial assistance. Please get in touch with me at school as I have the relevant forms that must be used for both late fees and financial assistance claims.

If you have any queries in relation to NCEA please contact me at school on 7656039 extn 706.

Wayne Smith, Principal's Nominee.



Senior Interviews

Parents and caregivers will have the opportunity to meet the teachers of senior students at interviews which will be held on Thursday 6th October from 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm. Interview sheets have been sent home to all senior students. Summary sheets showing exam results and internal credits to date will be available to be picked up on the night.

Mrs Gall, Deputy Principal



Visitors to Special Needs

Students in the Special Needs Room have been especially busy in the last couple of weeks. We were lucky to have Mrs Sharyn Coull come in and tell the story "Rice Pudding" – complete with props and edible pudding!

Fibre Art tutor Maree Liddington ran a two hour felting workshop – this was amazing and the finished items are just beautiful!

PA Diane Lithgow kindly prepared a speech for us about her family visits to Disneyland. This was wonderfully interesting, especially as she had brought in several mementos for the students to handle. We want to organise a class trip to Disneyland now – any willing sponsors?

Anne Howison



Year 11 Careers Intensive

Our Year 11 Careers Intensive run in conjunction with Option Interview Day ran very smoothly. The presentations by staff and invited guests provided students with a range of information and skills which will be important and useful to them over the next few years. Topics covered included NCEA, Gateway, STAR courses, apprenticeships, tertiary education, job interviews, C.V.'s and Career Services. In addition to this, we held a mini Careers Expo in the hall with a number of local and national providers present. These providers were very pleased with the day, had good ideas of how we could make better use of them and were all keen to come back again. We look forward to bigger and better next year.

Junior Interview Evening

There will be an interview evening on Thursday 27th October for parents of Year 9 and 10 students following the release of the 4th junior graduation report. A booking sheet has been included with the report for you to make appointments with the teachers.

Taranaki Female Hockey Player of the Year

On 27 August Taranaki Hockey held their annual club awards evening. The criteria for the player of the year awards were that you needed to represent Taranaki in some way, show great skill, talent and be a team player. It is a difficult award to receive as there are 8 clubs with a total of 112 players vying for the honour. It was with great excitement and shock that Lara Williams received this award for 2011.

As part of her commitment to hockey, Lara played for SHS Girls 1st XI, captained the Taranaki Under 15 team and was tournament player of the week as well as Most Valuable Player for the second year.



The 24 Hour Book Sale is a very long standing community event in Taranaki. All books/magazines are donated by the community, with the proceeds going back into the community via special projects at the TSB Showplace. The book sale is happening once again on the 7th and 8th October, with over 70,000 books, magazines, puzzles, games, DVD's and CD's on offer. With prices starting at only 50 cents there is something for everyone.



Meningitis

Meningitis has become prevalent once again and we are asking that families take care with their habits

to prevent this illness affecting members of our school community.

Meningococcal disease is a serious illness, causing meningitis (an infection of the brain membranes) or septicaemia (blood poisoning). Symptoms may include a high fever, headache, sleepiness, a stiff neck, dislike of bright lights, joint and muscle pains, and vomiting or (in infants) refusal of feeds. A rash occurs in about two-thirds of people with meningococcal disease.

Meningococcal disease can occur at any age. Meningococcal disease is serious and can sometimes cause death or permanent disability such as deafness or disfigurement.

For more information please look at the Ministry of

We notice some of our students share food and drink. This is not OK as bugs are easily transferred.

Health website www.moh.govt.nz or contact your local doctor for information leaflets.



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.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept 26	SHS tennis next 2 weeks
Sept 30	TSSSA junior volleyball
Oct 5	TSSSA indoor rowing
Oct 6	Peer support training 2012 – A to L students
Oct 7	Peer support training 2012 – M to Z students
	End of term 3
Oct 8 to 10	Robodirect Schools National Cycling Champs – Manawatu
Oct 13	BoT meeting
Oct 24	LABOUR DAY
Oct 25	Start of term 4 Day 2
	GREEN WEEK to November 4
Oct 26	Junior Parent Evening
Oct 27	Deans Assembly
Oct 30	NISS MotoX Champs - N.P.
Oct 31	SHS Sports Council mtg
Nov 2	TSSSA Relays
	Year 13 Leaver's Dinner
Nov 3	House Assembly

	TSS Sports Co-ordinators dinner
	Next newsletter
Nov 7	Year 10 TOPEC (all week)
	Senior Prizegiving practice
Nov 8	Senior Prizegiving
Nov 9	Jnr Assembly
	CPaBL mtg 3.30pm
Nov 10	NCEA exams begin
Nov 13	TSS Junior Touch (Sunday)
Nov 22	Year 8 Orientation visits
Nov 23	TSSSA Jnr Tennis / Softball
Nov 24	Year 8 Orientation visits
Nov 29	TSSSA Show jumping
Nov 30	NCEA exams end
Dec 1	Year 9 Rotation 5 ends
	Last newsletter
	SNR Day 1 - Book returns, Issue Reports
Dec 2	Jnr Prize-giving
Dec 5 – 8	Activities Week
Dec 7	Jnr Reports posted
Dec 9	SNR Day 2 - Return books, issue reports, collect peak magazine
	LAST DAY of Term 4 and the 2011 school year

ICAS Results

Recently the English department handed out certificates for ICAS writing. The ICAS writing top results were as follows:

Credit: Tayla Corbett, (top 22% Y10 in NZ);
Alexandra Merson, (top 18% Y11 in NZ);
Sarah Cooper, Credit (top 14% of Y13 in NZ)

Distinction: Jessica Graham, (top 9% of Y10 participants in NZ)

High Distinction: Kathleen Robertson (top 1% of Y11 participants in NZ). Kathleen's results is outstanding.

Mrs Goble

The science department also had results from ICAS Science competition. 45 students participated in the competition with great success. Credit awards were gained by: Y10: Jayden Anderson, Y11: Jarrod Harris, Alexandra Merson, Alex Taikato and Y12: Cameron Johnson and Amy Luckhurst. Jason Hamlin (Y11) was awarded a Distinction Award for being in the top 3% of all Year 11 students in New Zealand. Congratulations to all.

Mr Armond, HoD Science



TSSSA Chess Results

Taranaki Zone Chess Championships held recently with the following results for our students. James Burt 1st place Gold; Tayla Corbett 2nd place Silver, Top Girl Gold; Cameron Luckhurst 3rd place Bronze. With fourth member Rowan Meads the team won the Top team Gold medal as well. They are currently waiting on confirmation for their place in the Chess Power Interschool National Championship to be held in Auckland on October 4th.

Mrs Campbell



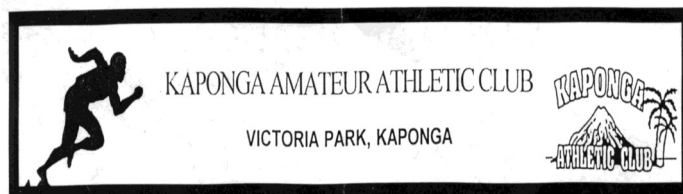
Absence System

Please do not send a text on another day on the number received from the ENS. This number is

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.

only available for you to reply to on the day you receive the text from the school. Your text on any other day will not be received by the Early Notification System. You need to phone the school with the absence on that day.



KAPONGA AMATEUR ATHLETICS CLUB

REGISTRATION NIGHT

Wednesday 19th October 2011 at 6.30pm, Victoria Park, Kaponga. Club nights start: Wednesday 26th October - 6.30pm (first week of term 4). Track & field events and fun activities for all ages!

For more information phone: Deborah Collins 06 7646 011



Is this your last year at school?

Are you thinking of going to – university, Polytech or starting a training course? Or maybe you want to look for a job? If you are 15-19 years of age – we can help.

Sign up with Youth Transition Services and we can provide you with a CV and job search advice. We also run Employment Workshops – want to find out more please call 0508 496 884 or consult your careers advisor at school and make an appointment to speak to a coach today.



Fees Payments - Reminder

We would appreciate if all school costs, admin/computer fee and school donations are paid by the end of term as stated on the invoice you would have received. Please note that the school donation is claimable on your income tax. Thank you to all parents who paid their fees to date. 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.

Daffodil Day Volunteers

Once again, students volunteered their services to assist the Stratford Cancer Society with the luncheon and selling of flowers for 2011 daffodil day. Thanks to Alison Matthews, Andrew Hunger, Amy Luckhurst, Elizabeth Corbett, Shannon Morrow-Washer, Melissa Coull-Herewini, Jessica Nicholas, Christine Podjursky and Michaela Dormer for providing this valuable community service on behalf of our school.

Mrs Gall



Poutama Assembly

We were recently privileged to have Shane Jordan as a guest speaker at our Poutama assembly. A Stratford High School old boy, Shane Jordan has been chopping since he was 15 years old. He told us that he developed an interest when Bruce Reichardt from Douglas was training some young guys at school.

When he left school, Shane trained as a helicopter engineer and went to work in Taupo. He was fortunate to have a great coach and mentor who spent his days sourcing wood for Shane to chop. Shane stressed the importance of surrounding yourself with people who believe in the dreams you have for yourself. Shane cuts hundreds of training logs, spends many early mornings at the gym and late nights adjusting and perfecting his equipment. This training ensures he is physically and mentally prepared. He has kept very many people in firewood along the way.

He has competed and represented NZ in the USA, Spain, Austria and Australia. He has held numerous titles throughout the North Island and was also a member of the NZ team which set a new World record in Austria. He showed us a video of how he achieved his goal of competing in the American Stihl series. Shane told us he was planning an attempt at a New Zealand record in Inglewood in a few weeks' time. We have since learned that he achieved his goal. In the standing block he carved close to two seconds off the previous record, set in 2005, of 18.63s. Shane's mark is 16.64s. Shane's advice for our students was that they can do anything they want to if they believe in themselves and set their mind to it.



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 enormous expense each year to replace stolen or lost items.



Chelsea Saywell – Gateway 2011

My name is Chelsea Saywell and I have been involved in the Gateway Programme for 2011. Every Monday I have had the opportunity to work on a dairy farm. I have been involved in all aspects of the farm including milking, calving, feeding out and all other general farm jobs. Gateway is a really good programme to do if you know what career path you want to take. It is a good opportunity for students to get a feel for the real world. I have completed numerous units and gained many credits through Gateway. Next year I am hoping to further my studies in agriculture at Massey University.



NETBALL DINNER AND PRIZEGIVING

- Who: Players, parents, coaches, managers and supporters of SHS Netball
- When: Wednesday 5th October
- Where: Stratford Club, 60 Juliet Street, Stratford
- Time: Dinner - please be seated by 6.30pm
Prizegiving - 8pm
- Cost: Dinner \$18 per person includes dinner and dessert
- RSVP by: Monday 3rd October via the student office

Please note: Players should have received a newsletter with detailed information about this event with a RSVP form.