



# South Otago High School

## Newsletter 12th June 2020

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

### Dear Parents/Caregivers

#### ***Kia Ora Tatou***

The significant news across the country has been the move to Covid-19 Alert Level 1 and removal of the last of the restrictions that were in place. The immediate effect at school was the ability to hold a full school assembly and the plans to resume some of the activities that were not previously possible.

#### **Hygiene**

With the change to Alert Level 1 my first duty was to remind students of the importance of good hygiene practices. I have emphasised that we do have soap, hot water and good drying facilities in all wash areas. We also have good supplies and access to hand sanitiser for students to use. It is now the student's responsibility to use these resources and to promptly inform the office if any of the resources run out during the day so that we can refill dispensers.

We have noted fewer absences with coughs and colds despite the expectation that students who are unwell are to be kept at home. As a school we will continue to ask parents to pick up students who appear unwell during the school day.

#### **Visitors to school**

Whilst parents are able to come to the school office now if you do wish to meet with a member of staff please do call to make an appointment first. All visitors are asked to sign into school and sign out as they depart. We also have the QR code on display

for people who would like to use the NZ Covid Tracer app which we recommend.

#### **Congratulations to Danyon Benington**

Danyon Benington has been accepted on an exchange to Norway later in the year and is looking forward to having a white Christmas. Obviously we are all hoping that the border restrictions both here in New Zealand and Norway will enable Danyon to make the journey. This is a fabulous opportunity and is the result of Danyon taking the initiative to apply after hearing one of the visiting speakers to school talk about the exchange programme. Well done and fingers crossed that you are able to travel later in the year.

#### **Finally**

Last night we held our Term 2 Parent Teacher Interviews and they were very well attended. Thank you to all of those parents who took the time to come in and meet with teachers. We know that it can be challenging to fit appointments in so if you were not able to meet with one or more of your child's teachers please do make contact through, either the school office or by e-mailing them direct to make a time to meet. We know that the support from home is vital for students to achieve and we appreciate the efforts parents make to take an interest in their child's education.

***Ka Kite Ano***  
**Mike Wright**  
**Principal**

### **School Bus Transport Services under Alert Level 1**

School transport services are now back to normal for students.

**Good hygiene practices** are still a priority. Vehicles will continue to be cleaned regularly in accordance with Ministry of Health guidance.

**Accurate bus lists** are kept by the school to enable contact tracing to take place if required.

If parents have any concerns about school bus travel contact John Douglas at South Otago High School. Phone: 4180517 or email [jdouglas@sohs.school.nz](mailto:jdouglas@sohs.school.nz)

### **Upcoming Events Term 2 2020**

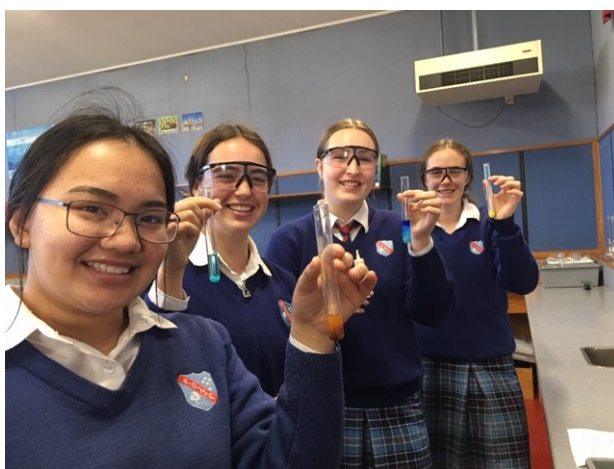
- *Thursday 25th June*..... Open Night
- *Friday 3rd July*..... Last Day Term 2

### **Upcoming Events Term 3 2020**

- *Monday 20th July*..... First Day Term 3
- *Friday 31st July*..... SNOB - Senior Ball

Year 12 Chemists happy to be back in the lab performing class practicals now that we are at level 1 alert. Students testing for coloured cations in unknown solutions- working towards their current level 2 internal

**Shobhana Bir**  
**Science**



### **Library**

This week we have had a nice surprise for the library. One of our teachers completed an Education Hub survey on what they experienced during their lockdown time. The Education Hub is a New Zealand based not- for- profit organisation who is dedicated to bridging the gap between research and practice in education. Our Library was a winner of one of the prizes of \$500 to spend towards buying good quality educational books for our Library. How very exciting, I am looking forward to sourcing some good quality titles in the near future.

**Katrina Pudney**  
**Librarian**

**Right:** Our staff vs council basketball game was held at lunchtime Thursday. This was a nail biter 'toing and froing' all game but the winners on the day were the STAFF!!!! 18-16. Thanks to Kyle for refereeing this feisty match!



## **Rugby**

Well the long wait for the First XV is over. The wider First XV squad started training in February with every boy wanting to make it into the SOHS First XV. After an extended break due to COVID-19 the team has been selected. Congratulations to the following boys who are in the South Otago High School First XV for the 2020 season - Tate Colley, William Casey, Callum Craik, Blake Dodds, Fyn Edwards, Zayde Francis, Morgan Greer, Lewis Hill, Nathan Hutton, Lane Illing, AJ Kell, Callum Maze, Kael Merrett, JD McLeod, Dylan Noble, Connor Phillips, Dallas Pickering, Connor Roy, Lachie Roy, Lachie Shanks, Ben Smart, Tom Stephens, Sam Stratford, Ryan Soper, Kobe Thomson and Ben Witt. On Thursday evening, the boys met with Allan Thompson who spoke around the recent rule changes. This was also a chance for the coaches to announce the new leadership squad for the 2020 season. Congratulations to Kael Merrett, Kobe Thomson (co-captain), Fyn Edwards (co-captain) and Zayde Francis who has been named captain.

We are still after a medic and a manager for the South Otago High School First XV. If this sounds like you, or you would like more information, please contact Craig Shanks (027 444 6337) or Clark Stephens (027 414 6778). The First XV has their first XV game tomorrow against the Combined Co-Ed team. This game will be played at Taieri College, kick off at 12.00pm. Please note that as this is a pre-season game, players will be required to pay \$10 at the bus stop. We have spare seats available for any supporters who would like to travel with us.

Next weekend rugby kicks off for all grades. At this stage the draw looks like the following, however, please note that this may change.

- SOHS First XV vs OBHS #2 - 1.00pm (Dunedin) - BUS LEAVING AT 10.30AM
- SOHS Colts vs Cromwell - 11.15am (Cromwell) - BUS LEAVING AT 7.00AM
- SOHS U15 vs Taieri Colts - 11.15am (SOHS #1)
- SOHS U14 Blue vs Taieri U14 - 11.15am (SOHS #2)
- SOHS U14 Red vs Cromwell - 11.15am (Cromwell) - BUS LEAVING AT 7.00AM WITH COLTS

I would like to remind all players that if you are unable to make training or games it is very important that you contact your coach and tell them that this is the case.

- First XV: Clark (027 4146778) Craig (027 444 6337)
- Colts: Craig - (027 435 6026) Chris (027 444 7172)
- U15: Tony (027 7335750) Nathan (027 804 0592)
- U14 Blue: Tony (021 449 520)
- U14 Red: Adam (0212471852)

South Otago High School is very lucky to have a number of local businesses on board who like to help us out with sponsorship. Thank you very much to East Coast Excavation, who will be sponsoring one set of U14 jerseys for this season. These will be worn by one team while the other team will wear the set sponsored by GD Rural Skills in 2019. We have also gained sponsorship from Balclutha New World, Unifone and Hollows Timber for this season. If you think you may be able to help out with sponsorship or would like to discuss potential options, please feel free to contact me.

Another reminder that subs are due to be paid before the start of Term three (\$140 for First XV players and \$120 for all other players). Please note that travel is built into these subs, hence the increased cost from 2019.

**Jason Palmer (TIC Rugby)**

## **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 to a staff member regarding an absence as this may not be passed on to the attendance officer if the staff member is absent and the student will be marked truant. There must be an explanation given for the absence or the student will be marked truant.



## Updates from Careers

**Greg Heller, Otago University Student Liaison** will be at SOHS on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June and

**Emilie Crossley, Otago Polytechnic Student Liaison** will be at SOHS on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> June: 12-8pm and Friday 19<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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**



***Below:*** The Mandarin Class making Dumplings this morning.

