

Practice Exams for Seniors in Week 8 and 9.

As stated in the last newsletter, putting the extra work in this term is key to a senior student's success in NCEA. Practice exams are scheduled to run from Wednesday 9 September in week 8 to Tuesday 15 September in week 9. If you have not already done so, please sit down with your son/daughter to discuss their exam schedule and work with them to map out a study timetable leading into the exams. The study done in preparation for these exams will help ease stress levels when the real exams come around next term.

Over the last two weeks the annual Arts Fort-night has ensured that the school is a busy and vibrant place. Student and Staff House Leaders have collaborated to deliver numerous activities to capture the imagination of the student body. The Talent Quest heats have been run over four lunchtimes and culminates in the Final which will be held this Thursday night. Thanks to those who attended and enjoyed the Fashion Show last Wednesday evening. Other events planned have included Food Art, a Mural competition, Theatre Sports, Circus Arts and a Year 10 Dance competition. All in all a lot of arty talent on display and a lot of fun for all participants.

Our Hall is well used and undergoes several transformations at this time of the year. Over the last few weeks it has been used for the Pathways evening. As I write this newsletter it is being transformed for the Fashion Show. Then there is a quick turnaround for the Business Studies Market the following night. In between times it is being used for Drama and Physical Education Dance classes as well as Talent Quest heats and Finals night. It truly is the hub of the school and it is great to see the many colourful activities and events going on and to see so many parents and guests from the wider community coming in to use it and attend events.

Qualifications Increasingly Important for those entering Tertiary Study



Many of you will have, no doubt, noticed the recent press surrounding entry requirements to University in 2010. Government cuts to budgets in the University sector means that there will be 17% cut to the number of students being accepted to universities across the country in 2010. This means gaining entry to courses will be harder with number restrictions and tertiary providers being more selective in who they accept.

Yr 13 Dean Mr. Kilham, Guidance Counsellor Mrs Kelleher and Careers Advisor Mr. Murray are busy working with our Yr. 13 students wanting to enter the tertiary sector next year. It has been great to see the many stunning applications from this year's class for scholarships, course entry and to Halls of Residence. There truly are some fantastic students who have set themselves up for next year.

Whakatauki

"Ngaro atu he tētēkura, whakaeke mai he tētēkura."

(When one chief disappears another is ready to appear. No one is indispensable.)

through not only their academic results but through full participation in school life. Students are reminded to research carefully the financial scholarship opportunities that are out there and talk to us here at school to see if we can help you on your way. A few hours work may save you thousands of dollars.



"There is nothing so useless as doing efficiently that which should not be done at all". Peter Drucker

Study Centre and Tutorials

Students should take heed of the above quote when studying for the upcoming exams. They are also encouraged to take up the opportunities being offered by subject teachers for Tutorials as the exams approach. Please listen to your class teachers who will signal just when these tutorials are on as we lead into the practice and then formal exams next term. Please note: only 10 more weeks of school for senior students!

Please note also that the **Study Centre** will be up and running in our school library during the senior exams beginning the Monday of week 8 through to the end of the exams. Students can take advantage of this opportunity from 7.00pm through to 9.00pm each night.

NZQA - NCEA Fees Due \$\$\$

Please make sure you have paid your NCEA fees by August 28. For those parents who have set up automatic payments please be aware that they may need to be pumped up to make sure the NCEA fees are covered.



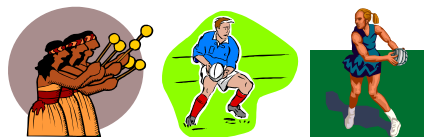
If you have any queries about the NCEA entries or entry fees you should contact the Matamata College office.

Te Wairere Exchange and Kapahaka

An important message and date for whanau! The annual Te Wairere exchange is scheduled for Thursday 17 September. Unfortunately Putaruru will not be participating this year, but the event will still be a highlight for a our Maori students. They will travel to Morrinsville to participate in Kapahaka, Netipaoro and Whutipaoro.



Our Kapahaka group is up and running again as they prepare for the exchange and also some other events. All students expecting to be involved in the exchange are encouraged to come along to Kapahaka practice on Monday afternoons. A small commitment over the next few weeks will mean you can participate fully in the exchange. We are extremely thankful to Tutors—Taki & Sheryl Peeke, and Winnie Wilson, who are coming in to do additional work with our junior Kapahaka students Period One on Mondays. Any new members are most welcome—please see Whaea Morris if you are interested.



Tournament Week

Winter Tournament is in week 7 and we have a large number of students travelling to compete at tournaments throughout the North Island. Thanks to all the coaches, managers, parents and sponsors who have helped get them there this season.

Teams competing are:

- New World College A Netball at Upper North Islands in Hamilton.
- Hockey Girls' 1st XI at Kate Trollove Cup in Pukekohe.
- Hockey Boys' 1st XI at Woolaston Cup in Stratford.
- Soccer Girls' 1st XI at Central Satellite Tournament in Papamoa.
- Soccer Boys' 1st XI at Malcolm Cowie Tournament in Hamilton
- Indoor Bowls at ? in ?



We wish them all the best and are sure they will play hard, play fair and display the "never give up" Matamata attitude.

Year 12 Sport Leadership Trip to Tongariro National Park

11 to 14 August

The Year 12 Sport Leadership class, led by our Assistant Principal, Ms. Mathews, returned safely from their trip to Tongariro National Park on Friday 14 August.



The aims of the Sport Leadership trip is for students to experience activities they may not have had the opportunity to do before, to work together to achieve outcomes, to understand the environment they are going into and to dress appropriately, to have fun, to be challenged, to be responsible for themselves and others, to understand the concepts of Risk Management in the Outdoors, and to achieve success.

The programme for the trip involved: caving, white water rafting, mountaineering and skiing. The weather conditions for the trip were excellent and all activities on the programme were completed as planned.

Assisting with the Matamata College trip, were instructors from The Adventure Specialties Trust. These instructors work with a large number of groups and people. All the instructors have NZOIA (New Zealand Outdoor Instructor Association) qualifications in mountaineering, white water rafting, caving, rockclimbing and other pursuits, and all hold the qualification of Pre Hospital Emergency Care.

The students attending the Tongariro trip were a credit to themselves, to their families and to the school. The expectations of the trip were overwhelmingly exceeded for the students. We all had a fantastic experience.

SPORTS CLUB Calf Fundraiser.

The Matamata College Sports Club Committee would love to hear from anyone who would like to either donate a calf or graze a weaner. If you can help with



Parent Information Meeting

The next PIM meeting will be on **Wednesday 26th August at 7.30pm** in the staffroom. (Postponed to this date because of clash with last weeks Fashion Show)



Important Dates

Please note: On Friday the September 4, all our teaching staff will be involved in a Curriculum Support Day. This is a Teacher Only Day set aside to help us come to grips with the NZ Curriculum document. Students are not to come to school and parents are asked to make alternate arrangement for their children for the day.

Other important dates:

- Talent Quest Final Aug. 27 7.30pm
- Teacher Only Day Friday 4 Sept.
- Senior Exams Weds 9—Tues 15 Sept.
- Yr 8 Parents Evening 7.30 Tuesday 20 Oct.
- End of Term Friday 25 Sept.

Car wash - Mixed TOUCH off to Nationals

September 5 2009 — 9.30am start. Cost \$8

To raise funds to go to Secondary Schools Touch Nationals at the end of the year we have planned a number of fundraising activities (one of them being this Carwash for Father's Day Week-end). We will run the carwash outside the school bus bay so please come see us on September 5.



Student Success

Shooting Team Boys win Tauranga Shoot.

The Shooting dynasty at Matamata College continues with the team consisting of **Jordan Berry, Ben Hollier, Devin Hicks, Rhys Gillingham** and **Cameron Martin** having their best shoot of the season to take out the title. The team won with a score of 361 from a possible 375 which is the best they have shot over three years of competition.

Scott Darroch in U 15 Squash who during the July holiday came 3rd in the North Island Squash Championships and runner-up in the South Island Squash Championship.

Emma Wylie wins World Vision Leadership Scholarship. After leading the school Shanty Town fundraising effort, Emma's efforts have been recognised nationally with selection to this prestigious leadership event.

Kelsie Wills who is currently representing NZ at the World Junior Beach Volleyball championships in Turkey has earned NZ selection incredibly into the NZ U 19 Volleyball (Indoor) side.

Congratulations also to **Hinuera U 19 Rugby players** and ex-Matamata College students playing in the final of the Waikato U 19 competition last week-end. Boys involved included Damian Bardoul, Karl Perrot, Ricky Edwards, Sharman Tukaki-Johnson, Ben Brill, Daniel McGillivray, Lester Pollard, Zane Herrick, Cody Tuhakaraina, Braden Crawford, Chris Croasdale, Lesley McIlroy, Joshua Hedge, Tradyn Lunn, Mark Harris, and Paul Clark.

Staff News

Thanks to the arrival from Canada of our two new English teachers **Mr Benjamin Sarma** and **Ms Debbie Bernier** we are now fully staffed. We acknowledge IT leaders in the school **Toni Twiss** and **Florence Lyons** who recently have had their expertise in ICT recognised with articles published in leading Education publications.

A D Munro

Acting Principal