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Otamatea High School Newsletter

.... Principal's Comment

Dear Parents and Caregivers

A warm welcome back to Term 3. Congratulations to Nina Linnell who won the End of Term 2 Golden Kauri Draw which included the stereo sponsored by Craig Garnett Electrical. Congratulations also to our rugby players in the Taniwai Cup team which was third in the Northland-wide competition played at Dargaville. A big welcome to Mr Muneshaga, a teacher from Japan, who will be with us for all of this term.

This term will see the further 'roll out' of KnowledgeNet and parents will receive a log-on so that you can access it. If you have any issues please contact Ross Perkinson, KnowledgeNet Co-ordinator, at school 0800 682 628 or srp@otamatea.school.nz. Parents need to be aware that our target is to ensure that every teacher has at least two of their classes fully functioning and at every class will have at least two teachers who have developed their subject site. Further to this, we will be holding a Teacher Only Day on Monday 2nd of August to ensure that there is information for every class on the KnowledgeNet system.

Activities Week for Years 7,8,9 and 10 are getting closer by the day and I would like to remind those parents who have not already done so that there is an automatic payment system available to ensure that easy weekly payments can be made to cover the costs. My advice would be to allow \$150 for the Activities Week. Please contact Mrs Deborah Cornhill-Davies to set up an Automatic Payment.

At assembly this morning I spoke to students about their uniform and the need to wear it correctly. I have given them to the end of this week to 'sort it out'. It is disappointing to see that some students are still leaving home with multi coloured tee-shirts under their blouse/shirt and non-uniform jackets and shoes. As parents, could you please ensure that your child is correctly dressed before they leave home.

We have quite a few extra-curricular activities taking place this term including subject trips, Reporoa Exchange, the Ball and Olla Podriga. If you are keen to help, especially with the latter three, then please contact me at school for further information.

Have a good week everyone.

Regards, Haydn Hutching



*Congratulations to **Nina Linnell** our end of term
Golden Kauri Draw winner.*

***Nina** wins a stereo kindly sponsored by Craig Garnett Electrical*

.... Festival of the Arts

The annual Otamatea High School Festival of the Arts was held on Thursday 1st July with an audience of some 250 people in attendance. The Festival is a showcase for Performing Arts and a full programme of kapa haka, music, dance, drama and Stage Challenge was presented along with a fashion parade. There were also eight entries in the Wearable Arts competition which was judged by Tatjana and Peter Panyoczki and Miss Ann Kingsford. Most of the work was written produced and performed by the students and was of an extremely high standard. All of the performances were filmed because many of them were being used as assessments for NCEA. Stand out performances were given by Chanel von Lyn and Melissa McCabe for a devised drama written by Chanel while Jessica Browne, accompanied by James Cullen on bass, gave an exceptional performance of the Sarah McLachan song 'In the Arms of an Angel'. A group to watch for the future is the Year 9 band 'Silver Leaf' who performed 'Where the River Flows' by Collective Soul. In the Wearable Arts competition the Siobhan Ellis and Jennifer Seddon design 'Superficial Vanity' and 'Splish Splash' designed by Jasper Hallamore, Joseph Greenwood, Roxanne Russell and Chrissie Stock were highly commended while Biancnca Madden's 'He Loves Me He Loves Me Not' was the overall winner. During the supper break members of the audience stated that the outstanding talent and quality of the performances was a credit to the artists and the programmes that the school is running. A big thank you to Miss Rebecca Barclay who co-ordinated the Festival, to the performers and to the audience for supporting the school.



Brendon Taiaroa shares some of his experiences of Shipboard life

On the 16th of June I travelled up to Opuia to board the vessel known as the R Tucker Thompson. There were 9 other 'trainees' on board as well as four crewmen. Each morning we were woken up at 7am and had to jump straight into the sea. Not a great way to wake up in the morning as the water was pretty cold. During the night we had to do night watch which consisted of waking up at a certain point during the night and keeping tabs on where land is as well as taking readings on the our position, wind and which way the ship was pointing.

The day to day activities were pretty cool. They consisted of things like snorkelling at the Poor Knights, searching for mussels at the Black Rocks, going through the Hole in the Rock with a dinghy, swimming through a cave at Deep Water Cove, doing forward flips into the grass at Whangamumu and so much more.

We saw plenty of Dolphins during the trip but were unable to swim with them as they were a considerable distance from where we had anchored. Most of the trainees got seasick on the way out to the Poor Knights leaving only a couple of us to put up the sails which was a lot of work. The skipper let me take control of the rail while we were out at sea and that in itself was an awesome experience. Each night we would crack a whole lot of jokes up to the point where everyone had extinguished all their jokes and could not think of anymore. At that point we would start a game of cards, talk about random things or we would watch a movie or Flight of the Concorde. Everyone on the boat loved to get onto land especially after being seasick so we roamed round a nearby town, climbed the trees and did much more.

The week was a blast, I made plenty of new friends, had heaps to do, and we even played a few pranks towards the end of the week. I would have liked to have spent longer on the boat but I'm happy to be home and keen to see what's still to come for the rest of the year.

A great effort from Connor van Dalsum

Connor van Dalsum, 7SS, had the last week of term off to travel to Australia to play tennis. Connor was invited to travel to Queensland from the 27th June to 11 July 2010 as part of a small group of Northland tennis players to take part in two tournaments.

In the first week he took part in the Queensland Age groups Tournament which is a lead up to the Australian Winter Nationals event. Connor competed well in the 12's age group and though he didn't progress to the championship rounds he finished well winning his playoff draw with a strong 2 sets to 1 win in his final. Connor completed this tournament with a 4 win, 2 loss record.

In the second week Connor played in a smaller local tournament run by the Noosa Tennis Club on the Sunshine Coast. Connor along with the other New Zealand boys controlled the tournament. Connor stayed in the main draw and was beaten in the Quarterfinals by another player from Northland who eventually played in the final. Connor completed this tournament with a 2 win, 1 loss record. Well done, Connor.

Photography Competition

There is a photography contest running for students who would like to take photos of the local area. The prizes are; Sponsored by the OHS Student Council

First - \$50, Second - \$20, Third - \$10

The photos may be in black or white, must have no people in them and only one photo per entrant can be sent in. The winner gives their permission for their photo to be displayed in the school. Photos must be sent to ohs@otamatea.school.nz by Friday 13 August. Get snapping!



Rotation Change for Year 8

This week Year 8 students will have changes in their rotations.

Music will go to French, French will go to Art, Art will go to Keyboarding and Keyboarding will go to Music.

Maori will go to Drama, Drama will go to Dance and Dance will go to Spanish and Spanish will go to Maori.

Metal will go to Wood, Wood will go to Food and Food will go to Fashion and Fashion will go to Metal.

Please ensure that your child has the correct equipment for each of these classes so that the first class can run smoothly.

School will be closed for tuition on Monday 2nd August

This day will be used by teachers for KnowledgeNet Professional Development.

OHS Netball Club

Junior Draw 24th July

8.30am Court 6 Otamatea 5 V Wellsford 1
8.30am Court 2 Otamatea 7 V Mahu Christian
9.20am Court 6 Otamatea 6 V Mangawhai 3
10.10am Court 2 Otamatea 8 V Matakana 2

Senior Draw 24th July

11.30am Court 6 Otamatea 1 V Coastal Vets
1pm Court 1 Otamatea 4 V Rodney 4
2pm Court 3 Otamatea 2 V Kaipara Flats 1
3pm Court 2 Otamatea 3 V Kaipara Flats 3

Homework Diary

YEAR 11 SCIENCE – MRS HAINES

Workbook pages 8 to 16, atoms and ions worksheets due Wednesday 21 July

YEAR 12 CHEMISTRY – MRS HAINES

Workbook pages 106 to 115 due Tuesday 20 July

YEAR 13 CHEMISTRY – MRS HAINES

Chapter 10 read and activities completed and marked
Workbook pages 102 to 116 due Tuesday 20 July

.... Career Corner

IMPORTANT CAREER DATES:

- 14 July** Lincoln University Open day
29 July Media Design School Open day 2pm to 7pm, 242 Queen Street. Call 09 303 0402 for more information
4 Aug Massey University Manawatu campus *open day*.
5 Aug Unitec Communications *try it for a day* – email tryitforaday@unitec.ac.nz to register
6 Aug Unitec -Civil Engineering and Surveying *Try it for a Days* email tryitforaday@unitec.ac.nz to register
9 Aug Otago University Course planning 1.40pm.
16 Aug Auckland University Engineering Faculty information evening. Venue will be in Whangarei, 6.30pm
Kickstart scholarship available for the course see Mrs.Green for application form.
- June and Aug** AUT open days in various areas see me for dates.

Animation Workshop free entry last Saturday of each month; 75 Ellice Road Phone 0508SOUTHSEAS for more info.

TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT PLEASE SEE ME IN MY OFFICE, IN THE PREFAB, BESIDE THE CARPARK

CAREER PROFILE: *The Motivation Station*

This is the place where you stay until you're ready to buy your ticket and get on a train to an exciting future. But there are so many destinations - which ticket will you buy and where will you go? Where do you want to go? If you are not sure then here is a little exercise.

Sit down somewhere comfortable and quiet with a blank sheet of paper. Still yourself by breathing deeply a few times. When you are ready to begin, ask yourself the following questions and then write the first and immediate thought that comes into your mind.

- What do I want?
 - Why do I want it?
 - What do I need to do to get it?
 - What's stopping me?
 - Why am I letting what's stopping me stop me?
 - Is this a useful belief?
 - Is this belief helping me to live the life I want to?
- What is my dream for my life?
 - Why am I telling myself I cant begin to move toward my dream?
 - Is this a useful belief?
 - Is this belief helping me to live the life I dream of?
 - What would I feel like if I could achieve my dream and live the life I want?
 - What do I need to do to make my dream a reality?
 - What small step can I make today to move me a little closer to making my dream happen?
 - What small action can I take now that will move me a little closer to my dream?

You may surprise yourself and find out some things you have never thought about. Don't brush them away do something about making it a reality.

Mrs Sally Green

Gateway programme a huge advantage for Otamatea High School students when deciding on their future career

Gateway provides opportunities for senior Otamatea High School students (Y11+) to experience the real world of work and gain unit standard credits towards NCEA and apprenticeships.

In 2009 we had 52 students using Gateway. As part of our contract with T.E.C. we are required to place 40 students who gain an average of 10 credits each, preferably in the work place. So far this year we have 43 students registered on Gateway. These students have been placed in such diverse fields as mechanics, building, engineering, sign-writing, nursing, farming, agriculture, horticulture, retail, surveying, panel beating, hairdressing and childcare.

With more senior students staying on in schools Gateway is the ideal vehicle to provide meaningful learning plans for students not intending to go to university. After experiencing a good workplace environment students often realize that they need to gain qualifications to achieve financial benefits. This can then motivate them to work harder at school. It also gives students aiming for university the chance to work in the field they are planning to study in and develop networks for future employment. Research shows that over 40% of jobs are found through networking or through friends and family. Gateway also gives the chance to try jobs without having long-term commitment. Students can find out whether they like the work entailed before they commit to a student loan for tertiary study.

The Maungaturoto Country Club has continued to provide our school with great facilities for short courses free of charge. This is a very real advantage that few other schools have. The fencing courses, in which groups of 5 students work under the supervision of Owen Stevens to complete a stretch of fence at least 100m long, is made possible by the funding from either the M.C.C. or from environmental grants from NRC, DOC or the KDC. 2010 has seen 20 students complete this Gateway Placement. The Shearing Course is also run on the M.C.C. property. 11 students completed this week long course where M.C.C. sheep were shorn. Students also give a hand with docking and crutching. The Maungaturoto Community Walkway on the M.C.C. farm is also providing Gateway opportunities. 5 boys have worked with Dave Churcher to build boardwalks and kissing gates. They have entered the national NZ Build-a-bility Competition which will be judged in August. The pathway formation should also provide more opportunities.

With the recent purchase of 2 coffee machines, a grinder and the help of Bica Coffee people Julie and Tony Holcroft from Paparoa we will to be able to run Barista Courses for our students who can then do Gateway Placements for school functions. There is a demand for trained Baristas in cities and holiday places such as Mangawhai, so these courses will help our students to gain employment while at tertiary training or during the holidays. This will be much easier than having to travel to Whangarei to attend training.

In conclusion, Gateway has given many students the opportunity to try out the workplace and find out what they would really like to do as a career. Gateway is always the student's choice and this means that they really want to be out there. It gives them the chance to see the bigger picture, realize where their talents are and make better choices for the future.

For further information please contact Stella Clyde, Otamatea High School Gateway Co-ordinator

ssc@otamatea.school.nz or 0800682628



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