

The Catlins Area School Newsletter 7th December 2018

From the Principal:

Our last newsletter for 2018 - I hope all of our learners are proud of their year and looking forward to their well-earned break!

Maths Learning

As you may be aware, our Charter Goal for 2018 relating to the Junior School was: '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. The implementation of the Digital Technology Curriculum will be addressed with staff PD and 1:1 device integration.' Our target for 2018 was stated as follows: 'In 2017, 65% of the students in Years 1-10 were at or above their correct curriculum level for Mathematics. In 2018, the target is 70% of all students in Years 1-10 reaching or surpassing their correct curriculum level by the end of the year.'

I am pleased to inform you that **we have not only met this target, but have surpassed it significantly**. Our PaCT data as collected by the Ministry of Education shows that 78% of our students in Years 1-10 are currently surpassing their correct curriculum level. This sits above the national average. I am exceptionally proud of the hard work and tenacity shown by both our learners and teaching team to achieve this significant shift for our community. In the spirit of continued improvement, we'll be sending students home with a special Maths pack for summer break. The pack will be sent home with the youngest child in each family early next week.

We truly wish you a happy holiday, but also hope that our learners won't lose the momentum they have so carefully built up over 2018. If the time arises over the break, take some time to play a couple of the games in the pack with your child(ren). Numeracy knowledge builds up over time and requires constant reinforcement.



Uniform Focus for 2019

In 2019, we move to our new uniform completely. Our acceptable uniform items are provided by The Warehouse, Balclutha (or online at www.thewarehouse.co.nz/c/schools, through the school office (Year 1-8 polo shirts and senior student soft shell jackets), and from www.truefleece.co.nz for ¼ zip merino jerseys.



Here is a breakdown of our expectations for 2019 -

Students in Years 0-8

Top: Navy crested polo shirt

Bottom: Choice from - Plain navy skort, skirt, drill shorts, pants, track pants (examples can be viewed by searching for The Catlins Area School at www.thewarehouse.co.nz/c/schools. No visible logos, or 'stubby' style shorts.

Socks: Choice from - Plain navy, black or white ankle socks (not sports socks), navy school socks with gold bands, navy or black stockings or over the knee socks.

Shoes: Any school suitable shoes, the main colour of the shoe should be black, no boots, hi-tops or canvas.

For warmth: Choice from - Navy ¼ zip fleece with or without crest, navy ¼ zip merino, plain navy, black or white thermal or skivvy worn under polo shirt, plain navy or black scarf.

For warmth outside class: Soft shell jacket (available both through school and The Warehouse), plain black or navy coat/puffer jacket, navy beanie hat.

For sun protection outside class: Plain navy bucket hat or wide brimmed hat.

Students in Years 9-13

Top: White shirt, long or short sleeves, tucked in unless 'darted'. Optional tie (purchase through school, must be worn with blazer).

Bottom: Choice from - Plain navy drill shorts or pants, Napier Tartan Kilt or Triple Pleat Skirt (examples can be viewed by searching for The Catlins Area School at www.thewarehouse.co.nz/c/schools).

Socks: Choice from - Plain navy, black or white ankle socks (not sports socks), navy school socks with gold bands (must be worn with shorts), navy or black stockings or over the knee socks.

Shoes: Black nuggetable school shoes - no boots, hi-tops, ballet style or canvas.

For warmth: Choice from - Navy V-Neck wool jersey or vest with crest, Navy blazer with crest (pre-order from The Warehouse), Navy ¼ zip fleece with or without crest, navy ¼ zip merino, plain navy, black or white thermal or skivvy worn under shirt, plain navy or black scarf.

For warmth outside class: Soft shell jacket (available both through school and The Warehouse), plain black or navy coat/puffer jacket, navy beanie hat.

For sun protection outside class: Plain navy bucket hat or wide brimmed hat (optional).

We continue to ask parents to purchase separate sports uniform, shirts are available through the school office. In 2019, we will also offer a school hoodie for sport use only. Watch this space!

Meri Kirihimete me te Hape Nū Ia ki ngā whānau!

He waka eke noa,

Kate Staniford
Principal

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday 11th December - End of Year Assembly @ 9.05 - PB4L Draw and Room 19 "Celebrations Around the World presentation"

Wednesday 12th December - Beach Day and School Reports mailed Home

Thursday 13th December - Term 4 Ends

Monday 4th Feb – School starts for 2019

Can Run:

The Catlins Area School and local Four Square Supermarket have been involved in collecting food stuffs for the Salvation Army food bank. The food was collected by the More FM team and the Big River Bikers on Saturday morning, together with the offerings from a range of other collection sites throughout the district. The collection team then joined the Balclutha Santa Parade to finally deliver the collected food to the Salvation Army shop on the main street of Balclutha.





Analysis of Variance

Our 2018 achievements and improvement plans for 2019

2018 Charter Goals

1. Senior Students

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.



2. PB4L

To reduce the frequency of pastoral incidents across the school by incorporating 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).

3. Junior Students



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. The implementation of the Digital Technology Curriculum will be addressed with staff PD and 1:1 device integration.



How did we do?

01

Senior Students
It is anticipated that 33% of our seniors will receive an endorsement in the 2018 year (this includes endorsements backtracked to a previous NCEA Level. This is a 20% increase on last year.
Goal surpassed.

02

PB4L
Staff have completed intensive training in Positive Behaviour for Learning Management and new systems are in place or under development. A new Behaviour Management Plan has been prepared for implementation in 2019. There were 304 pastoral incidents recorded in 2018, which is an increase. This is expected, as staff now have better systems to manage and record pastoral care items, and use this data to problem solve.
Goal to require more work in 2019.
At the end of 2018, 1% of students in the age range 6-16 have attendance below 80%. They are monitored and supported. This is a decrease of 9%.
Goal surpassed.

03

Junior Students
In 2017, 65% of students in Years 1-8 were 'at or above' curriculum expectations in Mathematics. At the end of 2018, 78% of students meet this benchmark, far surpassing our goal of 70%.
As a group we've been empowered to make changes in the teaching and learning strategies for the students. We've made connections across schools and opened professional discussion channels to enhance the student experience.
Through drawing attention to the data, the need for consistency in collection and use of the trends we've started a journey of actual change in practice and outcomes.
Goal surpassed.

What next?

Senior Students



- Further timetable customisation to include career development and tertiary speakers, a planned workplace readiness / soft skills development course
- Integration of 'My Blueprint' a service which links school-parent-student in a formalised career development and academic planning system to enhance mentoring system
- Assistance and development of backtracking credits to ensure endorsement at previous NCEA levels even if endorsement at level is not possible
- Training to enhance Kamar app and Portal to track ongoing attainment

PB4L



- Continued use of Rock On system and networks to monitor and support high levels of attendance.
- Implementation of new Behaviour Management Plan which incorporates an ext to whanau to enhance ongoing communication
- Continued training and use of restorative practices
- Use of pastoral data to target teaching at specific behaviour interventions
- Continued development of TCAS Way
- Enhance acknowledgements systems
- Birthday recognition
- Strengthen mentoring
- Strengthen student leadership opportunities
- Develop Maori Development Plan

Junior Students



- Continuation of Maths Focus work, develop into further Charter Goal
- Maths Packs and accompanying letter to be sent home for 'Summer Learning Journey'
- Goal setting at student level specific to Maths development using PaCT analysis
- Identification of patterns and pre-algebra skills as a weakness in our programme, PD/Coaching, observation and development of teaching capabilities
- Reassessment of students in 2019 for change and future planning.
- Continue to work towards completion of ICT Development Plan

Service:

The students in Years 7 to 10 spent time on Friday last week as part of their PE class spreading the load of wood chips on the confidence course. The focus for the TCAS Way during the last few weeks of the year is Service and the spreading of the wood chips turned out to be an ideal opportunity for the older students still at school to provide a service to the school. The job was quickly finished with many hands making light work of it. Well done team!



Board of Trustees Elections 2019

The three yearly elections are due to be held in June 2019. Five parent elected trustees are needed. A number of the current board will not be standing again, which means a need for fresh blood. Would you like your name to go forward, or do you know of someone suitable? Nominees need not be a parent but must be nominated by parents who have children attending our school. Training workshops are planned in the first term for those interested.

Please think about this over the summer holidays. If you have any questions regarding the role, please feel free to contact me. Thanks - Grant Bradfield - Chairman

Kapa haka

We have 11 kapa haka tee shirts and four singlets missing. Please return as soon as possible as we have a performance next week. If not returned the cost will have to be spread across members who attended Hui ako in Balclutha.

The Clutha District Libraries Summer Reading Programme

Carry on reading during the holidays with prizes and great books! See attached flyer.

Sunflower Competition:

The sunflowers should be brought into school for measuring next Tuesday. Plants should be clearly labelled and placed outside the school office. All plants will be measured and a 'house' total calculated. The three tallest will also be awarded house points. After the measuring, students can either take their sunflowers home or leave them to be planted in the school gardens for the birds to eat the seeds. Half the challenge of this competition is to get tall sunflowers into school intact! Lisa Hooker

Education Perfect.

This year, students in Years 7 to 13 have again enjoyed using Education Perfect. In addition to classwork in Maths and Science, a large number of students entered the international Science and Language competitions with great success. In 2017 we negotiated a free trial but this year there has been a cost (at a discount) which was included in the senior stationery fees in place of a workbook in Science. A number of senior students still owe \$20 which should be paid to the school office by the end of the year. Junior students will have the fee in their 2019 stationery lists. It will be \$20 for Year 7 and \$40 for Year 8-11 students (to cover the period 2018-2019). The fee covers access to Maths and Science resources (Science and Maths Department).

Agri Kids

Next year Agri Kids will start again on a Friday afternoon. Please phone 4158769 Annie Jackson if your child is interested in participating

Library News

Wishing everyone a great holiday break. There will be lots of new books to come back to in the library next year.

Happy reading!

Anabel McPhee

Sport News

Beach Education Day

Families should have received an email yesterday with final details of the Beach Education Day on Wednesday 12 December. If you did not receive one, please email Tania on taniab@catlins.school.nz.

Payment for this event is due TODAY and can be paid at the office or by direct payment into the following account 031734000663300.

Tracksuits

Can ALL PE Department issued tracksuits and PE tops be returned by Monday please, we would like to see them all accounted for, cleaned, washed and in the cupboards for the Christmas break. For those not returned by the end of the school year, a replacement cost of \$120 may be incurred.

Touch

Next Thursday will be the last game of Touch for the 2018 season followed by a Prize Giving at 6pm. The draw and final details will be emailed early next week. Students who have borrowed PE tops are asked to bring a change of clothing and to give Tania their PE top at the end of the game.

Top Team

Final round of Top team was held on Tuesday where our Catlins team were able to pick themselves up from the bottom of the leader board and finish in 6th place for the year. Top Team is held once a term where 10 Year 7-8 students from each school compete against each other in games, quizzes and current sporting knowledge activities. Our TCAS team was a younger team made up of Year 6-8 students and all should be pleased with their final placing.

Sports Team

Community News

Christmas Grotto

Fergus and Lorraine Gregory are setting up a display Christmas House with lots of Santa and Christmas decorations, in the old bake house on Waikawa Road. All welcome to come and have a look. A donation may be left with all proceeds going to the Catlins Search and Rescue. The Christmas House open hours are, 6pm to 8pm Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays. Next Thursday, **13th December** at about 6.30pm, a very special "friend of everyone from up near the North Pole" will make an appearance. We hope that you all come along for a good time.

Lorraine and Fergus