

Tena koutou katoa

School Leaders 2010

Senior School Duxes 2009

Dux of the school



Travis Scott

Proxime Accessit



Emma Wylie



Elisabeth Brown

Year 12



Brittany Park

Year 11



Emma Jobe

For Travis this was the "trifecta" after he was Dux of Year 11 in 2007 and Dux of Year 12 in 2008. He is the first Head Student since Loren Cresswell in 2006 to also be Dux of the school.

Staff News

We are unfortunately farewelling Miss Clutterbuck and Miss Zeigenfuse at the end of this year due to uncertainty over student numbers for 2010. We are sad to be "letting them go" and wish them all the best for next year and hope that we may see them back on the staff in the near future.

Mrs Freeman from the TLC has been appointed to a teaching position at another school and we thank her for all her fine work in the TLC.

I am pleased to welcome Miss Natalie McBean back to the staff as a Drama and English teacher starting in February. At the time of writing, we are fully staffed for 2010.

Tirau Bus Situation

The parent group that is organising the Tirau bus for next year has sent out a letter to all parents/caregivers of current Tirau bus students. If you did not receive a letter please contact the school office (07 881 9018) and we will send one to you.

In short, the Tirau bus will operate next year but there will be a weekly charge of \$10 for this bus. The letter explains the operation of the bus and how the payment for the bus can be made.

The contact person regarding any queries will be Richard Leach. He can be contacted during the day on 07 882 1310 or in the evening on 07 883 1844.

Correction & Apology

In the last newsletter I mistakenly named **Jake Smith** as Jake Stanley. I apologise to Jake and his family for this error.



Head Students



Elisabeth Brown



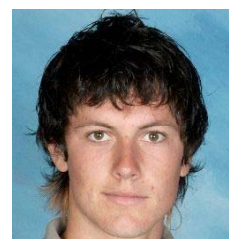
James Norris

Deputy

Head Students



Monique Alexander



Bradley Leuthard

Start of School 2010

The school office will be closed from Friday 18th December to Tuesday 26th January 2010.

Wednesday 27th January

- All senior students who wish to change options can come in between 9—2pm to see their Dean.
- **New enrolments** can also come in on this day

Thursday 28th January

- PTA 2nd hand uniform sale 9—1pm

Tuesday 2nd February -

- All Year 9 and Year 13 students 8.30am

Wednesday 3rd February -

- Senior students option choice changes
- New enrolments 9—2pm
- Year 9 students. 8.30am start

Thursday 4th February

- All students 8.30am. With full uniform and stationery ready to start timetable.

Lost Property

We currently have something like 25 school jerseys and 12 school jackets in the lost property collection at Student Reception. Most of the items are not named. Has your child lost a jersey or jacket?

Please make sure for 2010 that all school uniform items are clearly and indelibly marked so that we can return items that are handed in back to the owners.

Student Accounts

Enclosed with this newsletter is a student account that we would appreciate being settled before the end of the year. Our thanks to the parents who have settled their accounts for the year.



Junior Volleyball

The Junior Boys' and Girls' Volleyball teams competed in the North Island Champs in Rotorua recently.

The boys' team played some very good volleyball and certainly improved as the tournament progressed. They were up against some gigantic teams and had to rely on their speed around the court and their teamwork to compete. The team ended up 6th place in Division Two losing the playoff game against Kamo in two very tight sets. **Scott Hilliar, Shaun Deed, Taylor Douglas and Jarrod McKillop** were subsequently named in the Waikato Secondary Schools' Junior team.

The girls' team was made up entirely of year 9 students and they gained invaluable experience during the week. The team really improved as the week progressed and their last two games were very impressive. **Haana Gaskell, Nicole Settle, Kelsey Langlands and Samantha Redgate** were named in the Waikato Secondary Schools' Junior Team.



Stationery 2010

Enclosed with this mail out is a stationery list for each student for next year. We send this out before Christmas so that parents and caregivers can take advantage of the school stationery specials many shops offer in January.

It is very important that all students have the correct "tools" for learning right from the start of the year and basic stationery is a vital component of this tool kit.

It is essential that all books are clearly named and pencil cases and other equipment should be clearly named or engraved where possible.



Junior EOTC week.

I want to praise the Year 9 students who attended the recent camp at Finlay Park. I have heard nothing but good things about their attitude and behaviour from staff who were at the camp which is great to hear. My thanks also to all the staff who helped at the camp, and in particular Miss Clutterbuck and Mr Jamieson who organised the camp. Well done!

I also want to thank Mrs Davidson who worked very hard to set up a very interesting three day EOTC programme for the Year 10 students involving tramping, surfing, high ropes, confidence course, rock climbing, blow carting, paint ball and laser shooting.

I was pleased that most students rose to the challenge of these activities and got stuck in and gave things a good go.

Drumline Drum Off Competition

Matamata College's Drumline Group (as featured on the Breakfast Show recently!) will be involved in a drum-off against similar groups from Putaruru College and Forest View High School.

Each Drumline group will compete with their own original drum rhythms for the Drumline Trophy.

Also the best drum set drummer from each school will be competing for their own trophy.

Sunday 13th December

1pm

Putaruru Plaza

\$2 entry



College Students at NZ Sec School Champs

Kieran McPherson and Scott

Hilliar will be competing in the NZ Sec Schools' Track and Field Champs on December 12th and 13th in Timaru.

Scott is competing in the Junior Boys' 800 and 1500m and Kieran is running in the Senior Boys' 6km Road Race.

Both boys have been training hard for these champs and we wish them all the best for a successful time in Timaru.

Footwear

Can I remind parents (and students) that we expect every student to wear the correct footwear to school. Correct footwear in summer is either black or brown sandals with a strap worn up, or **black** shoes with college regulation socks. Shoes must be totally black, with no writing or logos on them. Jandals are **not** school uniform. Coloured sport shoes are **not** school uniform.



2009 School Yearbook

Because of printer delays, the 2009 school yearbook was unfortunately not available on senior return day. We expect the magazine to be here Tuesday 8th December.

Ms Wiggins and senior student Sarah Reichardt have produced an excellent school yearbook that captures all aspects of 2009 school life very well. Students for whom the school fee donation has been paid will receive a copy of this yearbook free.

Other students can purchase the yearbook for \$12 from student reception. Students can collect the yearbook from the office up until Friday 18th December.



BOT News

The BOT is still trying to wrap up the financial side of the Tech Block up-grade and has started the refurbishment of the rest of the A Block classrooms which will be ready for the start of the 2010 year.

Next year it is hoping to start the refurbishment of N Block rooms and the BOT is also in the process of trying to negotiate with the Matamata Piako District Council for a joint venture new gymnasium project to be hopefully started sometime in 2011.

In the 2010 budget, the BOT is committing a considerable amount of its reserved funds for resources for students.

It is planning to replace one of the old mini-vans, is putting more security cameras in A Block, T Block and in the student car park area and is investing in the Success-maker Literacy and Numeracy Software which we believe will really help those students who struggle in these areas.

The BOT has also agreed to fund six Learning Assistants to work with students who need extra help with their studies and to assist teachers in the delivery of the curriculum.



Season's Greetings

As this will be the last Contact for 2009, I would like to wish all students, staff, parents and caregivers the very best for Christmas and the New Year.

I trust that the holiday season is both refreshing and relaxing for everyone and that students and staff returning in 2010 come back invigorated and ready to work hard. Nga mihi o te Kirihimete me te Tau Hou.



G. Rowsell

Principal