

At Oxford Area School we are...

▪ **RESPECTFUL** ▪ **CARING**
▪ **RESPONSIBLE** ▪ **POSITIVE**



Newsletter

15th March, 2018

Tēnā koutou katoa, welcome to the Oxford Community,

It has been a very busy start to the school year and who would have thought that we are already in the middle of week 7.

I'd like to thank **Mr Joseph Burston, Miss Kendra Ward and Mrs Julie Evans** for all of their contributions and organisational skills in setting up and running our key start of the year sporting events which included: swimming sports, athletics championships, afternoon sport rotations and the duathlon. Most of these events start at a school level and then progress to a zones level through to provincial level. I would like to also congratulate all the students who participate in these events as well as those who have successfully represented our school at zones and provincial levels.

Each year our school develops an **Annual Plan** which identifies areas to focus on for the year linking back to our Strategic Goals. This year our targeted areas include writing in years 1-10, aspiring the highest qualification for our school leavers, improving attendance rates and most importantly a direct focus on student wellbeing. As we notice increasing numbers of students with anxiety, we have identified a need to further develop every student's understanding of wellbeing and strategies to strengthen what works well for them. As we inquire into this we will share some of our thoughts and findings.

As our **NCEA results** firm up we can confirm our NCEA Level 2 results (predominantly Year 12) and our NCEA Level 3 results came out above the National average at 91.3% and 87%. Our University Entrance results also closely matched the National average. As I mentioned in the previous newsletter our NCEA Level 1 (Year 11) and NCEA Level 2 results for our male students saw a 25-30% increase which is very significant. These are very pleasing results and we aim to continue to improve on this with our students dedicated to their subjects, in small class sizes with teachers that really know them well as a learner.

Early planning meetings have been underway with "**Mars Week**" during the start of term three where we will see **Jen Blank, from NASA**, arriving and spending the week in Oxford. This week will be very exciting and there are plenty of planned surprises for students and community. We look forward to this event which is funded by an "Unlocking Curious Minds" grant.



Mike Hart, Principal
Te Kura o Te Poho Rakahua,
Oxford Area School

Reporting to Parents in Years 1 - 8

With the discontinuation of National Standards we are now **reviewing the way that we report to parents in Years 1 - 8**. From the start of 2018 we will not be reporting at the anniversary of students' time at school in Years 1-3 which was required as part of National Standards. There will reports to parents but we will be collecting parent voice on what they would like to see and from that information we will redesign this process. Please watch our newsletter for updates and ways to have your say.

Europe Trip Raffle Winners

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 1st | Signed Crusader Jersey
Maria Hinz
(ticket number 143) |
| 2nd | Travel Suitcase
Rod Smith
(ticket number 365) |
| 3rd | Paris Bag
Trevor Ealam
(ticket number 206) |
| 4th | Quilted Blanket
Leandra Crawford
(ticket number 362) |

With the Oxford A & P Show happening on Easter Saturday we are showcasing staff's previous successful exhibits along with books to help our young exhibitors with their livestock.
The Library Team

BOT News

Our recent **visit from the Education Review Office (ERO)** was a really positive experience for the Board. It provided us an opportunity to reflect on our school vision and the progress that has been made toward achieving that vision since our last ERO visit in 2014. It also highlighted the importance of effective stewardship in ensuring that each of our students is achieving excellent outcomes.

The Board would like to acknowledge all of those involved in preparing for, and during, this ERO visit. The huge amount of work done by our **senior leadership team must be commended**. They did an amazing job and are fantastic ambassadors for our school. It was evident by the summary at the “initial findings meeting” on the final day of the review, that the senior leadership team had used this visit to have conversations with three very experienced educationalists from ERO, on best practice as part of continual improvement, as well as being able to show them what our school does.

Our **teachers and support staff must also be commended** on their input. They were asked questions about outcomes for our learners, school conditions supporting ongoing improvement in learner outcomes, and our next steps for development and improvement. Thank you for your dedication and passion during this time, as throughout the whole school year.

Some **learning areas were also looked at** during school hours to provide evidence of practices and some students were also interviewed during this time. The Board would like to make mention, and thank you, for your contributions towards this review. You also are fantastic ambassadors for Oxford Area School.

The ERO team evaluates their findings and an **unconfirmed report will be sent to the Board** within the next couple of weeks. We are then asked to note any errors of fact or significant omissions and comment on any other matters related to the findings if needed and then send our response back to ERO. The review report is finalised and on completion sent back to us where after ten working days it can be made public.

We are really **looking forward to bringing you this final report**. This is a great piece of information and tool for us, the Board, and you, the wider community, to understand what’s working and where improvements can be made to reach positive learning outcomes for all of our students here at Oxford Area School.

Matt Riley (BOT Chairperson)

Term One 2018 Calendar

Monday 12 March Y12/13 Maths Camp	Tue 13 March Y12/13 Maths Camp Canterbury SS Athletics preliminaries Y5-8 Duathlon 2 pm	Wed 14 March World Vision Youth Conference: 40 Hour Famine leadership training	Thu 15 March Crash Bash 9am Lawn bowls Y7/8	Fri 16 March
				Sat 17 March Canterbury SS Athletics Finals
Mon 19 March Y12/13 Leadership & Risk Management Camp Canterbury Duathlon BOT Meeting	Tue 20 March Y12/13 Leadership & Risk Management Camp U Drive	Wed 21 March Y12/13 Leadership & Risk Management Camp Y7/8 Musical	Thu 22 March Y12/13 Leadership & Risk Management Camp NCPSSA Swimming Championships	Fri 23 March Year 5-8 Girls North Canterbury Sevens 'Have a go' Day Coin trail for Tonga
Mon 26 March House Meetings 9am Canterbury Duathlon	Tue 27 March U Drive	Wed 28 March	Thu 29 March Mufti day OPL Sea Kayaking	Fri 30 March Good Friday School closed
Mon 2 April Easter Monday School closed	Tue 3 April Easter Tuesday School closed	Wed 4 April Grip Student Leadership Conference U Drive	Thu 5 April Carnival Day/Hangi	Fri 6 April Senior PFA evening Y1-6 Assembly
Mon 9 April Y7/8 Camp (Waipara)	Tue 10 April Y7/8 Camp (Waipara) U Drive Y3/4 Sports Spectacular	Wed 11 April Y7/8 Camp (Waipara) Casafest	Thu 12 April Casafest	Fri 13 April Casafest Anzac Service 2pm End of Term 1 Assembly 9.15 am

(All events and dates may possibly show changes nearer the time). This Term Diary shows only staff commitments and activities which affect students over many classes. For an up to date calendar please access tinyurl.com/oascalendar

UPCOMING EVENTS AND NEWS FROM THE PTA

Meat Raffle – this was an extremely successful fundraiser last time and raised \$9,000. Really good value for just \$5.00 a ticket. Tickets are now available and if you are able to ask spouses/partners to take a book and sell tickets at their work places, this would be really appreciated. If you would like to pick up a book of ten tickets, please phone reception or call in and collect one. Individual tickets can also be purchased at the School Reception. The raffle will be drawn on 6 April 2018.

Oxford A & P Show – not far away now – **31st March**. We have three major fundraisers at the Show.

- (1) **Cake stall - Home Baking** - we would appreciate donations of home baking – cakes, muffins, biscuits, sweets etc. These would need to be dropped at the school by 4 pm on the **Thursday 29 March or Easter Friday (between 3 – 4 pm)** or contact the school if you would like your baking collected. Alternatively, it can be dropped at the cake stall on the morning of the Show.
- (2) **Cake stall – Volunteers** – to lighten the load on everyone, we are asking for volunteers to help man the PTA tent – selling the cakes and meat raffle tickets. We are asking for an hour of your time. Please check your emails for the digital format to enable you to book in your preferred time to help.
- (3) **Car Marshalling** – The PTA gets paid extremely well for manning the carparks from 7 am till about 1 pm. We require about 4 volunteers each hour. If you have older children (16 yr +), why not volunteer as a family for one hour.
Again, check your emails and fill out the digital version which will make it easier to book your space on line. If you prefer to just phone and book in a time, please phone Jane – 021 073 5844.

WANTED : Any old car, tractor, 4wd **BATTERIES** lying about that you have no further need of. WE WANT THEM please!

Contact Jane – 021 073 5844 for pickup and/or to arrange drop-off.

Oxford Area School PTA Meat raffle Tickets \$5 each



URGENT - Home Stays Needed

Oxford Area School are looking for suitable homes in the township or on the school bus route in which to place our incoming International Students

- We require the home to be a safe and warm environment with a welcoming, kind, caring and active family
- Option to host short or long term international students
- Students must have their own room
- Police vetting is mandatory
- A generous weekly payment will be made
- We do our best to match the students' hobbies, interests and personalities to that of our host families

If you are interested or have any questions please contact:

the International Accommodation Coordinator Linda Bradley Ph: 02102919823

Email: international@oxford.school.nz or drop in to the school reception and pick up an application form



Wellington History Trip 2018 ~ Fundraiser

*** Pre-orders only***

Monday 19th March - available from 1.20 p.m. (Years 9 – 13 from 1.40 p.m. please)

Years 1 - 6 - orders to classrooms, Years 7 - 13 - orders to the school office by 1.20 p.m. Friday 16th March

Combo only \$8.00 (Please provide correct cash with your order)

1 x American Hotdog



+

1 x Cookie monster cupcake



+

1 x Juice box



Year 5-8 Swimming Sports

Unfortunately, former Cyclone Gita decided to come through on the two days set aside for this event so was cancelled. Mrs Evans was able to take the Y5/6 2 Length swimmers down to the pool on the Monday prior to the weather change and gain an idea who could swim within the time guides to qualify for Eyre Cluster Championship. The keen Y7/8 swimmers had participated in the Y7-13 Swimming Sports the week before so the times from this event allowed the selection of these students.

Eyre Cluster Team

On Friday the 23rd of February, Julie Evans, supported by parents took a group of 17 children to the Eyre Cluster Swimming Championships, held at Dudley Pool in Rangiora. Many of these children experienced success, making it to the finals and mostly gaining a place in the finals. The children were very supportive of each other and enjoyed their experience.



Back row: Aaliyah Williams, Violette Fernhout, Jero Galway, Micah Stagg, Hayden Webber, Yohan Savry, Riley McKenzie, Blake Taylor, Jonty Glassford
Front row: Eloise Savry, Madeline Eiffe, Sofia Tizzard, Neve Andrews, George Joyner, Samantha-Rose McKenzie, Alexis graham, Emeric Savry

Ten children qualified to represent OAS at the Rakahuri Zone Championships. Congratulations to Emeric Savry, Jero Galway, George Joyner, Alexis Graham, Blake Taylor, Yohann Savry, Eloise Savry, Sofia Tizzard, Micah Stagg and Madeline Eiffe.

Results at Eyre Cluster Swimming

Year 5 Relay	1 st - Emeric, Jero, George J, Alexis
Year 8 Relay	1 st - Yohann, Micah, Madeline, Eloise
Year 5 Freestyle	1 st - Emeric Savry 2 nd - Jero Galway
Year 6 Freestyle	2 nd - Blake Taylor
Year 7 Freestyle	1 st - Yohann Savry
Year 8 Freestyle	1 st - Eloise Savry Qualified - Madeline Eiffe
Year 5 Backstroke	3 rd - Alexis Graham
Year 6 Backstroke	2 nd - Blake Taylor
Year 7 Backstroke	1 st - Yohann Savry
Year 8 Backstroke	2 nd - Sofia Tizzard
Year 5 Breaststroke	1 st - Emeric Savry Qualified – Jero Galway
Year 8 Breaststroke	1 st - Eloise Savry 3 rd = Sofia Tizzard
Butterfly Open	1 st - Eloise Savry 3 rd - Yohann Savry 4 th - Emeric Savry

CHAMPION Tuckshops

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- Enter the number of the hungry learner you would like to send a meal ticket to.
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To send a lunch go to: txtmylunch.co.nz