



# South Otago High School

## Newsletter 2nd July 2020

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

### Dear Parents/Caregivers

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

End of term! Phew!! I have looked back and the first newsletter of the term was on 17 April. It has been a school term like no other! We started by working in isolation in our bubbles. We gradually moved to a partial opening for children of essential workers in Year 9 and 10 on 29 April and eventually a full school opening on 18 May although many of our usual school functions continued to be restricted.

Students missed out on the contact with their friends, we got used to using hand sanitiser as we walked into classrooms, activities and events have been cancelled or postponed. Students have found new ways to learn and teachers have discovered new ways to teach.

We will have continuing changes for this year and beyond. For example there are changes to NCEA for this year only, but students in Years 11 and 12 need to realise that next year we will return to the higher rate of achievement for NCEA L2 and 3 and so it is worth striving for the same number of credits as you would normally have required.

The last few weeks of the term has seen school return to business as usual. We have a heightened awareness of maintaining good standards of hygiene and protecting our health. Students have been out enjoying their sport and travelling within our region for their studies.

Throughout this long and challenging term I have appreciated the positive attitude of staff and students. This is an awesome school and as I said during the open night there is not a day where I do not enjoy coming to work.

I have been so impressed by the way that students have adapted to their new normal and some of the excellent results they have produced and the positive atmosphere about the school wherever I go.

Next term will come round very fast. I expect students to take a break for some of the two weeks. But I also expect them to start to plan for their success in term 3. Last week I recommended that parents talk to their child about the work they have completed and what they need to do next. Please do invest this time in showing interest in their school work. On Tuesday I encouraged students to plan

their leisure time too so that the holidays do not pass them by and they have missed opportunities for leisure and social activities.

#### **Former student's success**

This last week as the first semester of university winds up I have been hearing about former students results. Of three students whose parents have communicated with the school I have heard that all of them have achieved grades from A to A++ and are achieving at an exceptional standard. It is great that we can celebrate this success of our students and show that because you attend a rural high school means that you can be equally well prepared for further study and to continue to perform at a very high standard.

#### **SNOB**

The annual senior night of the ball is approaching. I look forward to welcoming students to the event. By now the office should have received SNOB consent form and have the details of outside partners. Students have been reminded of the importance of getting this information into the office. We are still monitoring those students who have outstanding accounts and also those with attendance issues and will be checking in with those students who are a concern at the start of next term.

#### **Planner**

Accompanying this newsletter is an updated planner for this year. We have endeavoured to schedule as many of the postponed activities from the lockdown. Whilst we provide these dates please be aware that there could still be changes and new activities to be confirmed as the year progresses.

#### **Finally**

I encourage all students and staff to enjoy the forthcoming holiday, you have all earned a good break. I will be suggesting to staff that they take a break from e-mails and other work related contact.

Despite the disruptions we have had a very successful term and we have all enjoyed a settled and inclusive term. I look forward to seeing all staff and students returning ready for the third term on Monday 20 July.

Have a good holiday.

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

## Upcoming Events Term 3 2020

- *Monday 20th July*..... First Day Term 3
- *Friday 31st July*..... SNOB - Senior Ball
- *Wednesday 19th August*..... Conference Evening
- *Thursday 20th August*..... Conference Day

### Science

**Below:** Year 10 students solving a murder mystery using forensic science



### Pomahaka Block

Construction work this week saw the deck covering being placed over the new common room deck.



### Small-bore Shooting

Small-bore is back for 2020! We started off this week and will be back next term - Tuesdays 7.30pm. We had a few new faces this week; Alize, Robbie and Jayden all did amazingly well for their first go at this type of shooting. Two students who are continuing on from last year have stepped up a level and are now practicing wearing the full competition gear (called a sling) and did very well. Keep it up Brayden and Felix. I look forward to seeing all the new and returning faces next term - see me with any questions.

**Mrs Murdoch**

**TIC Small-bore shooting**





### Year 11-13 students 'The Art of Learning' Workshop

We are pleased to be able to offer an opportunity for senior students on the 21 August. A workshop is planned to help students with effective study skills as they continue their preparations for NCEA. 'The Art of Learning' is offering a two hour workshop. This is voluntary for senior students. Payment of \$15 is required to the office no later than the 14th of August. Please put your child's name and TAOL as the reference. Students and parents please see the flyer below and go to [www.taol.co.nz](http://www.taol.co.nz) for further information.

**Cath Bloxham**

**Year 13 Dean**

**Guidance Counsellor**



**TAOL** THE ART OF LEARNING  
NEW ZEALAND

 SOUTH OTAGO  
HIGH SCHOOL

# STUDY RESILIENCE WORKSHOP

Rectangular Ship

CONCERNED ABOUT BEING PREPARED FOR NCEA?

Students need every advantage they can get when it comes to preparing for NCEA. This is where we come in! We've been in the resilience business for over 22 years, working with over 250 schools. We know what works!

The Art of Learning specialises in one day resilience courses, focusing on the MOST effective study skills for each individual. Skills like note-taking, time management and most importantly resilience, failing well and mindset. In partnership with your school we have put together a two-hour intensive coaching session for Yr 11 - 13 students, although this isn't the FULL one day course, it has been designed to build resilience and extend individual capability.

Highly interactive and engaging, our course will give your student a mindset supercharge - let us help set them up for success, to get them into the best possible position to actively engage in exam preparation.

We want as many students as possible to benefit so we are offering the 2hr course at just \$15 per student.

---

**When:** Friday 21st August 10am  
**Where:** South Otago High School  
**Who:** Year 11-13 students  
**Cost:** \$15 per student  
**Spaces limited.** Register at the office. Payment by the 14th of August



---

VISIT [WWW.TAOL.CO.NZ](http://WWW.TAOL.CO.NZ) FOR MORE INFO ON WHAT WE OFFER

### **SNOB - 31st July**

We are looking for parents to assist with the meal preparation for the Senior Ball. This is a fundraising activity for the PTA. If you are willing to assist please contact:  
John Douglas 418 0517 (Work) or 418 0016 (Home)

### **Scholarships**

Otago University entrance scholarships opened on the 1st of July. Year 13 students who are planning on attending Otago University next year are encouraged to apply. All parents and students have been sent the link. These scholarships may be deferred for 12 months if students are, for example, taking a gap year before attending University. Students in other senior years may be interested in looking at the information as they make their future plans.

<https://www.otago.ac.nz/future-students/fees-and-scholarships/scholarships/index.html>

All Year 13 students have a google doc of links and information about scholarships and they are encouraged to put themselves forward. Students who are interested in property/infrastructure and construction who may be facing financial or circumstantial limitations that prevent them from achieving their aspirations may be interested in a Keystone Study Award. These provide a scholarship of up to \$5,000 for up to 3 years study.

See [www.keystonetrust.org.nz](http://www.keystonetrust.org.nz) for an application form and further information. Moneyhub also publishes an updated list of scholarship information for students on their website <https://www.moneyhub.co.nz/scholarships-nz.html>. The school holiday break is a good time for students to look at what is on offer and apply for scholarships in their chosen fields of future learning.

**Cath Bloxham**  
**Year 13 Dean**

### **Student Support- Wellbeing**

Since returning to school from lockdown many students have been supporting their well being in a number of ways. At house assemblies early in the term we reminded students of some strategies to support their wellbeing. The Mental Health Foundation model of '5 Ways to Wellbeing' is a useful model.

**Being Active** - Do what you can, enjoy what you do, move your mood- sports and activities are now in full swing and getting involved helps to support student's mental health.

**Connect** - Talk and listen, be there, feel connected- Students have also had the chance to connect again face to face with their friends and staff at school.

**Keep Learning** -Embrace new experiences/see opportunities - For many of our students they have had a busy time with assessments and making plans for work and further study.

**Give** - This term activities like the World Vision 40 hour famine and Rainbow Week have allowed students to give their time, words and presence.

**Take Notice** - Remembering the simple things that give us joy.



There are a number of supports in our wider community for times when we may need some help during holidays and weekends.

- Healthline 0800 611 116 If you are feeling unwell and need advice
- 1737 free text or call a professional counsellor 24/7
- Netsafe 0508Netsafe for help with online concerns, report these online or call for assistance.
- The mental health foundation resources and support for wellbeing <https://www.mentalhealth.org.nz/>
- Youthline 0800 376 633 free text 234 email [talk@youthline.co.nz](mailto:talk@youthline.co.nz)
- Parent helpline- all issues/all ages 7 days a week 0800 568 856

**Nga mihi nui**  
**Cath Bloxham**  
**Guidance Counsellor**



## Girls' Rugby

### *Girls Rugby 7's Results from Wednesday 24th June*

#### **Seniors**

SOHS 0-37 St Hildas 1

SOHS 14-19 St Hildas 2

#### **Junior Chiefs**

SOHS 0-36 St Hildas Blue

SOHS 15-29 Queens A

#### **Junior Crusaders**

SOHS 19-21 St Hildas White

SOHS 49-0 Columba Green

Unfortunately Wednesday night games were cancelled as the DCC had closed all of their grounds. We play 7s for two weeks in term 3 then move onto the 15s. On Monday night at training we had Ilish Doyle from Otago Rugby come to visit and do some drills with the girls. Thanks to Tony for arranging this and also for the BBQ afterwards. Enjoy the break girls and see you in term 3 ready to hit the fields

**Pam Hannah**

**Sports coordinator**



## Netball

### **RESULT from Saturday 27th June**

SOHS A 46-27 Hillend A

SOHS B 40-11 SOHS Alpha

SOHS C 17-33 Lawrence B

SOHS Beta 26-10 SOHS Red

SOHS Blue 19-31 Balclutha Motors

SOHS Green 36-4 SO Invitation Team

### **Draw for Saturday 4th July**

SOHS A vs Redwyns 2.00pm Court 3

SOHS B vs Johnstone

Electrical 1.00pm Court 2

SOHS C vs SOHS Blue 2.00pm Court 4

SOHS Alpha vs Notlim Nets 2.00pm Court 2

SOHS Beta vs SO Invitation

Team 12.00pm Court 4

SOHS Blue vs SOHS C 2.00pm Court 4

SOHS Green vs Toko Gold 1.00pm Court 5

SOHS Red vs Catlins Area 2.00pm Court 5

SOHS A vs Markham Blue 10.45am Court 3 (Arena) in Dunedin

Clean Up Duty - SOHS Blue

Thanks again to our coaches, managers, medics, score keepers and spectators, without you all there to support our girls, netball wouldn't happen. I did manage to capture a few photos on Saturday I especially love the Mum (Heidi) and Daughter (Sydney) pic who played each other - Mums teams coming away with the win 31-19.

**Pam Hannah**

**Sports Coordinator**



## Report on World Vision 40 Hour Famine

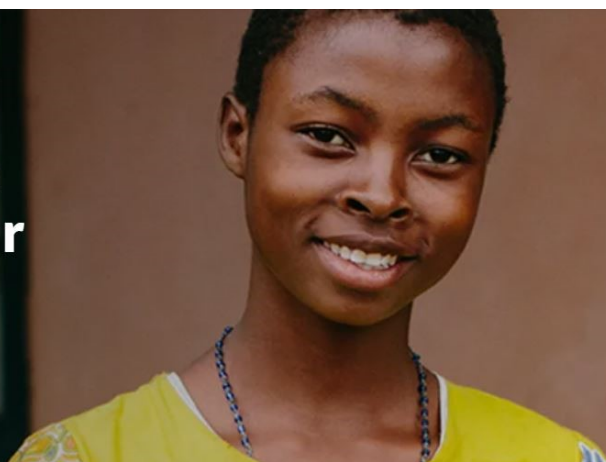
On Friday 19th to Sunday 21st of June, 14 students took on the 40 Hour Famine challenge. The World Vision 40 Hour Famine is New Zealand's largest youth fundraising event. Every year since 1975, hundreds of thousands of young Kiwis have taken a stand through a 40 Hour Challenge to raise money and bring hope to thousands of children living in poverty in more than 40 countries. This year, our SOHS students have managed to raise a whopping total of \$2,445.64! These funds will go towards the communities of Malawi who are fighting against hunger and injustice. Awesome effort to superstar Carla Jessop who has raised \$1,060! Thanks to everyone who donated to these participants, and for Mrs Bensley for leading the 40 Hour Famine team.

Cheers,

**Carla Jessop and James Briones**



## South Otago High School for 40 Hour Famine 2020



Goal

**\$2,000.00**

Raised

**\$2,445.64**

Join this team

Give now

**Spread the word**

Share this fundraising page online.



\$0.00

\$2,445.64

This page was created on 25 May 2020 and is due to end on 30 Sep 2020.



## Updates from Careers

### **Southern Institute of Technology**

**Study ONLINE with SIT2LRN Distance Learning!** Live chat with our Team for the SIT2LRN Online Open Night and get all of your questions about SIT2LRN answered.

**WHEN: 29 JUNE 2020**

**TIME: 5:00PM - 7:00PM**

Find out about Distance Learning, explore our wide range of NZQA approved programmes and let us help you find a programme that's right for you. We'll have a live chat running with the team so you can talk directly to the people who will be supporting you during your studies.

Register at <https://www.sit.ac.nz/SIT2LRN-Open-Night>

### **University of Otago Virtual Open Day**

Date: Thursday 23 July 2020, 3:30–7:30pm

Can't make it to Dunedin to see the University in-person? Our Virtual Open Day allows you to explore all that Otago has to offer right from your computer. Step into our virtual expo hall and access all the information you need to know about studying at Otago

There will be a registration required for the virtual open day. This link will be posted on our website when available.

### **Dunedin On-Campus Open Day**

**(Otago University & Otago Polytech)**

Date: Monday 10 August 2020 9 – 3.30pm\*

On-Campus Open Day is your opportunity to come down to Dunedin, check out the University, explore Otago Polytech and to discover for yourself what life is like as a student in Dunedin:

- Take a campus tour
- Tour our residential colleges
- Check out presentations about a wide range of subjects offered at Otago
- Talk with staff from across the University at the Expo

\*Please be aware that the On-Campus Open Day will only go ahead if the Government Alert Levels will allow us to proceed in August.

### **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 her.

**Pam Cullen**  
**TIC Careers**

# Virtual Open Day

Friday 17 July  
4pm–7pm

**Grow your  
potential**



# Rainbow Pride Day 26th June 2020

