

The Catlins Area School Newsletter – 16th February 2018

From the Principal:

Home and School

The Home and School Committee met on Thursday 8th February in the Library. As this was the first meeting for 2018, the group were establishing their fundraising plan for 2018 and working on the finer detail of the Prime Lamb Competition.

The major focus for fundraising in 2018 will be renewal of the confidence course at the front of school. Last year, we undertook an engineer's report and now have a plan for the development project. The confidence course benefits all students at some point during their learning journey at The Catlins Area School and is a great community resource. Any excess materials from the project can be used within school to enhance our playground and sandpit areas.

NCEA Staff Training

As indicated on the school calendar, the school will be closed to students in Years 9 - 13 on Monday 5th March. NCEA teachers are travelling to Dunedin for NCEA training along with most other secondary teachers across Otago. This training is to update all teachers in the region with moderation practices for internal assessments which relate to their specific subject area. Please accept our apology in advance for any inconvenience caused, this is essential training for all NCEA providers. School will run as normal for students in Years 1-8 with minimal changes to programmes. Students in Years 9-13 will be provided with work for personal study on that day.

Curriculum Matters

- The 2018-2020 Charter will soon be published on the school website. Our three major goals for this year have been developed from feedback in parent, staff, board and student meetings from 2017. They are as follows:
 - To increase NCEA certificate endorsement rates by at least 10% on average across the levels, by reducing the volume of credits offered and increasing the curriculum links to individual pathway outcomes.
 - To increase the percentage of students in Years 1-10 at or above the correct curriculum level (as defined in the Learning Progressions) in Mathematics, by incorporating Science and Digital Technology Curriculum offerings which offer numerical opportunities. The Science opportunities will be supported by a Royal Society Programme and grant in place for 2018. The implementation of the Digital Technology Curriculum will be addressed with staff PD and 1:1 device integration in line with our IT implementation plan.
 - To reduce the frequency of pastoral incidents across the school by incorporating 'Positive Behaviour for Learning' (PB4L) instruction and rewards which relate to our school values, to continue reducing the number of students falling below 80% attendance (and therefore being referred to Rock On).
- In 2018 we have introduced Agriculture/Horticulture as a subject choice for senior students and as a one-period stand-alone subject in Years 7-10. This allows our younger students to experience a taster of this learning area. Students are busily developing a kitchen garden which will supply items for our ongoing Food and Nutrition classes.

(Pictured below: Mathew Dreaver and Kyle Rate with newly fixed planters and some Year 7-10 students busy weeding)



- We have been fortunate enough to continue our ALLiS funding relationship with other local schools to again incorporate Mandarin language learning. Our facilitator for the start of 2018 is named Joy, she will visit Room 3, Room 19 and the Year 7 and 8 classes. Joy arrived in New Zealand a few weeks ago and has already enthusiastically started her Thursday classes.

- From time to time during the school year as part of our normal primary classroom programmes, religious and cultural events and practices are discussed. This helps all students to understand and accept differences, become globally conscious. This work enables students to develop their personal values alongside school values and the NZ Curriculum goals such as the Key Competencies. Learning with a religious theme will be undertaken with the inclusion of all students and staff members in mind. As in previous years, there will be no externally provided formal religious instruction programme.

- Later this year we will be consulting with the community regarding our future Health programmes and provisions. Our teachers are currently collaborating to develop a community survey and draft plan for the next two years of Health class provision.

- For the purposes of reporting post-national standards, in Years 7 and 8 the English and Social Studies programmes have been combined to be known as 'Integrated Studies'. There is no difference to the amount of timetabled hours allocated to this learning.

Bikes and Scooters

Students are very welcome to bring bikes and scooters to school. We encourage active students at interval and lunchtime. Please ensure your child has a suitable helmet if they wish to use their bike or scooter at school. Bikes and scooters should be stored at the rack near the staff car park, (it looks like we need to build a bigger one!). Students know they must not block access paths with bikes/scooters and they must walk their bike/scooter to the designated areas for riding. Please reinforce these arrangements at home.

Lunchtime Leave

Year 13 Students have permission to leave the school grounds during lunchtime after signing out at the office. Younger students are expected to remain on the school grounds for the entire school day. If your child needs to leave the school grounds due to unforeseen circumstances, please call the main office on 03 415 8036 to give permission for leave.

Lunchtime Activities

Lunchtime activities run by our prefects are underway. On Friday, Athletics Club - don't forget some appropriate clothing. On **Wednesday**, Art Club - at present they are designing and making the banners for the Cavalcade parade. On **Thursday**, Drama Club which encompasses all sorts of skills and games to enhance performance skills. Swimming is still available at lunchtime Tuesday through to Friday (subject to teacher supervision availability). The **Library** is open every lunch time for a variety of activities - did you get a handmade Valentine's Card from your child? This was the activity on Wednesday.

He waka eke noa,

Kate Staniford
Principal

Upcoming Events:

Secondary Triathlon - Wanaka - Thursday 15th Feb

Yr 8 1st HPV Vaccination - Thursday 15th Feb

BOT Meeting – Thursday 22nd February

Yr 11 First Aid - Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st Feb

Mihi Whakatau - Gym - 9am - Tuesday 20th Feb

Settling-in Reports Sent - Friday 23rd Feb

Athletics Day - Friday 23rd Feb

NCEA Parent Meeting - Thursday 1st March - 7pm

NCEA Staff Training - Monday 5th March

(school closed for Y9-13 study day)

Prime Lamb - Tuesday 6th March

Congratulations

Congratulations to **Keira Edwards** who has completed her Science Badge Award. She has been independently studying Wool Science and has reached a level of understanding where the Royal Society have awarded her a Wool Science Badge. (pictured with some of her project materials).



Careers Expo Thursday 22nd February for Years 10-13

The Expo is being held at South Otago High School from 9.00am -12noon. The students are being transported by bus and must wear full school uniform. There is no cost involved. It will be paid for through the Gateway Programme and STAR funding.

National Youth Drama School

Congratulations to **Alicia Staniford** who has been accepted to attend the National Youth Drama School to work with New Zealand Artist, Mauricio Benega to further develop her Art skills. She will travel to Hastings in the next holidays to complete the course of study (pictured with her current mural artwork).



Library News

All junior classes have library time on a Thursday.

Please remind your student to bring their library books back for then.

This term each student will get a sticker for returning their books on library day, and another sticker for getting out more books. At the end of the term the students with the most stickers will win a prize out of our prize box.

Please encourage your child to get as many stickers as possible!

Cheers – Librarian Anabel McPhee



Sport News

Cricket

Cricket gets underway this afternoon for our enthusiastic Year 5-6 players over in Clydevale. Thank you to Kerry Cleland who has agreed to continue coach/umpire this team on Friday afternoons. If anyone else in the community has 1 hour free to help the team out with some lunchtime practice contact Tania Barr to arrange a day that suits.

Hockey

Due to other schools being away at camps there have been a couple of changes to the draw.

Monday 19th - Year 3-4 team will play Milton/Warepa at 4:45 on Court 2

Monday 19th - Year 5-6 Catlins vs Catlins/Lawrence teams will now play at 4:15pm on Court 3

Monday 26th - Year 7-8 team will have TWO games at 4:30 vs Romahapa and 5pm vs Rosebank Pumas

Netball

Today we were lucky to have 2018 Southern Steel players join us here at The Catlins Area School and give back some of their knowledge and skills to our community with taking drills and skills sessions for our budding netball players. 16 Catlins players were joined by two from Tahakopa and 11 from Romahapa for a great afternoon full of ball-skills, fitness, training ideas. Hopefully this will kick-start the girls off to a good start for the 2018 season ahead.

Athletics Day

FRIDAY 23rd FEBRUARY!!! Keep this day free as TCAS Students will be running, jumping and throwing as they compete for their house groups at the school's annual Athletics Day. At 10:40am the students will gather into their house groups to march up to and around the back field showing off their powerful voices with house chants before the first events get underway at 11am sharp. Students should come to school dressed in their house colours, and spot prizes will be given to the best dressed in each house group. A canteen/BBQ will be running throughout the day to help Year 9/10 fundraise towards their upcoming camp in Twizel.

The athletics programme will be available on the school website and copies of the canteen price list and programme will be at the office from next week.

Best wishes and Thank you

Good luck to TCAS students who are participating in the 15.5km Papatowai Challenge walk/run tomorrow being held in our beautiful Catlins. The Sports Department would like to give a massive thank you to **Tania Walker, Sandra Grant and Sally and Hattie Kerr** who will be joining **Tania Barr** helping to organise on the day.

Good luck also to **Mrs Wilkinson** who is competing at the Wanaka Challenge on Saturday as part of a team in the half marathon. We hope the weather conditions treat you well and we look forward to hearing all about it next week.

Fiona Wilkinson, Taylor Pennell and Tania Barr
Sports Department

COMMUNITY NEWS

Shannon Gordon, Ruby Budge (Romahapa), Amelie Apte, and Lana Magiera placed 1st out of five in the Otago Mounted Rifles Games Have-a-Go Teams Competition on 10 Dec. 2017, at Roxburgh.



Kate Jackson, Amelie Apte, and Lana Magiera competed in the Otago Mounted Games Mixed Teams Competition at Taieri on Waitangi Day. Their respective teams placed 3rd and 4th out of five.

