



NEWSLETTER 4

3 April 2017

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 4 April** - Home & School AGM 7pm
- 5 April** - Y7 Vision Screening
- 12 April** - Interim reports emailed home
- 13 April** - Last day of Term 1
- 1 May** - First day of Term 2
- 31 May** - Cardrona Season Pass forms and payment due
- 31 May** - College Swim Sports
- 17 June** - School Formal Y12 & Y13

Kia ora koutou whanau.

More than a third of our senior students earned Merit and Excellence Endorsements for their NCEA qualification last year. Our Academic Assembly to celebrate their achievement is always a highlight of Term 1 because of the esteem held by our students for the Business Sponsors' Scholarships. This year over \$12,000 has been generously awarded to our students. This initiative has been part of the reason for the noted increase in Excellence and Merit achievement for our students. This year the proportion of students with overall Merit and Excellence Endorsements was above national figures for all three levels of NCEA for the first time. Year 12 Excellence Endorsements were also above the national figure with Year 11 Excellences only 4% below the national figure.

Central Southland College in Winton hosted this year's QUAD Tournament and 50 of our students from Year 9 to 13, along with 6 staff, headed there. Healthy competition, teamwork, new friendships and fair play are typical of this enjoyable event. Our KAWA was clearly evident in the competition I observed on Friday and our staff complimented students for their polite, respectful and good humoured manner throughout the exchange - tino pai!



Quad - Y10 Water polo team

Our small rowing team of Bailey Scott, Liam Grant, Matt Anderson, Jack Ryan, Megan Bell, Tia Clarke and Jordyn Robinson has had a successful week at Maadi Cup at Lake Karapiro with crews and individuals rowing to their best. It has been a long season and a huge undertaking to get our team to 'nationals'. I want to thank again the parents involved for their strong support and commitment. Also, a sincere thank you to coaches Brendon Scott and Maude O'Connell for the many hours of training and guidance for all our rowers this year.

Congratulations to our Year 7 mixed team of Casey Brown, Owain Harris and Olivia Piebenga who won their race at the CO Primary Schools' Triathlon last week and also to Kate Spriggs & Faith Courtney who placed third in the Year 7 Girls' race. These are impressive results in such a competitive event. A number of talented swimmers achieved highly in the Otago Primary Championships recently. The 200m freestyle relay team of Mac Emeny, Rota Lafita, Emma Morton and Lachlan MacTaggart came 2nd for 11 year olds and Lachlan placed 3rd in the 50 freestyle. There were also strong individual swims from Rota Lafita and Emma Morton. Our seniors mixed team performed creditably to finish 7th in the South Island Touch Championships held recently in Christchurch. Congratulations to Olivia Geneblaza who competed in the South Island Secondary Schools Athletics in Dunedin in the weekend placing 3rd in the U14 triple jump – an outstanding result. He rawe (well done) to all these students on their efforts.



Quad - Y9 Laser tag team

Next term senior students will change to winter uniform and our seniors will transition to a shirt/blouse and tie. A blazer for Year 11, 12 and 13 students is also an option. This uniform can be ordered through Metro Graphix. We have had some challenges with the timeline for our blue shirt for boys and apologise for any frustration with this. I will update all families on the options for winter uniform before the end of this term.



Mr Monteath, Holly Parkes (Clarinet) Julia Anderson (Saxophone) Jamie Morton (Bass) and Ash Stanley- Suter (Guitar)

I have the honour of attending the new year Entrance Ceremony for Kun-ei High School in Osaka next Saturday. We have had students from this school for a number of years and the girls who arrive are superb ambassadors for their school and country – polite, hardworking, cheerful and respectful. I look forward to catching up with ex-students and families as well as spending time in the school with staff and students.

I trust parents are accessing our KAMAR portal to check on Fortnightly Checks, attendance and account information. Please contact our office team if you have questions about this. Teachers are currently completing interim reports and these will be emailed out near the end of term.



In-zone Careers Bus

I have been researching the best Māori translation for the three core values in our KAWA and I shared the kupu (words) for Respect at our last assembly. Kia Tika literally means to 'be correct'. By this we mean doing the right thing in the right way for ourselves, others and our place. Kia Maia means to 'be courageous' and Kia Rawe is to 'be excellent', or, to be your best. As a community, if we model Respect and Courage then I believe the outcome for is all is Excellence. Tēnā koutou katoa.

Mason Stretch
Principal



Gold Duke of Edinburgh Tramp

YEAR 10 CAMP



EXTRA-CURRICULAR MUSIC



Year 10 music student **Kleff Tan** has had a successful debut performance at the New Zealand Pipe Band Championships. Held in Nelson over two days, this

international event featured bands from all over New Zealand and Australia. Kleff was invited to compete with the South Canterbury Development Pipe Band. He played in the 4B grade gaining places in five events, including 4th in the Street March section. Kleff will also play in solo competitions in Fairlie. Alistair Forbes tutors Kleff in chanter and bagpipes in after school lessons at Cromwell College. He speaks highly of Kleff's dedication and musicianship. Congratulations on your success, Kleff.

CLASSROOM MUSIC

Year 9 students have been performing 12 bar blues on various instruments. They have learned the C blues scale to use for improvising their own music. Year 7s are performing a famous piece called "Ode to Joy" using "strings" sounds as part of their study of Beethoven's musical legacy. They

are also discovering the instruments of the orchestra. Year 8 are investigating following your musical dreams through the eyes of Jack Black in the movie "The School of Rock".

A small group of Year 10 students are taking part in a composition workshop as part of research Mrs Forsyth and Mrs Copland are doing for their Post Grad Certificates of Digital Technology. Students are building up to composing on Garageband and working collaboratively to then teach other students in the Year 10 music class.

Pictures show Sam Leckie working on Garageband and Kleff Tan, Jared Wilde and Mrs Copland discussing compositional techniques.

The College Jazz band has been practising every Thursday in the lunch hour. Itinerant tutor Alastair Monteath has been working with the band. The Jazz Band will be performing at the



next Cultural Assembly and will be attending Jazz Fest in Invercargill later in the year.

NETBALL



The netball teams have been selected and coaches and/or managers are at present contacting students and parents to organise practices. The season commences on Saturday 8 April and runs through until

approximately the end of August. It is the responsibility of parents to provide transport through to Alexandra each week, or to organise a ride with another parent for their daughter. Each team has been appointed a coach and they will decide who is the best fit for them for a team manager. Please let your daughter's coach know if you are interested in fulfilling this role. Each student will be issued with a playing skirt and top, which is to be washed and returned to the team manager at the end of the season. The cost of the season is Juniors (Year 7 & 8): \$70.00, Seniors (Year 9 - 13): \$90.00. This has increased from last year due to a levy increase from Netball South. The fees can be paid off in increments but **MUST** be paid in full by Friday 19 May 2017. This allows eight weeks to pay for it in full. We have slightly subsidised this through a Cromwell College Netball Club fundraiser, which is to sell chocolate. This will also enable us to provide more opportunities for our coaches, managers and players. Please note that by signing the registration permission form, you are agreeing to the above information and to **uphold the College's policy of good sportsmanship, positive encouragement, a safe environment, and fair play for all sport participants.** The registration form can be collected by students from the school office and needs to be returned to the school office by Friday 7 April 2017. Both students **AND** parents are to sign the form.

ICAS MATHEMATICS TESTING



Welcome to the 2017 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS). For over 30 years, ICAS has taken place annually in schools throughout Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei, the Pacific region and South Africa.

Your child is invited to participate in ICAS in 2017.

ICAS Mathematics provides an opportunity for students at Cromwell College in Years 7 & 8 to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation in Mathematics.

All students receive a certificate and an individual student report indicating which questions they answered correctly and their score compared with the rest of the students tested.

Practice Online is a series of ten interactive online tests available for Mathematics. Each child receives an individual report showing their performance in each area assessed. These can be found at www.ea.unsw.edu.au/icas/preparation

For more information visit the Educational Assessment Australia website at www.eaa.unsw.edu.au or by email at infor@eaa.unsw.edu.au

The entry fee is \$8.50 (extra \$1 for late entries); the competition date is Tuesday, 15 August 2017. Students interested need to see their Mathematics teacher.

Di Ferris - Teacher of Mathematics

Note: information for ICAS English and Science will appear in the next newsletter.

CARDRONA SEASON PASS FORMS

Cardrona Season Pass forms with payment need to be returned by 31 May 2017. Payment is to Cardrona Alpine Resort, not Cromwell College. The Year 7 and 8 price is \$99 per student; Year 9 to 13 price is \$159 per student. A flat rate of \$499 per student applies after 31 May 2017.

Please note: Students participating in the senior snow-sports programme must purchase a season's pass for Cardrona Alpine Resort. Helmets are compulsory.

HOME AND SCHOOL MEETING

Home and School AGM is on Tuesday 4 April 2017 in the meeting room next to the office at 7pm. We would love some new members, in particular from the junior school families.

YEAR 7 & 8 VISION SCREENING



The Vision Hearing Technicians from Population Health, Southern District

Health will be visiting your school to screen all Year Seven and a few Year 8 students for distance vision.

Distance Vision (Amblyopia & Hyperopia)

This determines how well your child is able to see at a distance. It involves reading an eye chart.

(Not required if child wears glasses/ or is currently under care for their vision.)

If you do not wish your child to be screened please fill out an opt-out slip, which are available at the school office before our visit (5 April).



7L completing mystery box observations in Science.

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Goldfields Primary School

Harvest Gala Day

Saturday 8th April from 9am
at Goldfields Primary School

Pet Show, Competitions for the kids, Games, Food
Stalls, Coffee Cart, White Elephant, Craft &
Produce Stalls

Book yourself a stall for just \$20 - email
annalouise.sinnott@alhomes.co.nz



NOTE DATE CHANGE FROM 1 APRIL TO 8 APRIL



Rotary International
Youth Exchange Programme
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WANTED

Rotary Clubs are now seeking applications from motivated secondary school students interested in spending a year overseas as part of this long established, successful educational and cultural exchange. This year, we have added Taiwan as an exchange partner, giving one student the opportunity to become fluent in Mandarin. Students must be aged between 16 and 18 ½ at departure in January 2018. Exchange partners for 2018 are: Sweden, Denmark, France, Switzerland, Austria, Chile and Taiwan. No family Rotary affiliation required. Applications close 30th April 2017. Contact: Merv Clearwater 03 4894234 / 0274339689, email: mervclearwater@xtra.co.nz

HOCKEY

Senior Reserve Hockey training for Y9-13
Starts 3 April 4:15 - 5:30pm at the turf.
All players please attend or contact Viv 027 649 1074.



Most kids now own a smartphone with a built-in camera & WiFi is everywhere

Yes, but 70% of usage is unmonitored & Sexting may fill this void

Up to 1-in-5 kids is now Sexting or has seen a Sext

The consequences for those whose trust is broken can be devastating

Shared images are a terrible form of bullying & can ruin reputations

They can also criminalize the young people who forward such images

What should we do?

Teach our kids to **STOP-&-THINK!**

SelfieCop is a new app that can teach kids safer camera behaviour. SelfieCop reminds kids to Stop-&-Think everytime they take or share a photo. www.selfiecop.com

The Last Time
John Cowan

I walk my dog every morning. This morning I saw a man walking up the street towards me, while his young son skipped and played in front of him on the way to school. He reminded me of another man I used to see often. As he left his house to go to work, his little girl would bellow, "BYE!" from the balcony. The dad would call out "Bye!" back to her, and then she would call out again, "Bye!" and he'd respond "Bye!" and so it would carry on as he walked off down the footpath. "BYE!" "Bye!" "BYE!" "Bye!" back and forth. Delightful. But I haven't seen that happen for a year or more. One morning was the last morning that happened. I wonder if the dad realised that. He probably didn't.

The guy walking with his son was getting closer to me and I thought about my own three kids. My youngest moved out not so long ago and the 27-year-long chapter of having kids at home came to a close. Over in a flash. There was a last time I walked each of them to school. There was a last time I read a bed time story. A last time when one of them would want to hop into bed with us. At the time those events probably seemed like chores and inconveniences. They don't seem like that now.

So I stopped the guy and said. "Excuse me. I just wanted to say, these are the good old days. One day you'll only have a dog to walk up the street. Store it up." He laughed! Then he looked serious and said, "Thank you very much." Maybe he will remember a strange old guy with a dog. But I really hope he remembers now, with his boy, before it all goes. I hope he drives these times deep into his safest store of memories, and takes pictures and writes a diary. Parenting really is the big gig. Treasure it.

Submitted by Sue Lewis - Guidance Counsellor