

The Catlins Area School Newsletter – 2nd February 2018

From the Principal:

Welcome back to The Catlins Area School for 2018!

What a privilege it is to start my first whole year at The Catlins Area School! The students have settled quickly after their glorious summer, and despite the heat, have already started on their learning journey for the year. They certainly brought vibrancy back to the school on Tuesday, we've missed them!

Changes

We welcome three new staff members in 2018; left to right - they are), Emily Currall (Ag/Hort and Food Technology) Kath Watkins (English and Art) and Richard Staniford (Teacher Aide). We also welcome back Emma Longmore, who returns from her Maternity Leave.



Late last year, we advertised a Deputy Principal's position. The position includes Pastoral Care (Years 7-13), IT services, EOTC and Health and Safety Management. We were fortunate enough to receive eleven applications from all around New Zealand. The Board, myself and the Student Leaders interviewed before school started. We were unanimous in our decision to appoint Mr Tim Samson to the role. This will mean a reduction in his teaching hours, which we are currently organising.

We welcome our new (and returning) students: **Sarah Mitchell** (Year 11), **Joseph Jenks** (Year 9), **Dion Ngatai** (Year 6, Room 19), **Maurakau Ngatai** (Year 4, Room 3), **Chrysler Ngatai** (Year 1, Room 2), **Ebony Cooper** (Year 10) and **Isabella Cooper** (Year 3, Room 3). I hope you enjoy The Catlins Area School, and take advantage of every opportunity on offer.

Over the summer there have been a number of improvements to the school site to make it more accessible for wheelchairs, this work should be finalised in coming weeks.

Many of the Year 1-8 students have started the year in our new uniform, which looks very smart! Please note:

- We're still waiting for Schooltex at The Warehouse to provide our items with school crests; all the other items should be available.
- We have placed a new order for school polo shirts, which will be available through the school office soon. They've been so popular we've run out of most sizes.
- Students should not be wearing a combination of old and new uniform. If the new uniform top is worn, it should be paired with navy pants/plain track pants/skort/drill shorts/skirt as per uniform outline.
- Students in Years 1-8 who participate in Technology and PE classes require shoes fit for those purposes. These can be stored at school if required.
- In Years 1-8, hats should be worn for outdoor activities in Terms 1 and 4 (especially on our recent sunny days), please ensure your child has access to a hat. A navy bucket hat or brimmed school hat is ideal.
- Coats should be plain black or navy OR the school soft shell jacket (available by ordering from the office).

Students have been issued with House Badges; this increases the identity of the houses within the school and allows students to show house pride. Their badge is best worn on the collar of their uniform so that it doesn't snag the fabric. Replacement cost for a lost badge is \$5, which can be presented at the office. We've also introduced a badge reward system - The TCAS Way which acknowledges students who consistently 'do the right thing' and display our school values: Tenacity, Care, Achievement and Service. I'll provide more information on this reward system in an upcoming newsletter.

Student Leadership

A number of our senior students have taken on leadership roles in 2018; they will be working with younger students to develop their leadership and tuakana/teina relationships in a number of activities and events throughout the year.

Our student leaders are:

Prefects - **Britney Brown, Hannah Clarke, Alicia Staniford**

Board of Trustees Representative - **Logan Bird**

House Leaders for Manuka - **Josh Boam, Hannah Clarke, Alicia Staniford**

House Leaders for Nora - **Logan Bird, John Waters-Wilkinson**

House Leaders for Surat - **Britney Brown, Adam Pullar**

NCEA

The NCEA results were released in mid-January, the national comparison report is not released until March, but I am sure we have surpassed the national average at all three levels yet again. Congratulations to all our senior students, you can be assured that they have worked hard to reach their goals.

I've summarised our results for this year in the chart below, with a comparison to the national average for 2016.

| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 |
|-----------------|---------|---------|---------|
| TCAS % | 90 | 100 | 100 |
| 2016 National % | 86 | 90 | 83 |

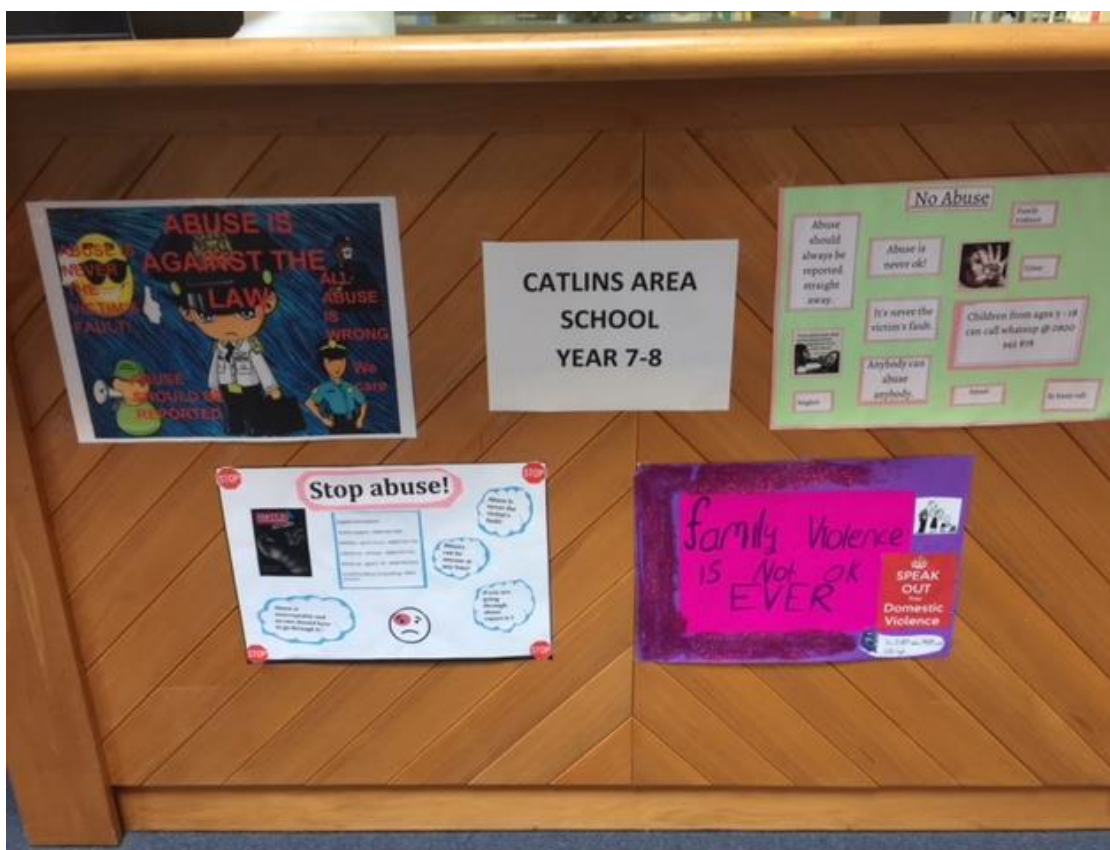
Congratulations to the following students who gained course endorsements from NZQA for specific subjects: **Logan Bird** (Level 1 English), **Adam Pullar** (Level 1 English), **Alicia Staniford** (Level 3 Design), **Lauren Martin** (Level 3 Biology and Physical Education), **Naomi McLay** (Level 3 Social Science and Physical Education).

Special congratulations to the following students who gained overall endorsements for their NCEA Certificate: **Alicia Staniford** (NCEA Level 2 endorsed with Excellence), **Lauren Martin** (NCEA Level 3 endorsed with Merit), **Naomi McLay** (NCEA Level 3 endorsed with Merit).

We have set a Charter Goal which relates to increasing Merit and Excellence endorsements in the future. This should be achieved firstly, by reducing the number of credits offered in each course, allowing greater depth to the learning. Secondly, by tailoring student courses through the mentoring process to closer match their intended learning pathway and future career. In 2018 we have included a structured Careers programme in our timetable for students in Years 7 and up. Our full Charter for 2018-2020 should be available on the school website within the next few weeks.

Keeping Ourselves Safe

Last year, The Catlins Area School students in Years 1-8 learned about keeping themselves safe using a programme developed by NZ Police. It was delivered by our teachers and Rochelle Gordon, who is the NZ Police education officer for the Clutha District. Rochelle selected some posters from our Year 7 and 8 groups to display at the Balclutha Police Station. Rochelle will return later this year to work with students on further educational programmes which will include the Choices programme for Year 7 and 8 and Loves me not for Year 11 and 12.



EOTC Consent

Students have taken blanket EOTC consent forms home for short, low-risk, daytime trips. This consent covers events such as a class visit to the 4 Square, or a supervised daytime event in Dunedin. You can still expect to receive a letter containing information about our trips as they come up throughout the year, and may still withdraw your child if you wish. However, there will no longer be a need to return a permission slip for individual events. Please ensure this form is returned promptly, further copies are available at the office if required.

Oral Health Service

Please note the attached correspondence (in the flyers) stating temporary changes to the oral health service. The mobile dental service for our area will re-commence later in 2018. We will advise of dates as soon as we are notified.

Home and School

The Home and School Committee will hold their first meeting for 2018 in the Staff Room at 7pm on Thursday 8th February. Everyone is welcome, we'll see you there!

Term 1 Calendar is included below (as of 1st Feb)

Term 1 2018

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Weekend |
|---------|--|--|--|---|--|---|
| Week 1 | 29 January Staff Only Day | 30 First Day for Students Assembly @9 | 31 | 1 February | 2 | |
| Week 2 | 5 Itinerant Music Concert @1 | 6 Waitangi Day - School Closed | 7 | 8 Home and School meeting 7pm | 9 | |
| Week 3 | 12 | 13 Y11-13 Risk Management Course House Meeting @9 | 14 | 15 Secondary Triathlon - Wanaka Y8 HPV Vaccinations | 16 | Papatowai Challenge |
| Week 4 | 19 | 20 Y11 First Aid Assembly @9 | 21 Y11 First Aid | 22 | 23 Athletics Day Settling-in reports home | |
| Week 5 | 26 Otago Poly. Liaison Y9/10 Camp | 27 House Meeting @9 Y9/10 Camp | 28 Y9/10 Camp | 1 March Y9/10 Camp | 2 Y9/10 Camp | Otago Secondary Athletics Cavalcade |
| Week 6 | 5 SOPSSA School closed for Y7-13 - NCEA Best Practice Training | 6 Assembly @9 | 7 Pp SOPSSA Clutha Swim Champs Prime Lamb | 8 Student Coaches Workshop | 9 | |
| Week 7 | 12 | 13 Parent Meetings Y1-6 Mentoring Y7-13 4-7pm House meeting @9 | 14 | 15 Y8 HPV Vaccinations | 16 Catlins Canter Swimming Sports | |
| Week 8 | 19 Y11-13 Gateway Week | 20 Y11-13 Gateway Week Assembly @9 | 21 Y11-13 Gateway Week | 22 Y11-13 Gateway Week | 23 Y11-13 Gateway Week | |
| Week 9 | 26 Otago Anniversary - school closed | 27 House Meeting @9 | 28 Y5-8 Sport Otago Triathlon | 29 | 30 Good Friday - School Closed Owaka Rugby 125th Reunion | |
| Week 10 | 2 April Easter - school closed | 3 Easter - school closed Y13 Grip Leadership Conference - Gore | 4 Otago Primary Triathlon | 5 Y9-13 Clutha Youth Motivation Event | 6 Teacher Only Day - School closed Y9-13 Clutha Youth Motivation Event | Otago Swim Champs Southland Primary Athletics |
| Week 11 | 8 | 9 Assembly @9 Y3-6 Football Tournament | 10 | 11 | 12 End of Term 1 (return 30th April) | |

Upcoming Events:

Itinerant Music concert - 1pm Monday 5th Feb
Secondary Triathlon - Wanaka - Thursday 15th Feb
Y11 First Aid - Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st Feb
Settling-in Reports sent - Friday 23rd Feb

Waitangi Day - No school - Tuesday 6th Feb
Y8 HPV Vaccination - Thursday 15th Feb
Assembly - 9am - Tuesday 20th Feb
Athletics Day - Friday 23rd Feb

He waka eke noa,

Kate Staniford
Principal

Year 9/10 Camp Meeting

There will be a meeting on **Wednesday 7 February** for all parents/caregivers of Year 9 and Year 10 students, to discuss the school camp and to arrange fundraising activities. The meeting will take place at 5.30pm in the school Library. I look forward to meeting with everyone and addressing any concerns that you may have. – Tim Samson

SPORTS NEWS

Welcome back to Term 1 for 2018 which is full of activities for students to enjoy and take advantage of. This year Miss Pennell has joined the Sports Department and will be taking PE classes for Room 2 on Tuesday and Wednesday; Room 3 on Thursday and Friday; Room 19 on Monday and Tuesday while Mrs Wilkinson will be taking Year 7 - 10 students for two periods on Fridays.

Please ensure students come to school with the appropriate change of clothes and footwear i.e Years 5-8 are to have their own school PE top and shorts, younger students are also encouraged to bring a change of clothes but are not required to have the school PE top. Term 1 lessons will concentrate on Athletics activities up until Athletics day on Friday 23rd February, and from Week 5 (26th Feb) lessons will move over to the pool where togs, goggle and towel will be required.

2018 will also see more permission slips being emailed out via google forms to help with the quick turnaround required for some activities and eliminate the many paper permission slips never making it home or back to school and needing chased up, this was trialled at the end of last year and worked well.

Papatowai Challenge

The sports department have volunteered each year to help with competitor entries and recording at the finish line, and as a result, past years have seen the sports department receive \$500 worth of sports vouchers. We would love for this to continue but we require help from senior students or parents who are willing to volunteer on Saturday 17th February. If you can help please contact Fiona or Tania. Alternatively if you are keen to compete in the 15.5km walk / run entry forms can be collected from the office (late fee applies after 12th Feb)

Hockey

Year 1-2 4pm - 4:45pm at Cross Rec Centre, \$20 per player, Registrations are for individual (not team based) please email cluthadistricthockey@gmail.com to register

Year 3-4 and 5-6 Games are 30 mins and start time range from 4pm to 6pm held at Cross Rec Centre, \$20 per player, Year 7-8 Games are 30min and start time range from 4pm to 6pm held at SOHS Turf, \$10 per player.

Entries for Year 3-8 teams **CLOSE 7th February** interested players are to sign up in gym foyer by this date and permission slips will be emailed home.

Netball

Steel Club is starting up on Tuesday 13th of Feb 2018 at the Cross Rec Centre in Balclutha with sessions 4-5pm and 5-6pm and will run until 3rd of April. It is designed to give young players (aged 8-15) of all abilities the opportunity to learn new skills through weekly sessions. Cost is \$100 per player.

Online registration form and all information can be found: <http://www.sporty.co.nz/netballsouth/Jennian-Homes-Steel-Club/Otago-1>

Sporting dates to add to Calendar for Term 1

12th February - Hockey commences

17th February - Papatowai Challenge

23rd February - TCAS Athletics Day commencing at 11am

3rd March - Otago Secondary Schools Athletics (Dunedin)

5th March - SOPSSA Athletics Day (7th and 9th postponement days)

7th March - Clutha Swim Champs

16th March - TCAS Swimming Sports

28th March - Year 5-8 Clutha Triathlon

4th April - Otago Primary Triathlon in Cromwell (selected students from Clutha Triathlon)

7th April - Otago Primary Swimming Champs

7th April - Southland Primary Athletics

10th April - Year 3-8 Football Tournament

13th April - End of Term Activity - Splash 'n Dash (if pool is still open)

Fiona Wilkinson and Tania Barr

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| COMMUNITY NEWS |
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Clutha District Reading Challenge

The Clutha District Reading Challenge and the Summer Programme is coming to an end. The finishing date for these programmes is **Friday 2nd February 2018**. Please return your completed reading logs and folders to your nearest Council library by **Friday 9 February 2018**.