



South Otago High School

Newsletter 31st July 2020

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

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Kia Ora Tatou

As the end of the second week of the term draws to a close the last holidays seem like a distant memory. This week it has been good to see students and staff back in the school routine with students engaged with their studies. Another highlight of the week has been students participating in sports and other extra curricular activities.

Participation in co-curricular activities

At South Otago High School we are very fortunate to have so many staff who give of their time to plan and organise for student participation in sport. In addition we have very loyal parents and members of our community who give of their own time freely and without reward.

Data shows that South Otago High School has student participation which is comparable or better to other schools of a similar nature. We have a number of students who represent the schools in a variety of codes and we encourage all students to participate in some form of extra curricular activity.

Participation promotes student well being, develops team work and communications skills and is an opportunity for young people to make new friends. Whilst not the core business of education it is invaluable to young peoples development and growth.

However, schools cannot cover costs for student participation in these extra curricular activities. Whilst we endeavour to support students where there is genuine need, the participation does need to be self financing. This does mean that we rely upon parents to pay for their child's transport and participation in events such as tournament week. Without that support we will not be able to continue to provide these opportunities.

We also expect that students will be good ambassadors for the school. As such we will look at their conduct in school. We expect students to prioritise their learning and accept that participation in extra curricular is an EXTRA and not a right.

SNOB

Tonight is the SNOB and I hope that parents and whanau will take the time to come and see the students arrive at this event. Students will be arriving at the Balclutha Memorial Hall rear entrance between 7 and 8pm tonight. Typically we have a wide range of vehicles, which look superb, arriving to drop guests who then proceed up the red carpet.

We have high expectations for student behaviour and also for any guests from other schools. The school is responsible for students from the time when they enter the SNOB to the time that they leave at 11:30pm at which point we expect that parents will have made arrangements to collect their child. Included in this newsletter is a copy of the letter which has been sent

home with students on Thursday afternoon for all students who are attending this event.

Year 9 and 12 Parent/ student surveys

Last week Year 9 and 12 students were issued with a survey to be completed by them and their parents. Completed surveys are to be returned to the school office by Friday 14 August. Students/ parents who complete and return the survey do go in the draw for a \$50 Warehouse voucher. We do value your honest feedback and encourage you to complete the survey.

Community Consultation

In the coming months, the Board and I will be organising community consultation meetings. This is an opportunity for parents and whanau to meet with myself and board members to discuss what we are doing at school and areas for development. The feedback and information from parents and whanau is important and informs the development of the strategic plan for the next three years. Details of the community consultation meetings will be published in future newsletters and I encourage all parents to come along and participate in one of the meetings.

Pomahaka upgrade

Cook Brothers who are the building contractors have been doing excellent work to complete the re-model of the first half of the Pomahaka Block and have maintained their deadlines despite the delays due to the lockdown. Staff and some students have had the opportunity at various times to visit the work site to provide input into the decisions for furniture and colour scheme. We are now nearing the end of stage one of the project and I am expecting that we will be moving back into the building during the week beginning 17 August. I look forward to sharing pictures of the new facilities in future newsletters.

Finally

Whilst New Zealand remains Covid free we have reasons to be optimistic about our future. As a school we continue to expect students to maintain high levels of personal hygiene particularly after using the toilet, prior to consuming food and drink or preparation of meals etc. We continue to ensure that there is hot water and soap in all wash facilities as well as hand sanitiser available for staff and student use.

As a school we request that you continue to keep students who appear unwell at home. We are seeing the benefit of fewer incidences of illness within school this year. This is leading to less absence due to students being unwell and greater access to classroom learning for our students and staff. I thank parents for the vigilance and support which is having a benefit for our community.

Ka Kite Ano
Mike Wright
Principal



SOUTH OTAGO HIGH SCHOOL

30 July 2020

Dear Parent/ Caregiver

Despite the pandemic I am happy to report that the final preparations are now underway for the South Otago High School senior ball, the SNOB. Today I spoke to all Year 12 and 13 students about my expectations for students and their guests.

For many students, this will be the highlight of the school social calendar. The SNOB also has a reputation of being a great event in the region with both students, staff and guests having a very enjoyable night.

Tomorrow night the doors will open at the 7.00pm and close at 7.45pm. As in previous years there will be no admittance after 8pm with the event concluding at 11:30pm. As this is a school event all normal school rules will apply.

South Otago High School has allowed students to invite outside partners and continues to support this tradition. We do make every effort to check the suitability of outside partners.

As this is a school event, South Otago High School are responsible for the welfare of students from the time that they enter the venue until they leave. Any student found to be in possession or under the influence of drugs or alcohol will not be allowed to stay at the ball. The consequence for any student will be that parents/ caregivers will be contacted to collect the student and the student may face disciplinary action. Similarly, any student who arrives affected by either drugs or alcohol will not be admitted to the event.

This year, the school reserves the right to breath test students and guests upon entry into the event. If a guest is found to have been drinking they will also be asked to leave with their student partner. For students bringing outside guests to the SNOB, it is the student who needs to make sure that their guests will be able to comply with these requirements. It is the intention of the school to ensure the safety and well being of all students who attend this event.

Admittance to the SNOB is by named ticket only and these have been issued this afternoon. Students and guests will not be permitted to leave the SNOB prior to the event concluding at 11:30pm unless parents have made prior contact with the Principal or Deputy Principal to provide a valid reason.

As this is a school endorsed social event we strongly discourage pre ball functions. We would like to remind parents/ caregivers that the conduct of students before and after the ball is not the responsibility of the school.

We expect that parents will make arrangements to collect students at the conclusion of the school event. South Otago High School nor the Police endorse any after ball function where alcohol may be available. Students who attend such events are the responsibility of the adults who are supervising this event and the students own parents. The school has absolutely no part in the organisation and supervision of any after ball function.

We look forward to an enjoyable and sociable event and hope that this serves as a memorable night for all students.

Yours sincerely

MT Wright
Principal

'THETA' Health Presentations and Workshops for Year 10

On Wednesday 5th August The THETA in Health Education Trust will be in school giving a 50 minute presentation and then a follow up 50 minute workshop to all Year 10 students. Originally this event was scheduled for Term 1 however got cancelled due to Covid-19. This presentation is titled 'Sexwise' and is free of charge for our students, as it is supported by the Ministry of Health. The goal of this programme is to challenge and motivate youth to discuss, process and evaluate behaviours that affect their health and that of others, with reference to current and accurate information.

The educational objectives of the programme include:

- Promote healthy relationships.
- Identify and discuss the risks, influences and pressures relating to sexual health including informed consent and unintended pregnancy.
- Examine and challenge attitudes that reinforce stereotypes, homophobia, and all types of discrimination.
- Acknowledges and affirms sexual diversity.
- Affirms the delay of sexual activity and considers abstinence as an option.
- Encourages the practice of safer sex including practical information about sexual health services.
- Provide accurate information on STIs (sexually transmitted infections), their transmission, symptoms and prevention.

The Sexwise performance and workshop aims to initiate student recognition of, and discussion about:

- Problem solving and strategies to deal with wellbeing, related to sexual activity.
- Social interactions: friendships; building relationships; sexual attraction, influences and pressures.
- Risks and challenges; informed decision-making; safer sexual practices.
- Issues of self-worth and empowerment, individuality and accepting responsibility.
- Attitudes and stereotypes; tolerance and prejudice; diversity and sexual orientation.
- Rights and responsibilities; ethical issues.
- Health services and student support.

Programme Timetable

All Year 10 attend the first session as a group and then throughout the day students will attend a 50 minute workshop with their usual class. Please note your student may have been scheduled to be swimming during their allotted time - their Health and PE teacher will speak to them about this change, but if they will not be required to bring their swimming equipment on this day if their class would usually be swimming.

Times	Group Attending
Period 1	All of Year 10 Performance in Hall
Period 2	10P
Period 3	10T
Period 4	10U
Period 5	10O

If you have any further questions regarding this programme please contact me. **If you do not wish your child to attend the programme, please let me know prior to the 3rd of August so I can make alternative arrangements for your child.**

Hannah Gold

hgold@sohs.school.nz

03 418 0517 ext 263

Re-establishment of SOHS Calf Scheme

As part of our SOHS local fundraising efforts the BOT would like to re-establish our previous fundraising cattle scheme.

We are looking for any farmers who would be willing to donate grazing to finish cattle – If you would be willing to help us out with this please contact Bronwyn Campbell 027 208 4115

Bronwyn Campbell

BOT Parent Representative

SOHS Swimming Sports Results 2020

UN 14 Girls-25m Free
Jordan Atkins-Coutts 26.11
Alize Camp 27.31

UN 14 Boys- 25m Free
Archie Smith 18.17
Harlin Puna 19.50
William Maze 19.70

UN 15 Girls- 25m Free
Sarah Bloxham 16.15
Bridee Lumb 17.45
Emma Bennett 18.15

UN 15 Boys- 25m Free
Nicholas Roy 15.19
Koen Robson 17.22

UN 16 Girls- 25m Free
Kasey Valli 17.54
Lily Pringle 17.84
Jess Sheppard 18.65

Senior Girls - 25m Free
Christina Ware 19.08
Senior Boys- 25m Free
Lachlan Roy 14.50
Jack Murray 16.05

UN 14 Girls- 50m Free
Jessie O'Hara 32.80
Sam Affleck 42.90
Jordan Atkin-Coutts 54.36
UN 14 Boys- 50m Free
Archie Smith 48.40

UN 15 Girls- 50m Free
Sarah Bloxham 38.10
Crystal Bellaney 41.95
Emma Bennett 42.45
Un 15 Boys- 50m Free
Nicholas Roy 31.25
Koen Robson 38.37

UN 16 Girls- 50m Free
Kasey Valli 40.75
Lily Pringle 42.48
Jess Sheppard 42.72

Senior Girls 50m Free
Cassidy Robertson 32.58
Christina Ware 47.10
Senior Boys 50m Free
Lachlan Roy 32.30
Jack Murray 36.75

UN 14 Boys- 25m Back
Archie Smith 23.64

UN 15 Girls- 25m Back
Sarah Bloxham 19.41
Bridee Lumb 19.47
Emma Bennett 21.23
UN 15 Boys- 25m Back
Nicholas Roy 17.73

UN 16 Girls-25m Back
Kasey Valli 20.59
Lily Pringle 21.45
Jess Sheppard 22.81

Senior Girls 25m Back
Cassidy Robertson 16.44
Senior Boys 25m Back
Lachlan Roy 17.50
Jack Murray 19.38

UN 14 Girls 50m Back
Jessie O'Hara 41.65
Jordan Atkin-Coutts 1.15.90
UN 14 Boys 50m Back
Archie Smith

UN 15 Girls 50m Back
Sarah Bloxham 46.01
Emma Bennett 50.56
Aimee Johnson 54.57
UN 15 Boys 50m Back
Nicholas Roy 39.22

UN 16 Girls 50m Back
Kasey Valli 48.06
Lily Pringle 52.40
Jess Sheppard 53.75

Senior Girls 50m Back
Cassidy Robertson 37.38
Christina Ware 58.97
Senior Boys 50m Back
Lachlan Roy 40.34
Jack Murray 44.75

UN 14 Boys 25 Breast
William Maze 26.03
Archie Smith 30.03
Jesse Willis 44.00

UN 15 Girls 25 Breast
Sarah Bloxham 25.75
Crystal Bellaney 29.50
Bridee Lumb 29.80
UN 15 Boys 25 Breast
Nicholas Roy 25.29

Senior Boys 25m Breast
Lachlan Roy 22.72

UN 14 Girls 50 Breast
Jessie O'Hara 51.13
Sam Affleck 1.03.90
Jordan Atkin-Coutts 1.25.81

UN 14 Boys 50m Breast
William Maze 55.07
Archie Smith 1.03.82
Jesse Willis 1.29.80

UN 15 Girls 50m Breast
Sarah Bloxham 1.03.00
Aimee Johnson 1.12.19
Emma Bennett 1.12.71

UN 16 Girls 50m Breast
Kasey Valli 57.16

UN 15 Girls 25m Butterfly
Sarah Bloxham 20.13
UN 15 Boys 25m Butterfly
Nicholas Roy 16.23

Senior Girls 25m Butterfly
Cassidy Robertson 15.37
Senior Boys 25m Butterfly
Lachlan Roy 16.05

UN 14 Girls 50m Butterfly
Jessie O'Hara 41.60

UN 15 Boys 50m Butterfly
Nicholas Roy 40.15

Senior Boys 50m Butterfly
Lachlan Roy 36.49

HOUSE POINTS

Sutherland 77

Blaikie 74

McDonald 39

Somerville 22



Small Bore Rifle Shooting

Small-bore shooting is well underway this term, with many students moving up from the 'rest' level (using a support to hold the rifle) to the competition level of using a sling. A sling is worn with a movement restricting jacket and a sling that attaches directly from the jacket at the competitors upper arm to the rifle stock, which supports the full weight of the rifle. It is a significant step up in skill level and accuracy required - all students who are at this level now are doing well to improve their scores each time.

We will be participating in the inter-school competition again this year by posting in some competition cards for the rest section and for the first time in the sling section of the competition.

Picture shows Faith Batt, Brayden Ferguson and Felix McKenzie-Woods wearing their competition gear.

Melissa Murdoch

TIC Small-bore shooting



World Vision Award and Presentation

Last term our school took part in the World Vision 40 Hour Famine. Our fabulous World Vision leaders organised some great fundraising activities including a Lap-a-thon and a bake sale. Our lap-a-thon saw 99 students and staff members walk/run 4 laps completing more than 100km in total! All of our students' hard work saw us fundraise a record total for SOHS of \$5089.64! Wow! This is an amazing achievement. World Vision decided to award our school their Auahatanga Most Creative Fundraising Award to recognise the variety of fundraising activities we undertook. On Wednesday at Assembly Jess McLennan a World Vision Youth Ambassador presented this award to Mr McDowall and Mrs Bensley along with certificates and bracelets to each 40 Hour Famine participant and badges to our student leadership team. Our fundraising means that World Vision can set up a school garden in a school in Malawi to help train children in effective farming techniques. Along with this they can provide 24 subsistence farmers with drought-resistant grain seeds and advice on farming techniques. This will allow them to not only feed their families, but also help provide education for their children and break the cycle of poverty. What an amazing accomplishment to be able to impact so many lives! Great work to all those who participated and a huge thank you to our student leaders.

Kelly Bensley

TIC World Vision



Rugby

Hi team, last weekend we had all five teams play away games. The First XV took on St Kevins in a tough battle at Milton. The visitors came out the victors 59-29. The Colts and U14 Blue team travelled to Dunedin, however, both teams lost their games. The U14 blue went down 55-5 to Waitaki Boys while the Colts lost 19-29 to OBHS. There was a big score line in the U15 game where Mt Aspiring took the win 85-0. Our only winning team this weekend was the U14 Reds who had a 59-17 win over Mt Aspiring.

This Saturday we have two away games and three at school. Please see the draw below as well as transport notes.

Colts vs OBHS - SOHS #2 (11.15am) - **OLD GYM**

The Colts will need to use the changing rooms and then remove their gear as the U15 team will be coming in after them to get changed. They will still have access to the gym showers/changing rooms after the game. Craig is putting a BBQ on for both Colts teams.

First XV vs Wakatipu - SOHS #1 (1.00pm) - **NEW GYM**

U15 vs Wakatipu - SOHS #2 (1.00pm) - **OLD GYM**

The U15's will need to use the changing rooms and then remove their gear as the Colts team will be coming in after them to get changed. They will still have access to the gym showers/changing rooms after the game. It is important that both the U15 team and the First XV team bring a plate for the after function. Please drop this in the hall kitchen (you can access it via the blue back door next to the canteen).

SOHS U14 Red vs Dunstan - Dunstan HS #2 (11.15am)

This team will be carpooling to Alexandra.

SOHS U14 Blue vs KV/Kava - Kettle Park #2 (11.15am)

Vans will leave SOHS at 9.00am. They will pick up Toko students outside Toko HS at approximately 9.20am. Tony Mallon has sorted drivers for this trip.

**Jason Palmer
TIC Rugby**

Upcoming Events Term 3 2020

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|--|----------------------------|
| • <i>Wednesday 19th August</i> | Conference Evening |
| • <i>Thursday 20th August</i> | Conference Day |
| • <i>Wednesday 26th August</i> | NCEA Option Evening |
| • <i>Monday 31st August - Friday 4th September</i> | Tournament Week |
| • <i>Tuesday 15th September</i> | Sports and Cultural Photos |
| • <i>Friday 25th September</i> | Last Day Term 3 |

Girls' Football

Our first eleven girls football team drew 2-2 with Queens High School yesterday. Our opposition attacked our goal for most of the half and put us under a large amount of pressure. Great work from Caitlin Scherp in goal kept us in the game and we scored first against the run of play. A mazy dribble from Olivia Stewart only ended when she was chopped down in the penalty area. She calmly got up and slotted the penalty home leaving the opposition keeper with no chance. We were possibly a little lucky to enter tied up at halftime but we had still created some chances as well. .

The second half was a different story. Despite conceding an early goal to go 2-1 down we controlled the game a lot better and spent more time on attack. Abby Stewart managed to take advantage of a poor clearance from a corner to score our second goal with about 15 minutes to spare. Despite some really good pressure though we were just not able to score a final goal but the girls can be very happy with the result. To turn around their first half performance and not lose heart after the early goal in the second half showed some real courage and determination.

Player of the day for us was Caitlin in goal but I do want to make mention of three players who are new to the team this year. Nikita White and Sophie Hunter who are both fairly new to football both had strong games with Sophie's strong attacking running and Nikita's tackling in defense making it look like they'd been in the team for years. Bridee Lumb's tackling and ability to win the ball in the midfield led to our second goal and her positioning on attack will be a real asset when our players can get the ball through to her as well. All three of them made strong contributions today.

Last week saw the team win 5-1 over Bayfield High School with goals to Olivia (2), Isla Hastie, Caitlin and Abby. Our seconds had a loss on the turf last week and had a bye this week. It was great to see so many of them come along today and watch the firsts. That sense of camaraderie and support of their peers is admirable and they need to take some credit for our performance today.

Next week sees both teams playing in town.

Mike Beeby

TIC Girls' Football

Hockey

The SOHS 11 a-side had another very competitive game on Tuesday evening against Otago Boys 2nd XI. It was an even contest for much of the first half with most of the play happening in the centre 1/3 of the field. A few chances were created by both teams, OBs eventually scoring from a penalty corner with a bit of a defensive mix up from SOHS. Coming out of halftime we knew we were well in the game and really started to control the play with some excellent use of lateral passing helping open up the field. SOHS dominated the second half but unfortunately the goals again eluded us. Final score 0-1. It was an excellent game by the defensive unit and one of the keys to this, Danyon Benington, took home the player of the day award.

The SOHS 6 aside stepped up to play against Kings Juniors on Tuesday night. SOHS managed to hold Kings to a slight lead at half time, and managed to keep possession of the ball for the majority of the game, as well as showing how they have been practicing their PC's, with at least 5 PC's awarded and successfully played. However, Kings experienced players won out in the end with a Kings Junior win. Both Wyatt and Shaun scored a goal each and Alec was awarded Player of the Day for his tenacity and strong successful attacks for possession of the ball. The team is showing such great progress and improvement, and each week are playing better and better as a team.

Next Week:

04 August 2020

SOHS 11 a-side vs Toko 1sts 6.40pm Lion Turf leaving SOHS at 4.30pm

SOHS 6 a-side vs OBHS Blue 5.40pm Lion Turf leaving SOHS at 3.30pm

Simon Cullen 11 a-side

Jo Bennett 6 a-side