

The Catlins Area School Newsletter – 22nd September 2017

From the Principal:

Senior Trial Exams

Students in Years 11-13 have completed their trial exams in preparation for the formal NCEA External Examinations which commence in November. The official [examination timetable](#) can be found on the NZQA website. Students will soon receive their exam reports which show their current level of attainment. With careful preparation and hard work, students can expect to maintain or improve on these grades. Please discuss with your child their intended revision programme.

Duke of Edinburgh

Our intrepid adventurers have embarked on their cycling journey. Thank you to Coralie McLay who accompanies them as the safety supporter. This is Naomi, Josiah, John and Jessica at Lake Pukaki this morning. We're wishing you well for the rest of the ride!



Get to Go

A group of students from The Catlins Area School invited students from Lawrence Area School to join them in making a team for the 2017 Get2Go Challenge. The Get2Go Challenge comprises a series of fun and exciting events. It is like the Amazing Race, Treasure Island, and Survivor mixed together with adventure sports including rock climbing, orienteering, kayaking, mountain biking and a little bit of problem-solving. Our students really enjoyed themselves; pictures from the day are available on the school Facebook page. Thank you to Fiona Wilkinson, Tania Barr and the parent helpers for their work on the day and in preparation for the event.

Junior Production

Our Year 1 - 8 students continue their preparations for the main event next week. The Amazing Adventures of Super Stan is definitely taking shape, lines are learned, dances perfected, costumes adjusted and props made.

Thank you to the Junior team, with special thanks to Hilary Grant and Glenda Landreth for their ongoing work with the students to produce these awesome evenings of entertainment. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone there (see attached flier)!

What's happening in Education?

In New Zealand, we're lucky that our government supports research into education and has created a very forward focused curriculum. If you are ever interested in knowing more about education in New Zealand, a great source of information is the 'Education Counts' website: educationcounts.govt.nz. As part of my ongoing professional reading, I regularly come back to a paper written by members of The New Zealand Council for Educational Research, [Supporting future-oriented learning and teaching: A New Zealand perspective](#). It is a very wide scope (and lengthy) document which brings together over ten years of research in New Zealand and globally across all the education sectors.

So what do the authors summarise as the emerging principles for education and learning?

- Personalising learning

Personalising learning aligns with the idea that education systems must move away from an Industrial Age "one-size-fits-all" model. The idea of "personalising learning" calls for reversing the "logic" of education systems so that the system is built around the learner, rather than the learner being required to fit with the system.

- New views of equity, diversity, and inclusivity

Achieving equity is not *just* about addressing the underachievement or disengagement of particular groupings of students and communities and bringing everyone closer to a single normative standard of what counts as success. This is particularly important given the arguments that currently accepted markers of success in education probably do not adequately reflect the kinds of learning that are needed for the demands of the 21st century.

- A curriculum that uses knowledge to develop learning capacity

Knowledge is now seen as something that *does* things, as being more energy-like than matter-like, more like a verb than a noun. Knowledge, in the Knowledge Age, involves *creating* and *using* new knowledge to solve problems and find solutions to challenges as they arise on a "just-in-time" basis.

- "Changing the script": Rethinking learners' and teachers' roles

If the purpose of schools is not to *transmit* knowledge, then teachers' roles must be reconceived. Similarly, if the learner's main job is no longer to absorb and store up knowledge to use in the future, then learners' roles and responsibilities also need to be reconceived. This calls for a greater focus on recognising and working with learners' strengths and thinking about what role teachers can play in supporting the development of every learner's potential.

- A culture of continuous learning for teachers and educational leaders

The challenge here is for educators and leaders to achieve a system shift that creates a more coherent educational ecology that can support what is known about good learning *and* that can accommodate new knowledge about learning and, importantly, new *purposes* for learning in a changing world.

- New kinds of partnerships and relationships: Schools no longer siloed from the community

Students must learn to recognise and navigate authentic problems and challenges in ways that they are likely to encounter in future learning situations.

- New technologies and collaborative practices

Research suggests that educational clustering, integration of new technologies and networking provides an opportunity for extended learning and expanding ideas about what is possible.

End of Term Activities

As part of our ongoing commitment to our local community, students will be participating in the Keep New Zealand Beautiful '[Clean up Week](#)'. As a school, we'll be out and about in Owaka on the afternoon of Friday the 29th (2pm onwards), looking for litter and rubbish to tidy up. If you'd like to join us, everyone is welcome!

Nau te raurau, Naku te raurau, Ka ora ai nga tangata.

Kate Staniford
Principal

Upcoming Events:

Junior Production - 27th and 28th September

End of Term - 29th September

Keeping Ourselves Safe Y1-8 Programme Starts - 24th October

Country Fair - 11am onwards - 4th November

Prizegiving - 8th November

Pet Day - 10th November

Principal Awards

Laniah Shute	Room 2	Improving understanding in Maths
Mark Janssen	Room 3	Using great problem solving in Maths
Jessica Edwards	Room 19	Excellent progress and self-management in live Mathematics
Korban Craigie	Year 7	Excellent independent work on his Science Badge.
Magan Mitchell	Year 7	Excellent attitude and quality of work in Science
CJ Lowe	Year 8	Awesome practical work on his Taniwha
Adam Pullar	Year 11	For consistent performance across his exams.

Pet Day 2017

Pet Day is going to be held on **Friday 10th November**. Our dairy farming kids: it's time to pick those special calves. Our sheep farming kids: it's nearly time to pick that special lamb. Our creative kids: it is time to start thinking about your creations! Any questions please contact Annie Jackson 03 4158769 or andrew.anniejackson@gmail.com

Clean up NZ

TCAS is doing our bit for Clean Up NZ Week by having the whole school out around our town next Friday from 2pm, picking up Rubbish. This will be a house competition and the house who has collected the most rubbish will get the most house points.

Lost Property

There is heaps of un-named lost property here at school. If you are visiting please pop into the office and look through the clothes on the trestle in the foyer. Any item left at the end of term will be taken to the Swap Shop.

SPORTS NEWS

Get 2 Go Challenge

Last Friday **Robbie Jackson, Josh Williams, Lauren Grant, Mathew Dreaver and C.J Lowe** joined forces with three Lawrence students in the annual Get 2 Go Challenge in Dunedin. 19 schools from the Otago-Southland region competed against each other in teams of eight in Mountain biking, Kayaking, Orienteering and Problem solving .

Hockey Tournament

Good luck to **Eddie Burgess, Sam Hancox, Cooper Cleland and Hunter Burgess** for their Hockey Tournament in Dunedin on Sunday. 14 teams from Southland and Otago will compete in the Dunedin Year 5 & 6 Festival.

Touch

First game for the season got under way yesterday and it was great to see the new combination of teams out there enjoying themselves. Next week is another grading game and we have requested early games due to Production. The draw will be emailed to families.

Players of the day this week were Catlins Crackers -**Harry Walker** and Catlins Cobras - **Jack Walker**
Catlins Crushers - **Sam Hancox** and Catlins Crusaders - **Kasey Valli**.

South Otago Touch Holiday Camps are Monday 2nd Oct for girls and 3rd Oct for boys from 9am - 3pm. Cost is \$20 per student. If interested collect a flyer from the school office.

Cricket

There is an opportunity to enter teams into a revised South Otago Competition of 8 aside cricket on Friday afternoons. There is a Year 5 & 6 grade but happy for keen Year 4's to join and a Year 7 & 8 grade.

We have a number of students keen to play cricket this year but we will require community and parent help with coaching and practices to be able to enter teams. If anyone is a keen cricketer or willing to help our junior students play cricket please call Tania Barr on 027 220 2673 or leave a message via the school office.

Tania Barr
Fiona Wilkinson

Community News

Tahakopa School is holding a disco on 29 September at 6.30-9.00pm. \$5 entry fee which includes fizz, pop corn and supper. Parents welcome (see flier).

Kiwi Conservation Week

We would like to welcome you all along to our event! There will be plenty of fun, games, activities, discoveries all about penguins, especially our local hoiho/yellow eyed penguin. It is happening on **Sunday 24 September** at the Kaka Point Community Hall @ 2 – 5pm. Please bring a snack, we will provide juice. You have to be 5+ (but as caregivers will be there with other children all family members of any age are welcome. Please book 0223914698. We look forward to seeing you there!