



NEWSLETTER



PRINCIPAL'S PIECE

7 APRIL 2011

Dear Parents and caregivers,

I went to a Canterbury Principals' meeting last Friday. The main focus was how the Christchurch schools were coping after the earthquake and what the Ministry of Education and NZQA are doing to support the Christchurch students. The schools are all doing their best to make learning happen in their schools. The schools that are sharing sites are all doing things in slightly different ways to best meet the needs of their situation. These Principals commented on how the student body are doing their best to allow learning and are looking for positives. Many students like the idea of a concentrated time in the classroom so they then have more time, either morning or afternoon, to concentrate on their sport or cultural activities. However, all are aware that this is a silver lining to a dark cloud. A big concern for those at the meeting is the effect on students and teachers as this becomes the new routine, with the stresses of sharing broken houses, travelling on damaged roads and teaching and learning in different schools. For example some students are leaving home at 11:00am to catch the bus to school and not returning home till 7:30pm in the evening.

Since the earthquake we have had many students come to the College and now most have returned to their schools in Christchurch. I have received emails, letters, cards and had conversations thanking the College for hosting the students. The students and parents all mention the welcoming nature of the College and the Methven Community. I wish to pass this message on to you that your children have made a positive difference to those who visited us. We currently have 14 students from Christchurch at the College and we continue to have queries for more long term enrolments. We will continue to make them welcome and aim to best meet their learning needs.

In the last newsletter I encouraged all to look at our College Goals for 2011 and see how as parents you could help your children help the College meet these Goals. I believe that as parents what we want is for our children to do the best they can. I have quoted before that *"It takes a community to raise a child."* For your child to succeed they do need your support. Do they have time at night to complete homework, time to reflect and summarise that day's lesson, time to prepare for the next day's lessons? Do they have a quiet space to complete the above tasks? When you receive their PRIDE points would you give them the same grade or higher for the effort they make on their studies at home? What grade would you give yourself for the support you give?

I am aware that many students are working very hard on our production *"Henry"* and I look forward to seeing the show. For some, acting comes more naturally than others but for all involved in the production they have to move out of their comfort zone and work together to make it happen. I thank Mrs Brennan and Mrs Currie in particular for their dedication to the students and leading them to the performances. I also thank the students who have made the commitment to being part of the production; the cast, the stage hands and the technicians.

We farewell Regan Turner from the Physical Education Department this week. Regan has involved himself with co-curricular activities and we thank him for his commitment to the College. Regan has been accepted into the Police Force and we wish him well in a career he has aspired to for some time. We have appointed Ryan Wilson to take Regan's position. Ryan is originally from Ashburton, he is a former Black Stick and has been teaching Physical Education in England for the last five years.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Wednesday-Friday, 6-8 April – School Production of 'Henry'.
- Friday, 8 April – School photo money due to office.
- Friday, 15 April - NZ Ski pass money and forms due to office.
- Friday, 15 April – ANZAC Day Poppy Selling.

TERM DATES 2011

Term 1 **Finishes Friday, 15 April**

Term 2 **Monday, 2 May – Friday, 15 July**

- Fri, 3 Jun - Staff Development Day Holiday
- Mon, 6 Jun - Queens Birthday Holiday

NCEA ENGLISH

A matter arose at the parent interviews regarding assessment in English. Parents should be aware that a number of assessments in NCEA English are an accumulation of work completed over the year and finally compiled later at a later date. These include Personal Reading and Wide Reading at Level 1 and 2, Theme Studies at Levels 1 and 3 and Research at Levels 2 and 3. To this end students need to have **organised home study programmes** if they are to keep in touch with the subject.

Peter Harper - Head of Faculty

NZQA MESSAGE REGARDS EXAM RECONSIDERATIONS

Students who applied for reconsiderations from 2010 exams are advised that these are proceeding but there has been a delay to some of them due to the Christchurch Earthquake. Some answer booklets will have been reconsidered by a Christchurch based marker who has been affected by the earthquake. NZQA has made contact with those markers who are affected and they have all assured NZQA they will complete their tasks albeit later than expected. The expectation is that most reconsiderations will be completed by mid to late April.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Money and forms for school photographs are due to the office by this Friday, 8 April. Students can order Student IDs by including their full name, date of birth and \$5 in with their order. Other school group photos have been on display in Student Reception and can be ordered for \$13 each.



A reminder to parents and students that this seasons ski passes are due into our office by the last day of Term 1 (**Friday, 15 April 2011**).

IMPORTANT - NEW PASS PROCESS: All 2011 season pass holders will be required to have a new photograph taken. Photos can no longer be uploaded or scanned into our system. Students can come into our Snow Centre in Methven, Mon-Fri, 9-5 to get a new photo taken. The passes will then be printed in May and delivered to the school for distribution. If the student already has a RFID card from 2010, they need to hand it in to the school with their application form/payment so we can update their existing card. If the student cannot make it into the Snow Centre for a photo pre-season, please contact our Snow Centre to make alternative arrangements.

POSTPONEMENT/CANCELLATION LINE

Don't forget to ring 302 8904 for info on any Sporting or School events/trips that may be off due to weather etc.



MESSAGE FROM THE PTA

Methven Resort Fundraiser

Thank you to the parents that helped with this fundraiser, we raised \$510 for the Mt Hutt College/PTA.

Icecream Social

Thank you to Mrs Sommerville for organising this event. Thanks also go to Lynda Anderson for the chocolate sauce, Kathy for ordering the icecream and Prefects and Parents for helping on the night. The night was most enjoyable and it was very nice to speak with several of you.

Next PTA Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on 12 April at 7.30pm in the Staff Room. You are all warmly invited and we look forward to seeing you. Thea Koopmans - **Chairperson**

Dear Families,

On Easter Saturday, April 23rd, (middle weekend of the holidays) the Methven Lions Club are once again organising the Mountain Thunder Motor Cycle Street racing event. The College has been asked to oversee parking for the day in the paddock beside the show grounds on Barkers Road. The parking is free but Lions will make a donation to the College for their help. Just wondering if there were able bodies available to oversee this. It involves a commitment from 9am to 2pm and can be rostered depending on numbers, probably five people at a time. We were given \$1,000 last year which was very welcome. If you can help please email or phone me.

Many thanks, Jo Suyker - 03 3028625, sjsuyker@xtra.co.nz



MOUNT HUTT COLLEGE

PRODUCTION of the hilarious musical and drama

‘Henry’

It isn't too late to buy tickets for this school production. We are performing this hilarious show Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week.

Tickets are on sale at the College office during school hours and there will also be door sales.

Ticket Price: \$10 per ticket. Preschoolers free.

Time: 7.30 pm
6th, 7th and 8th April 2011.

Place: Mount Hutt College hall.

Hope you can come.

We wish to take this opportunity to thanks all those involved in making this show possible. Without the support of the students, parents and other community members these events would not be possible.

Thirza Currie

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Have you checked out our new school website? www.mounthuttcollege.co.nz You will find an abundance of information including upcoming dates, events, school trips, contact details, stationery lists, etc. There are links to our sports, subjects and arts wikis on the home page.



Jane from Magpie's Corner would love to hear from parents/students re their gluten free/special diet requirements for lunches. Please feel free to give her a call on 3028437, ext 733.

CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to our Welfare Committee who managed to raise \$654 by selling Kia Kaha Christchurch bracelets! These funds have now been forwarded to the Red Cross.

WINTER UNIFORM

WINTER UNIFORM FOR TERMS 2 & 3 – the cooler weather we have been having reminds us of the approaching uniform change. Please ensure your daughter/son has the correct uniform remembering that the white polo shirts and red polar fleeces of the 'old' uniform have now been phased out. All students should wear the long sleeved winter shirts/blouses and either the 'old' red jersey or the new black jersey or vest. Year 9-13 students are expected to wear the school tie with their shirt/blouse. Skirt length for girls is mid calf. Reminder that in 2012 all students are expected to fully wear the new uniform.

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SPORTS NEWS

SUCCESS AT SOUTH ISLAND SECONDARY SCHOOL ATHLETICS

Mt Hutt College Methven fielded a team of 10 athletes at the South Island Secondary Schools' Athletic Championships in Timaru at the weekend. Four of the students achieved top three placings and there were a raft of personal best times/throws recorded as well as a number of school records.

Jesse Houston in the Under 14 boys events led the charge of placings. He accomplished three 2nd placings: in the high jump, 400m and the 800metres where he broke the Mt Hutt College record in 2:09:04. Todd Houston gained second place in the Under 19 boys discus with a Mt Hutt College record throw of 39.72 metres.

Tyler Pereira in the Under 19 girls' High Jump broke another Mt Hutt College record by jumping 1.58 metres to put her into 3rd place.

Cameron McLeod in the Under 14 boys gained third position in the shot put.

Thomas Holmes ran a personal best of 9:24:29 in the Under 19 boys 3000metres to break the Mt Hutt College record, but was narrowly beaten into 4th place. Assina Dalglish recorded two personal bests in her two running events.

Congratulations to the above athletes and also to Courtney Wylie, Kenji Boekholt, William Dewhirst and Steven Pinfold who were competitive in their events. Shawn Johnson and Juliette Lewis were also selected for the team but were unable to compete at the Championships.

CONGRATULATIONS

Jesse Houston has been selected in the Canterbury Athletics 12 & 13 age group Interprovincial team. He is travelling to New Plymouth at Easter for NZ teams competition. He will be competing in High Jump, Long Jump, 400m and 800m. As a fundraiser he has black wristbands for sale indented with;

- STAND IN BLACK
- All Blacks (with silver fern)
- Addidas

They are \$3.00 each. If you would like to purchase a band, please bring your money along and see Jesse now.

NETBALL TRIALS FOR SENIOR A & B TEAMS

The above trials are underway on 10 April (Sunday) at 10.00am and 12 April (Tuesday) at 3.30pm.



Mount Hutt College Methven

CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Friday 13th May 2011

The Mount Hutt College Methven Cross-Country Championships will be run on Friday, 13th May 2011. Individual 'placings' competed for with the overall event being an inter house competition. All finishers earn points for their 'house'. The higher the placing, the more points gained.

All pupils are expected to 'have a go'. If unable to participate because of a sound, valid medical reason then a note is expected through to Mrs Roderick – Sports Coordinator by Friday 1st lunch 13th May.

Parents and friends are most welcome to watch the races. Pupils will have cordial/water available after their race. Trophies (12) and certificates. (The 1st four in each grade will be presented at an assembly at the conclusion to all the races at approx 2.45). Running gear includes suitable footwear, the Lenco P/E sports top for all Yr 7-13 students. Pupils should come prepared for cold weather also.

Programme outline – start and finish at back sports field.

Starting times	-	Year 7 girls	1.10pm
	-	Year 7 boys	1.15pm
	-	Year 8 girls	1.25pm
	-	Year 8 boys	1.30pm
	-	Year 9 girls & boys	1.35pm
	-	Year 10 girls & boys	1.40pm
	-	Year 11 girls & boys	1.45pm
	-	Year 12/13 girls & boys	1.50pm

Presentation of Trophies 2.45 in the school hall. **Please note** – Parent parking permitted on the school front field.



COMMUNITY NEWS

MID CANTERBURY RUGBY

Mid Canterbury Rugby would like to invite any potential players to come and have a go at rugby. Have you ever thought you would like to give rugby a go? Would you like to get involved in a team culture? Would you like to make new friends? Keep yourself fit and healthy! Are you a person that likes to have fun? If this sounds like you, get in contact with Craig Dunlea on 0274800133 or at rdo.mcrugby@xtra.co.nz and I will be able to find or put you in contact with a club.

BUBBLE DOME NEW ZEALAND

Holiday courses for students aged between 6-15 years interested in 3D animation and games design. Brouchers available at student reception.

ANZAC POPPY DAY

Some students from Yr 8 will be involved in the ANZAC Poppy Selling day which is Friday, 15 April (the final day of term). More information will be provided closer to the time.

COWS, TREES & COFFEE

Mid Canterbury Region

13th April 10.30-12.00pm

At Lushingtons, SHW 1, Ashburton

Morning tea sponsored by ATS

RSVP to Carol Wilson sdcswilson@farmside.co.nz or Becky Miller, ph 03 302 7879 www.dwn.co.nz

Please join us for a useful and interesting discussion. We'll enjoy morning tea and then hear from a nursery expert on farm trees and garden plantings (specials available). A vet will then provide advice on drying off.

