



South Otago High School

Newsletter 5th June 2020

Nga mihi mahana ki a koutou katoa
Warm greetings to you all

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Kia Ora Tatou

This week sports practices have re-started and it is good to see so many students taking advantage of these opportunities. The sporting fixtures are being confirmed and it appears that most codes are going to have regular sporting fixtures although the season may have some changes to what we would normally expect.

Changes to NCEA

This week NZQA released further details of how the assessment and credits will be managed for 2020 following the disruption due to Covid-19. This is definitely to the students advantage. Details of the changes which apply for this year only are published elsewhere in this newsletter. Senior students are being spoken to about the changes so that they should have all the necessary information. Copies of the details have been e-mailed to all students.

Home Internet connection

I have just been advised that the Ministry of Education is wanting to ensure that every student has a home internet connection through copper, fibre or wireless. As far as I am aware as of the end of the lock down every family had an internet connection of some sort.

If you are reliant solely upon mobile data through a cell phone then you may be eligible for a connection. On Monday students will receive a short survey to be completed in their mentor time. They will be asked the following questions:

- Student surname
- Student first name
- Year level
- Do you have a home internet connection?
(Response is Yes, No or Unsure)
- If you have answered No or Unsure please provide your home address

For any student who does not have an internet connection or is unsure we will contact families to confirm details. This has to be completed by Friday 12 June. If parents want to ensure that they are included in a connection package from the Ministry of Education they can e-mail me directly: principal@sohs.school.nz

Preparing to move to Alert Level 1

Early next week we are expecting to receive details of when the country will be moving to Covid-19 Alert Level 1. So far a lot of the detail about what we can expect as a country has been released and I expect that there will be

specific information for schools. I look forward to returning to a more normal operation of the school and the ability to have some of the activities that had been scheduled whilst in Alert Level 2-4 able to operate.

SNOB

It is very likely that we will be able to have our senior ball and we are currently looking at dates. We realise that students will potentially have a shorter time to prepare but we are keen to provide this valuable social activity to students before they are under increased pressure with completing their studies.

As in previous years we expect that outstanding accounts will be cleared before the sale of SNOB tickets will be available for purchase. Please contact the school office to get an up to date statement of your account.

Up coming events

Parent teacher interviews will be held on Thursday 11 June. Bookings online are currently open. If you have any difficulties please contact the school office for assistance. Open night for new prospective students will now be taking place on Thursday 25 June. Letters will be going to the Primary schools with details next week.

Last week I did indicate that there was to be a Teacher Only Day on 4 August. I have been informed this week that this is now postponed for 2020 and will be rescheduled to 2021. This is to allow for more time for senior students to prepare for NCEA. There will be a Teacher Only Day in November once the NCEA exams are underway. This will only impact Year 9 and 10 students. The date for this day is yet to be confirmed.

Finally

Whilst we expect to move to Alert Level 1 in the near future we are still going to expect that parents keep students who are unwell at home. We have noted that whilst this practice has been in place at school there have been less issues of students becoming unwell with coughs and colds as is the usual issue at this time of year.

Thank you to all parents and members of our community who have helped keep our school and wider community safe during these challenging times.

Ka Kite Ano
Mike Wright
Principal

Parent / Teacher Interviews Thursday 11th June

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday 11th June between 4pm and 8pm. The aim of this round of parent / teacher interviews is to ensure that each student knows how they are progressing in each subject and to set realistic goals for the rest of 2020. I would encourage you to talk to your child about this before the appointment and it is expected that students attend with parents or caregivers.

To book your 5 minute appointments with each teacher please go to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and use the code gs8b2.

To maintain social distancing and avoid having a large gathering of people we will be using the library, D block and the Hall. This means that you will need to move further between appointments than normal so please leave a 5 minute gap between each appointment to allow this to happen.

Nigel Scarth - Deputy Principal

Letter to Parents/Caregiver

5 June 2020

Tēnā koe,

I hope you and your whānau are well.

We know some of our students - and their whānau - are worried that they might not be able to attain NCEA or UE this year, [because of the disruption caused by](#) COVID-19.

To help address this and support students, the following changes are being made to NCEA and University Entrance (UE) requirements for this year:

- Students working towards an NCEA can gain additional credits, based on the number of credits they achieve during the 2020 school year. These additional credits will be known as Learning Recognition credits. For every 5 credits a student achieves towards their NCEA either through internal or external assessment, they are entitled to an additional 1 credit. Students at NCEA Level 1 are eligible for up to a maximum of 10 additional credits while those at Levels 2 and 3 are eligible for up to a maximum of 8 additional credits.
- Students will be awarded a certificate endorsement if they achieve 46 credits at Merit or Excellence level, rather than the usual 50. Students achieving 12 credits at Merit or Excellence level in a course – rather than 14 – will be awarded a course endorsement.
- Current UE requirements have been reduced from 14 to 12 credits in three UE-approved subjects. Students still need to attain NCEA Level 3 and meet literacy and numeracy requirements to be awarded University Entrance.
- External NCEA examinations and NZ Scholarship examinations will now take place from **16 November 2020 to 9 December 2020**. This will provide extra time for teaching, learning and assessment in Term 4.
- The submission date for subjects which require students to submit a portfolio (for example, Design and Visual Communications) has been extended to 12 November 2020, to give students more time to complete their portfolios.

These changes have been designed to encourage students to continue working towards their NCEA and to ensure that the NCEA attained by our rangatahi this school year is just as valid as those earned in previous years.

If you have any queries about the changes, please contact myself: asmith@sohs.school.nz

Ngā mihi,

Amanda Smith
Principal's Nominee

Recording Absences

When informing the school of a student absence please call the school on 4180517 and follow the instructions. Please do not send an email as if a staff member is absent this will not be passed on to our attendance officer and the student will be marked truant.

Girls football

Training began this week and we had 12 eager and positive players turn up. Kudos too to those who could not train but let me know well in advance of that. A reminder that all players and parents should have received an email late last week and need to respond to let me know if they still want to play. It looks like the season will start in week 1 of Term 3 and go for the entire term.

Mike Beeby
TIC Girls Football

Upcoming Events Term 2 2020

- *Thursday 11th June*..... Parent/Teacher Interviews 4 - 8.00pm
- *Thursday 25th June*..... Open Night
- *Friday 3rd July*..... Last Day Term 2

Upcoming Events Term 3 2020

- *Monday 20th July*..... First Day Term 3

Science

Since coming back to (somewhat) normality and being back at school all of my classes have been working very hard. Year 13 Biology have completed their final internal for the year in Biology and we are moving onto our two external topics, which will include a trip to Otago Museum in week 1 term 3 (permission slips coming home soon). My year 11 science class have been preparing for an internal that we will be starting next week and they have been doing some excellent work. Both of my year 9 science classes (9O and 9T) are finishing off their assessment on our solar system this week and we will be moving on to a new topic next week. It is great to be back in the classroom with all of these wonderful students and I am sure I am not alone in saying that it is great to be back in the classroom with them.

I look forward to seeing many parents at parent/teacher interviews next week on the 11th, book in soon as times are filling up fast. If you cannot make it please do not hesitate to contact me by email.

Melissa Murdoch

Teacher of Science and Biology

2IC Science

mmurdoch@sohs.school.nz

Canteen

The canteen reopened this week and it has been a quiet start to the resumption of business. We are asking students to maintain distance while queuing and so far their attitude to this has been positive and respectful. This is much appreciated and we hope it continues.

Students can still use the order form to pre order their food and save waiting time at lunch. We would encourage more students to do this as it will help us prevent wastage. Ordered food can be paid for by eftpos at the time of collection or by online payments.

There have been some ongoing issues regarding online payment for food from the canteen though. A student cannot just use their positive account balance at the school to purchase food. If students or parents do want the payment they make to be for canteen food then they need to ensure that the word canteen and the students name appear on our bank statement.. Any payments made for canteen food are expected to be a minimum of \$20 so it would be good to discuss with your student how long you expect them to make this money last.

We have also had a small number of students order food claiming payment has been made. This puts us in a very awkward position. While we do not want to deny a student food it does put us in a position of vulnerability and creates extra work in chasing up the payment. Parents can assist us with this by making online payments a couple of days in advance or by having their child pay by eftpos instead.

Mike Beeby

TIC Canteen

Below: A farewell dinner for our Mandarin Assistant (MLA) Gong Huijie (Jane) who returns to China in July picture Rosa-Jane Whitcombe (University of Canterbury) Jane, John Douglas.



Updates from Careers

Greg Heller, Otago University Student Liaison will be at SOHS on Monday 22nd June and

Emilie Crossley, Otago Polytechnic Student Liaison will be at SOHS on Tuesday 28th July at 1.30pm to assist students for 2021 course planning. Please contact Mrs Cullen if you would like to meet with either / or both liaisons.

NZ Wide High Virtual Careers Expo

Date: Thursday 18th June: 12-8pm and Friday 19th June: 9-5pm

Like many of you, we are impacted by the cancellation and postponement of Career Expos/School Expos throughout New Zealand because of the COVID-19 pandemic. These cancellations and postponements will result in a significant gap in information for High School students intending to move on to higher study in 2021 and those intent on researching their future study options. To address this vacuum, Media Design School in conjunction with Torrens University Australia, is running a Virtual Careers Expo on 18 and 19 June 2020, the first of its kind in New Zealand.

The New Zealand Expo will enable students to explore future learning pathways via real time interactivity and engagement with tertiary education providers from all regions of New Zealand. We believe the provision of this event will be critical to ensuring that young adults feel confident and supported, despite the uncertainty caused by COVID-19.

Over 40 tertiary education providers are confirmed for this event including all eight New Zealand universities, plus a wide range of polytechnics, Wananga and private tertiary providers. Attendees will enter a virtual 'exhibition hall' and can browse through the participating providers, visiting their virtual stands and engaging in live chats with representatives from each institution.

Just like at a real-life career expo, they will have the opportunity to attend scheduled presentations. Each provider will host a 20-minute webinar session, where attendees can participate in a live Q&A.

This initiative set up by Media Design School has been provided at no cost to the exhibiting education providers or prospective students. [Register Here](#)

No-sweat (Virtual Zoom Session)

Lincoln University are excited to be hosting a series of "No-sweat" information sessions via Zoom to cover everything students need to know regarding Sport Scholarships.

We appreciate that this year has been a tough one for sport, so we have pulled together a panel of key people to help answer all of your burning questions, and provide advice for young athletes looking to take the next step in their sporting careers.

Students will get the chance to hear from our code academy managers, athletes and scholars, as well as key staff from the Lincoln University Sport and Recreation team.

All sessions in the series will run on **Monday evenings at 6pm** for approximately 1 hour.

Students can click here to register now <https://www.lincoln.ac.nz/Schools-parents/schools/liaison-office/>

Any questions please contact Anna Logie Anna.logie@lincoln.ac.nz or 021 270 1474

No-sweat sports sessions

Join an online chat session to find out everything you need to know about Lincoln University Sports Scholarships and how they cater for your code.

Rugby	Monday 8 June
Basketball	Monday 15 June
Netball	Monday 22 June
Hockey	Monday 29 June
Cricket	Monday 6 July
Rowing	Monday 13 July

E-mail grow@lincoln.ac.nz to register now



LINCOLN UNIVERSITY
Sport Scholarship



Virtual Open Day - 17 July 2020

Join us online on July 17, from 4pm to 7pm, at our Virtual Open Day to find out how our qualifications lead to amazing careers, and all about our close connections to New Zealand's thriving food and fibre industries and the awesome opportunities they offer.

We'll tell you about our specialisations, student life, all the support we offer, accommodation on campus, and much more, and you'll be able to ask questions and get real-time answers.

We'll be sharing more details soon, as well as how you can register, so make sure you save the date. It's going to be a great experience that you can have without having to leave home, and share with family and friends.

Date: Friday, 17 July 2020

Time: 4pm to 7pm

Location: Online. More information coming soon!

Pam Cullen
TIC Careers

Virtual Open Day

Friday 17 July
4pm-7pm

Grow your
potential



Basketball Notice for Parents/Caregivers

Subs for teams are listed below:

Junior Boys B \$195

Senior Girls A \$220

Senior Boys Premier \$245

Thank you to parents who have already said they can help with driving the vans. Our season begins before the end of term with Grading for the Premier League.

Please see me if you have any questions.

Thank you

Nisa Hasanbegovic
TIC Basketball

Girls Rugby

This season is finally starting for our girls rugby! Tony Pringle and Daniel Marshall are our coaches this year. We have 26 girls signed up to play with 16 of them Year 9s which is exciting! Practices are starting on Monday 8th of June at our SOHS grounds. There are a few reminders as far as practices go:

- Practice is from 3.30-5.30pm (wet or dry)
- Wash your hands in the new gym before and after practice
- Bring your own Drink Bottles (no sharing)
- Mouthguards must be worn
- Stay at home if you are unwell

Competition Dates:

- Wednesday 24th June - Wed 29th July (7's 4 -week competition)
- Wednesday 5th August - Wednesday 23rd September (15's 7 - week competition). All games are at Logan Park in Dunedin and start at 4.00pm playing two games of 7's per night starting at 4.00pm

Fees:

These are set at \$150.00 this year and includes travel.

SOHS Girls Rugby Team

Keely Hill

Maddie Deacon

Kira Grinton

Leah McLaren

Madeleine O'Malley

Lily Pringle

Jessica Sheppard

Emily Unahi

Luana Valli

Claudia Mardin

Alize Camp

Sam Affleck

Ashlee Anderson

Pam Hannah

Sports Coordinator

Madi Findlay

Latoya Hewitt

Zoe Hyslop

Amber James

Annie Lawrence

Greta Luke

Sydney Marshall

Nervanah McKenzie

Brooke Stratford

Zara Upston

Bailey Wereta-McDiarmid

Georgia Woodward

Netball

Netball in 2020 is going to be different than any other year. Starting on Saturday 27th June in both Dunedin and Balclutha. Things are still a little up in the air with netball as I write this report with netball being an inside sport there are strict rules as far as Covid goes BUT hopefully we will receive news that the country is moving to Alert Level 1 on Monday. Both South Otago Netball Centre and Dunedin Netball Centre would like all netballers to sign up to the IDme tracing website as when you enter the Recreation and Dunedin Centre this will be a requirement even in Level 1. Fees for netball have not been set yet for the season. as soon as I know these I will let you all know. Please keep an eye on on 2020 Netball Facebook page for information regarding netball.

Practices:

- A - Thursday 3.30-5.30pm (Rec Centre)
 - B - Thursday 5.30-7.30pm
 - C - Thursday 3.30-5.30pm
 - Alpha - Tuesday 3.30-5.30pm
 - Beta - Monday lunchtime and 5.00- 6.30pm
 - Blue - Thursday 3.30-5.30pm (Rec Centre)
 - Green and Red - Combining Wednesdays 3.30- 4.30pm
- Please be on time
- Bring your own drink bottles
- Wash your hands before and after practice
- Stay at home if you are unwell

Teams:

A

Maddie Deacon
Briana Dent
Kaya Laban
Gemma Johnson
Jade Kyle
Amber Mowat
Cassidy Robertson
Brooke Storer
Sophie Ruffell
Luana Valli
Coach: Truday Cochrane
Manager: Michelle Odelle

B

Olivia Davidson
Jade Field
Mack Maaka
Lily Pringle
Keeley Puna
Holly Storer
Kasey Valli
Emily Unahi
Brooke Walsh
Anna Clarke
Coach: Cheryl Blair
Manager: Jo Jory

C

Emily Johns
Jessica Sheppard
Ruby Budge
Jessica Davidson
Tayler McLaughlin
Kadys Roy
Leah McLaren
Samantha Cornish
Coach: Lisa Ross

Alpha

Aimee Johnson
Emma Bennett
Latoya Hewitt
Olivia Soper
Sarah Bloxham
Jahnae Palmer
Maddison Beveridge
Lucy Greer
Georgia Milne
Ingrid Scoon
Coaches: Amy Morrison/
Jemaig White

Beta

Devin Thomson
Annie Lawrence
Nataleah Marshall
Emma McKinney
Aaliyah Rooney
Lilly Campbell
AJ Afato
Pinky Promsuwan
Coach: Amy Lawrence

Blue

Imogen Barlow
Zoe Hyslop
Greta Luke
Sydney Marshall
Leah Stephens
Kayley Strachan
Darrian Sutton
Zara Upston
Georgia Woodward
Coaches: Meisha Cochrane/
Samara Soper

Green

Jacklyn Wakeman
Cosine Chacabna
Holly Davidson
Amber James
Emily Smith
Jasmine Van Asperen
Daikoyta Weir
Leticia Cochrane
Coach: Christine Davidson

Red

Sam Affleck
Maddie Bielski
Bella Brown
Paige King
Emily Jenkinson
Millie McNab
Coach: Deborah Ward

Pam Hannah

Sports Co-Ordinator

STREET SMART

Hey Learners, Restricted and Full Licence holders!
A PROGRAMME THAT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE

Street Smart is like no other driving course in New Zealand. You will be behind the wheel right from the start and will learn in a hands-on environment. You can be on your Learners, Restricted or Full License to attend the course.

Ten different stations will put you through your paces with each using hands-on techniques to fine tune your knowledge.

An awesome day combining learning, safety and fun! You will have more confidence and understanding of being safe on our roads.

When: 18 or 19 July 2020

Where: Teretonga Raceway, in Invercargill.

You will bring your own vehicle and your parent/caregiver.

Please go to

www.streetsmart.nz/

to register and learn more about the course.

There are only 30 places per day – you can choose to go Saturday or Sunday but register quickly as they are open to anyone around the Lower South Island so places will be snapped up!

"The Street Smart Programme is something that we believe is hugely important and potentially life-saving."

Greg Murphy - New Zealand motorsport legend and Street Smart Ambassador.

World Vision 40Hour Famine 2020

This year World Vision is raising support for communities in Malawi. Our South Otago High School 40 Hour Famine will be taking place Friday 19 - Sunday 21 June. Next week students will have the chance to sign up at school, or you can go to:

<https://www.worldvision.org.nz/> now! Make sure to link to our South Otago High School team!

Kelly Bensley

TIC 40 Hour Famine

