



# South Otago High School

## Newsletter 14th May 2021

*Nga mihi mahana ki a koutou katoa*

*Warm greetings to you all*

### Dear Parents/Caregivers

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

Whilst for students it may have been a bit of a short week it has been a very full one for the teachers. I would like to thank the community for the support on the teacher only day. I do realise that these days can cause some disruption to routines at home and in some instances create issues with child care.

For the teacher only day, the staff of South Otago High School were joined with staff from The Catlins Area School. The opportunity to share resources and ideas was invaluable. Feedback from staff was that the time made available by the Teacher Accord Settlement did help inform the changes that are being made to NCEA.

#### **NCEA changes**

In the coming weeks the teaching staff will be reviewing our plans for the move to the new standards for NCEA for Year 11 students which will be available for use in 2022 and beyond. This year we have been selected as a trial school for the new Visual Arts standards and I am pleased to report that this is successful and an opportunity for new learning for both staff and students.

#### **Winter sports codes**

Last weekend the winter sports teams got under way and we hosted a mini rugby tournament against Taieri College where we won the inaugural Two Rivers Trophy. I am looking forward to getting out and seeing some of the sports teams competing over the coming weeks and months.

As a reminder for all sports teams we do have expectation with regard to student behaviour and in school attendance in order for students to have the privilege of representing the school.

#### **Pomahaka refurbishment**

During the holidays the school received the last of the new furniture for the Pomahaka Block and during the last two weeks teachers have moving back to teaching in their new spaces. Feedback from both staff and students is that the rooms are far better and it is now a really nice work environment. We are looking forward to showing off these new facilities during our Open Night later this term.

#### **SNOB**

The Senior Night of the Ball (SNOB) is now just a couple of weeks away and plans are progressing well. Thank you to those parents who have cleared outstanding accounts. In the next week I will be meeting with students to clarify arrangements with regard to the change of venue and also our expectations on the night of the event.

#### **Finally**

This week winter has really started with the cold weather and frosty mornings. Once again thank you to those parents who have supported the school by ensuring that students are in the correct uniform.

***Ka kite ano***  
**Mike Wright**  
**Principal**

### **Parent-Teacher Interviews**

We look forward to seeing you at the parent-teacher interviews, which take place 4-8pm, Thursday 10 June. The aim of these interviews is for you to discuss your student's progress with their subject teachers.

Booking link: <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/>

Event Code: a5ksq

**Ngā mihi**

**Amanda Smith**

### **Upcoming Events Term 2 2021**

- |                                       |                                |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Friday 21st May.....                | Pink Shirt Day                 |
| • Friday 28th May.....                | SNOB                           |
| • Monday 7th June.....                | Queen's Birthday School Closed |
| • Thursday 10th June.....             | Parent/Teacher Interviews      |
| • Monday 21st - Friday 25th June..... | GATE Week                      |
| • Wednesday 23rd June.....            | Open Night                     |
| • Friday 9th July.....                | Last Day Term 2                |

## **Ngā Kōrero o Iwi Katea: SOHS Arts & Literary Journal**

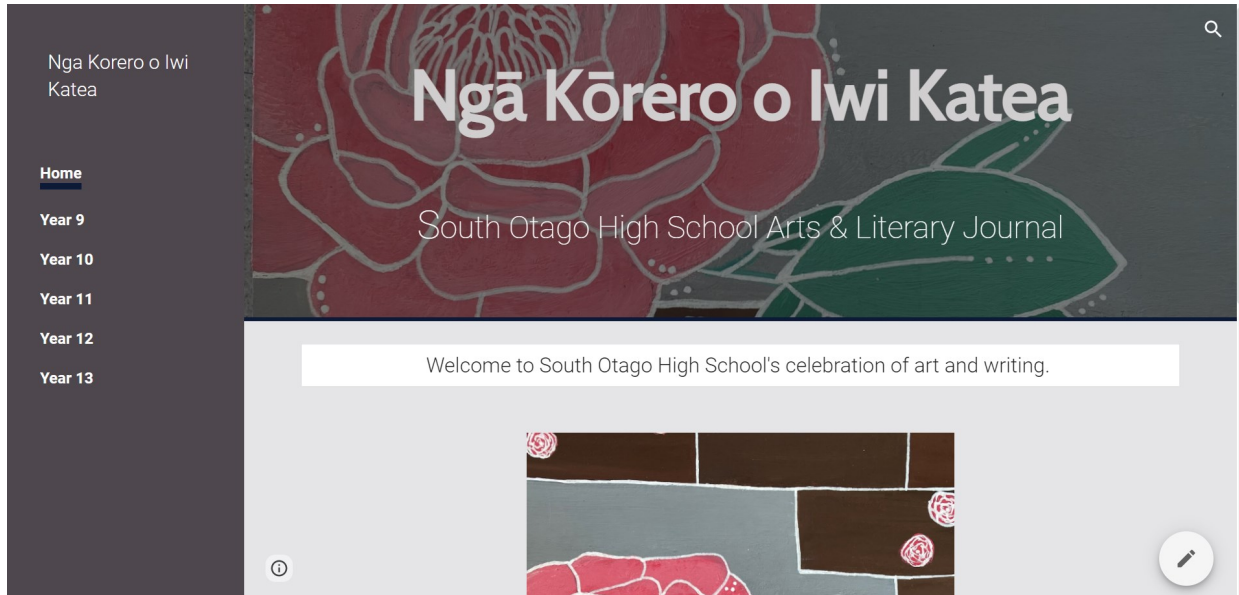
The first iteration of our new online arts and literary journal is now available online: <https://sites.google.com/sohs.school.nz/nga-korero-o-iwi-katea/home>

This journal will be updated every term with writing and art from our students and community. It is organised by year level and each page has a table of contents for easy navigation.

**Ngā mihi**

**Amanda Smith**

**HOD English**



## **Brave Hearts NZ Clutha Support Group**

Brave Hearts NZ Clutha Support Group next meeting is Tuesday the 18th May, 7pm at the Anglican Family Centre, corner of High and Stewart Street Balclutha.

This is a supportive group for family/whanau wanting advice on coping with a loved one's addiction.

Everyone warmly welcomed. For further details message this page, contact Jean on 0273185555 or check out this link <http://www.bravehearts.nz/> (also has details of other meetings that are held across NZ).

Clutha support meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7pm as above.

Attendance numbers have been down so we are wanting to ensure we keep people aware that the group and support is still available.

The Youth Council has submitted to Council for further funding to continue M.A.C (the Methamphetamine Awareness Campaign). If successful it is anticipated this will include a return visit by Amped 4 Life and Brave Hearts NZ.

Thank you for your continued support.

**Jean Proctor**

**Community Development Advisor**

**Clutha District Council**

## **Kia ora Basketball Whānau,**

Subs are now set at \$260 for all teams. Unlike in the past, the senior boys do not have the extra three weeks worth of games.

Thank you for all the support and effort you have put into raising funds and donations to go towards our new uniforms for all of our four teams.

The draw for games comes out on Wednesdays. I will keep you posted. The official start date is Friday 28 May, but we have asked for a bye due to SNOB. Therefore, our games start June 4.

Please help me make sure all team players have mouthguards.

**Ngā mihi**

**Nisa Hasanbegovic**



### Wellbeing: Student Support

Last week Year 13 students listened to a talk by Mr Palmer focussing on fitness. The Year 13 leaders were then encouraged to share this information with other students in, for example, their mentor groups or teams that they may coach or be involved with. Mr Palmer encouraged students to get involved in activities such as the Cross Country coming up this term. Being active is very important for wellbeing. The juniors look up to the seniors as role models they are leaders in our school. One lasting comment that was made was that these seniors could be the one who helps to shape the future of one of our more junior students. They may not even realise the influence that they have.

Coming up next Friday is Pink Shirt Day. Our Wellbeing leaders Hamish Mills and Bree Dent have been helping to promote this day and we have put posters up around the school today. Pink Shirt Day began in Canada in 2007 when two male students took a stand against bullying after another student was harassed and threatened for wearing pink. The boys bought dozens of pink shirts and distributed them throughout the school and hundreds of students showed up in pink the next day. You can imagine how powerful it was when the bullied student walked into school and saw all of his peers decked out in pink to support him.

We ask students to wear an item of pink clothing, one or more to show their support and bring a gold coin on the day that will be collected in period one. This money goes towards a donation to the Mental Health Foundation and this year we are putting together some kindness packs- 10 packs for families in need, sometimes there is a traumatic event for a student/family within our school community and an act of kindness may be something that helps brighten their day a little. There will also be free soup given out next Wednesday at interval to students and staff who would like some.

Pink Shirt Day has spread all over the world to raise awareness of the impact bullying can have on people of all ages, genders and cultures. The day promotes the development of positive relationships and environments where everyone can feel safe. Next week's newsletter will have some photos of this day at school.

Attached to this newsletter is our school bullying policy

Bullying is defined based on four characteristics:

- Bullying is deliberate (there is an intention to cause physical and/or psychological pain or discomfort to another person).
- Bullying involves a power imbalance (there is an actual or perceived unequal relationship between the target and the initiator that may be based on physical size, age, gender, social status or digital capability and access).
- Bullying has an element of repetition (not a one-off. It is repeated over time, with the threat of further incidents leading to fear and anxiety. Repeated acts of bullying may involve single acts with different targets, as well as multiple acts with the same target).
- Bullying is harmful (There is a short or long term physical or psychological harm to the target).

Bullying behaviour is influenced by the actions and values of peer groups, schools, families and whanau, communities and societies. A whole school and community approach is encouraged to positively influence student behaviour. We welcome ideas and input from members of our school community. We encourage students and parents/whanau to speak with us at school where there may be a concern so that we can help to resolve things and support you. We do take complaints seriously. Contact can be made with Mentors/Deans or Members of the Senior Leadership team and we will work with you to record any incidents, investigate and intervene where required to ensure that students feel safe. If you are concerned that your child may be being bullied please do get in touch with us at school.

Deans contacts: Year 9 [dward@sohs.school.nz](mailto:dward@sohs.school.nz) Year 10 [jpalmer@sohs.school.nz](mailto:jpalmer@sohs.school.nz) Year 11 [rdeverson@sohs.school.nz](mailto:rdeverson@sohs.school.nz) Year 12 [jdouglas@sohs.school.nz](mailto:jdouglas@sohs.school.nz) Year 13 [cbloxham@sohs.school.nz](mailto:cbloxham@sohs.school.nz)

**Cath Bloxham**

**Guidance Counsellor**



## Outdoor Education—Abseiling at Tautuku





## Physics of Flight Trip

This Friday we were fortunate enough to take a group of senior students to the South Otago Aero Club to fly in a Cessna 172. The lucky students got to fly over the Nuggets, experience positive and negative g forces and the ones in the front even had the chance to fly the plane under the supervision of our pilot Vince Gardner. We would like to thank Vince Gardner, Israel Winn and the South Otago Aero Club for allowing us this fantastic opportunity.



*Clockwise from top left:* Robbie, Chris, Ryan, Adam, Hamish, Annie, Gemma, Maddie, Kareena and Vince Gardner.

**Chris Sly (TIC)**

## **Netball**

### **Results - Friday 8th May**

- SOHS A (28) - (66) Southern Tui (Dunedin Competition)
- SOHS A (24) - (40) Southern Plumbing
- SOHS B (26) - (15) Alpha

### **Saturday 9th May**

- SOHS C (24) - (11) Blue
- SOHS Bullets (22) - (24) TCAS
- SOHS Beta (14) - (34) Lawrence B
- SOHS Green (19) - (SO Invitational Team)
- SOHS Red (4) - (50) Lawrence C

### **Players of the Day**

- SOHS A - Gemma Johnson
- SOHS B - Nataleah Marshall
- SOHS Alpha - Leah Stephens
- SOHSC - Maddie Beveridge
- SOHS Bullets - Tayler McLaughlan
- SOHS Beta - Millie McNab
- SOHS Blue - Tyla Dodds
- SOHS Green - Jess Allan
- SOHS Red - Elri Geldenhuys

### **Draw - Friday 14th May**

- SOHS A vs Markhams College White @ 12.30 crt 6 (Dunedin Competition)
- SOHS A vs Black Gold Sting @ 7.30pm crt 2
- SOHS B vs Johnstone Electrical @ 6.30pm crt 1
- SOHS Alpha vs (CRFC) Clutha Mac Fr8 @7.30pm crt 1

### **Saturday 15th May**

- SOHS C vs Lawrence A @ 12.00pm crt 3
- SOHS Bullets vs Lawrence B @1.00pm crt 3
- SOHS Beta vs TCAS A @1.00pm crt 1
- SOHS Blue vs Balclutha Motors @ 1.00pm crt 4
- SOHS Green vs Lawrence C @ 1.00pm crt 5
- SOHS Red vs SO Invitational Team @12.00pm crt 2

**Pam Hannah**

**Sports Coordinator**

## **Girls' Football**

The Girls Football competition starts next week though our fists had a game this week to help with grading for the competition.

This year we have 30 girls wanting to play football which is fantastic. It has been great to see the large numbers of new players at Year 9 (6), Year 10 (4) and Year 11 (1) that enables us to keep having two teams.

Our second eleven is being coached by Mrs Penn and will be playing in the second division this year. This is a step up from last year but the competition organisers have made the third division 9 aside and, with having a team of 15 players, this would mean too many players on the sideline each week. It will be a tough season but I have been impressed with them in the preseason so I am hoping this will work. These will be a chance to drop back to nine aside if it is not.

The first eleven will also be playing in the second division again. It is a competition where we have had some very good close games in the past so we will be looking to do very well. Our game last night was against Kavanagh College who have chosen to drop down from the first division this year. They scored two early goals but over the course of the game we became more competitive and even dominated the game at times. With the game drawing to a close Kavanagh scored two late goals to win the game 5-0. It was really good to see our new players contributing well. Special mention of Katie Murray in Year 9 who took on the job of marking their star player and did a really good job of this. Chloe Henderson was also strong in defense and will have a key leadership role there this year.

**Mike Beeby**

**TIC Girls' Football**

## **Rugby**

Thank you to everyone who helped out last weekend with the organisation of the Rivers Cup, It was very much appreciated. Please see the results below.

- U14 - Taieri (5) - SOHS (31)
- Girls - Taieri (15) - SOHS (35)
- Second XV - Taieri (29) - SOHS (42)
- U15 - Taieri U15 (106) - SOHS U14/U15 MIXED (10)
- First XV - Taieri (14) - SOHS (14)

## **OVERALL**

- TAIERI - 8 POINTS
- SOHS - 12 POINTS

While not part of the cup challenge, I think it is important to point out the close loss by the U15A team who played the OBHS top U15 team but unfortunately went down 24-19.

There are so many people to thank for their work today - coaches, managers, medics, parents, supporters, players, photographers, parents helping in the kitchen, referees, AR's (I hope I haven't forgotten anyone).

I would also like to congratulate all of the players who made it into the First XV for the 2021 season. I know that there will be some disappointed players, however, please remember that there are always injuries and you may be called up throughout the season.

This weekend, we have two teams at home and two away.

- First XV vs Taieri – 12.45pm (Mosgiel)
- Colts vs Taieri - 11.15am (Mosgiel)

*The bus for the above two games will leave SOHS at 9.30am. As two teams will be traveling on the bus, it is going to be full. If any parents are travelling up to watch, please let one of the coaches know if you can take players. This bus will pick Tokomairiro players up outside the High School at 9.50am.*

- U15 Blue vs John McGlashan - 11.15am - SOHS #1 (OLD GYM)
- U14 vs Wakatipu - 11.15am - SOHS #2 (OLD GYM)

Due to a burst water pipe, both teams will need to use the old gym.

## **MYRUGBY app**

If you want to see how your team is progressing OR look at upcoming games, download the MYRUGBY app. You can also check out upcoming games by clicking on the following link.

<http://www.orfu.co.nz/COMMUNITY-RUGBY/Secondary-Schools-Rugby/Secondary-School-Boys-1>

**Jason Palmer**

**TIC Rugby**