

The Catlins Area School Newsletter – 20th October 2017

From the Principal:

Welcome back to Term 4!

Litter Pick-Up

On the last day of Term 3, students collected rubbish in and around Owaka. You may have seen us out there in high-viz with our bags and gloves? This was our response to the Keep NZ Beautiful 'Clean Up Week'. Thank you to Fiona Wilkinson for organising the event and liaising with Clutha District Council and Steve Clarke to make sure we had all the right equipment and resources, also to the parents and community members that came along to lend their hands to the task too.

Despite initial distaste for the tasks, once the students began to understand that the work would benefit our community and us by providing service to our environment, they took up the challenge with gusto. I'm pleased to say that we removed 98.6kg of litter and waste from the Owaka township in our one hour session. Who knew there would be so much?

Clutha Youth

Over the holiday break, Ruth Ratcliffe from Clutha Youth held a session at school with our Year 9 and 10 students. She continues to work with them on a resilience and leadership programme. It was great to see the students willing to attend sessions that benefit their learning during their break. Ruth will continue to work with the group for the remainder of the year during school time.

Home and School

The Home and School Committee will be meeting at 7pm in the Staffroom on Tuesday 24th October. The main topic of discussion will be the Country Fair. Everyone, including new members are always welcome. See you there!

Previous Student - Debra Cruikshank

For those of you who remember Debra Cruikshank, a student at The Catlins Area School from 1985 onwards - here is an article from the ODT sharing her ongoing success in the winemaking industry: <https://www.odt.co.nz/business/do-it-yourself-attitude-and-no-8-approach-win>

Survey Feedback

There have been two surveys circulating for feedback within the wider school community. The first was regarding transport and road/driveway safety. The outcomes are as follows:-

- Students in Years 1-6 should wear high-viz vests over their uniforms on the way to and from school.
 - In coming weeks we will provide high-viz for the Years 1-6 students to wear. They will be expected to care for these items and wear them to and from school each day. We will collect them on the last day of each term to wash them over the holidays.
- Parents' vehicles may enter the school site to pick-up and drop-off students.
 - Please exercise extra caution if you enter the school site, especially if you are using the lower carpark. Students cross here to use the stairway at the beginning and end of the school day, and they have right of way.
- Bus students in Years 1-6 will always be put on the bus after school unless the parent has made contact directly with the office.
 - Please call the office on 4158036 if you wish to change travel arrangements for your child in Years 1-6, otherwise your child will be expected to use the bus.

The second survey related to our new system for Conferencing instead of parent meetings. This was trialled in Years 10-12 when they selected their Options for 2018. They were able to share their short and long term goals and career plans with families alongside a discussion with a mentor to formalise their 2018 pathway. This term, and early next year, these students will be developing in depth personal learning plans and targets for their NCEA level. The survey showed that parents felt this system clarified academic requirements and plans, and was more informative than the parent-teacher style interviews. This system will be extended to more year groups next year and further feedback will be sought at that time.

Student Leaders 2018

I have requested and received applications for leadership roles in 2018 from our Year 12 students. Across the applicants there are a wide variety of skills and qualities apparent.

In 2018 I intend to have a flattened leadership team with no specific 'Head'. Instead we will institute a Prefect Team, the school benefiting from their range of attributes, and the Prefects sharing the workload. The Prefects will share a

common job description alongside a couple of specialist tasks, which play to their strengths. The Prefects will be expected to work with younger students to develop leadership opportunities throughout the age range at school. A profile of each Prefect will be displayed in the newsletter next week, and they will have the opportunity to share their specific job descriptions with the school at an assembly later this term. At Prize Giving they will be presented to the school community.

Gateway Presentations

Thank you to the parents who attended the Gateway Presentations on Tuesday. The diversity of opportunities made available to our seniors by Helen-May Burgess and Louise Burgess is truly amazing. It was a fantastic opportunity to hear directly from the students the skills and experiences they have gained from the Gateway Programme. Helen-May shared in her speech that per student, The Catlins Area School has the highest funding level and largest engagement in the programme when compared to most (if not all) schools in New Zealand. We were a pilot school for the programme, and have remained invested in the opportunities it provides for all students across the senior age and ability range. Thank you to Helen-May and Louise for organising the event, our students are certainly grateful for all the effort you put into the programme. If you'd like to know more about Gateway, give us a call!



Digital Technology New Curriculum

The Ministry of Education has released a draft Digital Technology Curriculum which must be implemented in schools before 2020 (after feedback). You can read a copy here: <chrome-extension://oemmndcbldboiebfnladdacbfdmadadm/https://education.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Ministry/consultations/DT-consultation/DTCP1701-Digital-Technologies-Hangarau-Matihiko-ENG.pdf>

As you can see from the document, the expectation will be to provide opportunities for cross-curricular computational thinking and to develop and design digital outcomes for students across the age range from new entrants up.

From the document:

“New Zealand is a digital nation. Digital technologies are transforming how we live; shaping our homes and our workplaces, changing the way that we interact with each other and live our everyday lives. Our education system needs to change how we prepare our children and young people to participate, create and thrive in this fast-moving digital world.

Incorporating digital technologies will support young people to develop the confidence and skill not only to use digital technologies (DT) but to design and build digital systems. The Technology Learning Area of the New Zealand Curriculum stresses the importance of intervention by design: the use of practical and intellectual resources to develop products and systems. These developments expand human possibilities by addressing needs and realising opportunities to meet new and emerging societal needs.

Technology is much more than designing and making technological outcomes, it involves critiquing past, existing and possible future technologies, while considering their environmental, social and cultural impact. For the first time the learning in digital technologies is explicit within the learning area. From 2018, Digital Technologies / Hangarau Matihiko will be strengthened in The New Zealand Curriculum and Te Marautanga o Aotearoa, starting at Year 1.”

Country Fair

On 4th November, we'll be hosting a Home and School Fundraising Country Fair. It will be a fantastic event with food stalls, games, market stalls and rides. You may have seen Lisa Given's posters around and about. We're hoping that the school community will support the event by attending, but there are a number of other ways you can support us before the event even if you can't come along on the day:

- Participate in mufti events to collect prize items: Friday 20th October bring a chocolate bar mufti day, Friday 27th October bring a raffle box item mufti day (no gold coin donations required).
- Donate some bread or margarine for the barbeque.
- Donate boxes of ice pops for the stall.
- Donate some baking (November 2nd or 3rd for drop off please).
- Spring clean at home, donate items for the White Elephant Market Stalls - suitable items include, household goods, clothes, books, DVDs, toys etc... (saleable condition please).
- Volunteer some time to sort and label the goods for sale (November 2nd and 3rd), or time on the day to supervise a stall if you are able to attend.

All donated goods can be dropped off at the school office. If you are able to volunteer some time to help sort goods, or set up, please contact Lisa Given using her number on the flyer.

Thank you in advance for any assistance you can provide; I know this will be a great event.

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

Kate Staniford
Principal

Upcoming Events:

Labour Day - No school - 23rd October
Keeping Ourselves Safe Y1-8 Programme Starts - 24th October
BOT Meeting - 26th October
Bring a Raffle Box Item Mufti Day - 27th October
Country Fair - 11am onwards - 4th November
Prizegiving - 8th November
Pet Day - 10th November
Room 19 & Yr7/8 Camp - 14th November

SWAP SHOP

This Saturday 21 October while the Annual Market is on in the Owaka Memorial Community Centre, the Swap Shop is OPEN from 9.30 – 11.30am. There will be a plant stall outside our building as well.

Sun Hats

Reminder to parents that in the summer we like all the junior students to wear their school wide-rimmed sun hat when outside. Thank you.

Kids Agri

Last day of term we did a lambing beat and also did some cultivation with the tractor. We also learnt about debudding of calves. Next **Friday 27th October** will be at Dellys Brown's farm for horse experience. Come and learn about horses and come for a ride. Will be weather dependent! Andrew.annieJackson@gmail.com



Board of Trustees Meeting

The next Board of Trustees meeting is on Thursday 26 October at 7.00pm. All welcome.

Library News – Jarryd Osborne “Caught Reading”



Lucky Book Club

Order forms were given out on Monday to each class. Payments and orders to the office please. Orders close on Tuesday **14 October**.

School Production DVDs

If you want to order a ‘The Amazing Adventures of Superstan’ DVD please send \$15.00 to the school office asap.

Pet Day – 10th Nov 2017

We hope that over the holidays you have been training your pet for the up and coming Pet Day. This year we will be having a fancy dress section for your pet (and you!). By now you will have your dress-up costume half made. This will be judged with all animals together and in the junior and senior sections. Any questions or queries please contact Annie Jackson 034158769 andrew.anniejackson@gmail.com

Lost Property

There is a heap of un-named lost property here at school. If you are visiting please pop in to 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

Touch

Competition games got underway yesterday in perfect conditions with all four teams having good wins. Special mention has to go to the Catlins Crackers who had a number of speedsters in their team with **William Berney and Shelby Given** scoring a number of tries for their team and **Harry Walker** showing great sportsmanship and playing most of second half for the opposition. He chased down those speedsters a number of times.

On Monday South Otago held their representative Touch trials and congratulations to **Kasey Valli (U14) Hattie Kerr (U14) and Jade Gutsell (U12)** who were selected in their respective ages grades. They will practise in Balclutha each week up until the Otago trials which will be held on Sunday **5th November** in Oamaru.

Cricket

A team has been entered into the Year 5/6 Semi Hard Ball South Otago Competition on a Friday afternoon. Students who were interested were given a permission slip yesterday. Please complete and return as soon as possible.

Quadrathon

This fantastic event for Year 4-8 students is a 'Triathlon' type event where students can compete as individual or in a team. It is held at Waiwera South school on **28th November** and the course is made up of a 100m swim, 2km bike ride, 1.5km Cross Country run and a 1.2km Road Run.

Interested students will be asked which section/s they would like to do but have been told some comprising will be required. Teams will be sorted according to age and what section of course they would like to do. Permission slips will be sent home next week.

Country Coaching

Next Tuesday **24th October** Year 7-10 students will participate in cricket lessons and an ACC Sportsmart programme in the afternoon. This programme has coaches from Dunedin travel to us and run these lessons, giving our students valuable access to sport/activities that some country schools may normally miss out on.

Tania Barr

Fiona Wilkinson

Community News

Annual Market Day

Support the Owaka Museum and have a great day at the Catlins Historical Society's Annual Market Day this Saturday 9.30 – 2.00pm at the Owaka Memorial Community Centre.

Halloween Party at Tahakopa Hall

Tahakopa School is having a Halloween Party in the Tahakopa Hall on **Friday 27th October** at 6.30 – 9.00pm. Fancy dress and lots of prizes. \$5 entry fee and you will also get fizzy and pop corn. Come and have some fun. Any questions phone Ange Osborne 0277111914.

Light Party in Balclutha

The Light Party is an alternative event to traditional Halloween parties. We provide a safe environment for primary school children along with their parents to have fun. It will be held on **31st October** from 6-8pm at the Cross

Recreation Centre. Activities on offer include bouncy castles, crafts, face painting, BBQ, and lolly scrambles. Entry is by gold coin donation.

Community Pool Opening Soon.....

It is full, the water is being treated and is heating up so dust off those swimming togs.

The AGM is on **Tuesday 14 November**, 7.30pm at the Catlins Inn.

For the first time in many years we need to fill some office bearing positions. If you can help support our Community Pool by stepping into either, President, Secretary or Treasurer roles, it is your time to shine.

We have a fabulous supportive, energetic committee to work with and after a successful fundraiser, takeover will be a breeze.

We would love to hear from you, contact Sally Kerr thekerrs@yahoo.co.nz or 0273665524

ATTACHED FLIERS	
Country Fair Flier	Owaka Museum - Annual Market Day
Owaka's Halloween Party Flier	Swap Shop Flier
International High School Exchange	Cinderfella Flier