

Kaikoura High School

TE PANUI RIKIRIKI



9 March 2011 – No. 04

Tena koutou katoa nga Matua,

Our thoughts are with all of you, your families, friends and work colleagues who have been affected by the earthquake in Christchurch. Those of us that are in other parts of the country can't begin to understand all you will be going through both personally and professionally but we offer our support.

Coming up:	
Wed 16 March	- Yr9 SocSt – KK town walk
	- Brain Bee Round 1 (<i>tbc</i>)
17 & 18 March	Trades Trip to Chch
19-20 March	Senior Volleyball - Nelson
Fri 25 March	Mid Term Holiday – NO school
Fri 15 April	END of Term 1

Welcome to Our Students Displaced by the Earthquake

We would like to welcome all the new students who have enrolled at Kaikoura High School over the last 7 school days. We have had more than 35 enrolments ranging from Year 7-13, following the devastating events in Christchurch. This represents a roll growth of about 13% and a challenge that we have relished as a School. We expect a small percentage of these students to possibly remain at our School until the end of this academic year.

We have successfully integrated these students in classes, and in our School in general. They have attended briefings about our School's core values, to enable them to fit in as smoothly and quickly as possible.

They have been warmly welcomed by staff, teachers and students alike, which reflects our core value of awhi. The feedback received in this regard from the parents of these students, and in particular the students themselves has been extremely positive.

Ongoing support has been offered to them, along with our regular students, and this also includes counselling services.

Hosting these students has given our students the opportunity to get to know students from different settings and also to learn about schools outside Kaikoura. This will be useful in helping us to overcome the limitations of our isolation.

Our staff and teachers are pulling out all stops to accommodate these tamariki, and we acknowledge their effort and dedication in this regard. We feel this is the very least we can do to support our colleagues and the people of Christchurch, and we are proud to be able to help.

PPTA Action Update

After a series of Paid Union Meetings around the country on February 22nd, 94% of PPTA members voted to carry on with industrial action. However, due to the tragedy of the Christchurch earthquake and also to allow negotiations to continue this week, the strike day planned for March 10th has been deferred. A range of actions is planned if negotiations breakdown, including targeted rostering home, but none of these actions will take place if the negotiations continue.

Lunchtime Activities/Clubs

We are in the process of establishing a programme for lunchtime activities to be run and co-ordinated by students of the School. A small number of parents have previously offered to help in this regard, with non-sporting activities (e.g. chess). Now is the time to get involved – please contact Sandra on 319 5138.

Year 7/8 Social Studies

In light of the circumstances surrounding the recent Christchurch earthquake and the on-going ramifications of this it has been decided to discontinue the current unit ('Picking up the Pieces') that we have been studying. Our continuation with the unit at this time would be both inappropriate and insensitive to students and families in our community. We have replaced this unit with a mapping unit. We will make an assessment of the wisdom of recommencing 'Picking Up the Pieces' later in the year.

Selwyn Williams – Dean Yr7/8

Athletic Sports

Athletics Sports was held on February 16. It was a great day with two records broken. Oakley Laurie broke the Boys Under 14 Javelin record which had been held by Glenn Smith since 2008. Oakley threw a distance of 28.45m. Another record breaker was Harry Rattray who took out the Under 12 Boys 3000m run in 12:25mins. The previous record had been held by Ocean Grady.

House results were as follows: Monk house 1st, Flower 2nd, Cooke 3rd & Braddock 4th.

This means that Monk, Flower & Cooke are currently in a three way tie with the Cross Country results to serve as the decider.

It was great to see so many families attend on the day. We hope to see these numbers grow in next year's competitions.

Due to the earthquakes in Christchurch the Combined Country High School Athletic Sports will not be held until later in the year.

Year 9 Camp

As the Year 9 camp was cancelled due the earthquake in Christchurch, we feel that it is important to continue with a Year 9 camp (this time based in Hanmer Springs), to ensure strong, positive relationships are built between students, to provide leadership opportunities and incorporate our school values of Awhi, Integrity and Respect throughout the whole camp. Our current dates for the camp are 6 - 8 April, but more information will be sent home with Year 9 students in the next week. We will be aiming to keep the costs similar to that of our previously planned camp.

Reports

The School is receiving favourable feedback about the student reports and assessment information sent out last week.

If you have any questions about the report, or the course content, please contact the Dean, in the first place and they will ensure that the subject teacher, or HOD contact you to address the matter.

David Mallinder – Deputy Principal

John Orchard – Heritage Education

Yr 9 will be going on the Heritage Trail with Mr John Orchard on Wednesday 16 March.

Times as follows: Period 1 & 2 – 9Gi Period 3 & 4 – 9Bh

Music

Unfortunately our Music Tutor, Eva Schwanen-Lilley, is unable to come to Kaikoura on Thursdays for the remainder of this term, therefore violin lessons are cancelled. Our thoughts are with her and we look forward to her recommencing lessons in Term 2.

Kaikoura High School - Waiata Performance

This year we will be staging a Waiata Performance in which each House will sing the National Anthem (two verses) in both Te Reo Maaori and English. This is the compulsory element of the performance and the Houses also need to sing and perform another item organised by them. The second item must be performed by at least one student from each year level, so minimum 7 students in total need to represent their House. Obviously we would like the second item to involve as many students as possible in the spirit of the performance. I am aware that one House in particular is well on their way to preparing their second item. We hope that at in least 2-3 assemblies this term, time will allow for the singing of the anthems. This will start the ball rolling in preparation for the competition in the second term.

Les Hoerara – Assistant Principal

Tasman Schools Volleyball Tournament

The senior girls' volleyball team played in the Tasman schools volleyball tournament on the weekend of 26 - 27th of February in Blenheim. The girls finished 2nd in Division 1 and played some quality volleyball. The highlights were the three games that went to five sets, consistent serving and the all round improvement of all players as the tournament progressed. It was a great start to the volleyball season and the team is hoping to improve their placing in the next tournament to be held in Nelson on the 19 - 20th March.

National Book Month

- **\$5 Book voucher for students**

March is National Book Month and the National Library, along with some wonderful sponsors, have sent KHS students a \$5.00 book voucher to redeem on any book worth \$10.00 or more at any participating book seller in NZ including Bennetts, Borders, PaperPlus, TakeNote, Whitcoulls and all independent book sellers where you see the sign 'Books Change Lives'. Please encourage your child/ren to use it and help them find a book of their choice. The emphasis this month is not only to encourage individual reading but also reading ALOUD to your child/ren. So parents, caregivers, teachers, teacher aides and friends are encouraged to share something they enjoy reading by reading aloud to students.

- **Competition**

A nationwide competition called 'Reading Super Heroes' is also open to all students in NZ Schools. This involves someone (a parent/caregiver or other) reading a book to their child/ren, which make the reader a Reading Super Hero. Students just need to write 100-150 words who their Reading Super Hero is, why they are so great and why they love them reading to them. There are loads of prizes to be won. Entries close at the end of Term 1. Mrs Nelson in the library has entry details.

Art Department Extra Tuition Time

Mrs Parkinson has time available for senior Art students (Years 11 to 13) to attend extra tuition on Tuesday evenings while she has her night class running. At the moment this will only be for Term 1 and runs from 7pm to 9pm every Tuesday.

Drama

Check out the School website (www.kaikourahigh.school.nz) there are some great photographs of the Yr13 trip to the Auckland Arts Festival on Friday 4 March.

Maths Tutorials

The Maths Department will continue to offer help with Maths on Thursday afternoon (3.00 to 4.00pm). All welcome. Please contact Bill Lonsdale for more details.

Lost Property

We have already acquired a substantial amount of 'lost property'. Please get your child to check for any items that they may have mislaid. Any property still there at the end of Term will be taken to the Recycling Centre.

Earthquake Drop in Centre

An earthquake drop-in centre has been established in the Harakeke Mall. The Centre is being coordinated by Dr Andrea Judd and Marie Simpson.

A large number of families are evacuating from Christchurch and coming to Kaikoura either as a stopover or for a longer time. They need donations of bedding, towels, clothing (especially children's clothing), books, baking and veges from your garden if you have any to spare. They also need volunteers to man the centre which will be open daily from 9am to 5pm. If you are able to volunteer to support those from Christchurch please call Marie Simpson on 021 02779288. All donations can be dropped to the Harakeke Mall.

Yours sincerely

Werner van Aswegen
Principal