

## WAIMATE HIGH SCHOOL 2009

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**Principal:** Mrs Janette Packman **Deputy Principal:** Mr Russell Crossan  
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### Useful contacts:

**BOT Chairperson:**

Mr J Begg

**NCEA / NZQA:**

Mr L Robertson

**Year Co-ordinators:**

**13** Mrs K McLachlan

**Pastoral managers:**

**9/10** Mrs T Foster

**Guidance Counsellor:**

Miss J Fisher

**TIC Sports:**

Mrs P Lyall

**Uniform Co-ordinator:**

Mrs J Mehrtens

**Group Teachers:**

**CAK** Miss A Atkinson

**GOT** Mrs T Ottley

**LBR** Mrs R Bell/Mrs J Rodokal

**PTh** Mr J Thompson

**Special needs Co-ordinator:** Mrs S Geaney

**11 & 12** Mr L Robertson

**7/8** Mr M Marquet

**Careers Counsellor:**

Mrs K McLachlan

**Bus Controller:**

Mr L Robertson

**CQU** Miss R Queere

**CCD** Mr B Caird

**GDL** Mrs S Dhillon

**GWT** Mr B Watts

**LDN** Miss T Dollan

**LKM** Mrs K Kilmartin

**PWR** Mrs B Warner

**PYG** Mr M Young

**28 August 2009**

**Newsletter:09:3:6**

**The Principal's word**

Kia ora koutou

I will take this opportunity to respond to the stand down data released by the Ministry of Education yesterday, that was reported in the Timaru Herald and about which I was quoted out of context. I share this information with our families because it is important that you understand this issue fully as it relates to our school.

According to the Ministry 53.9 per 1000 students were stood down in the Waimate District. These figures for the district cover students in the early childhood centres, the nine primary and the secondary school. Stand downs can and do take place at any of these levels. Therefore it is not appropriate to assume that stand downs are only from the high school.

Stand downs are one of a number of options that schools have available when dealing with student misconduct. These decisions are not made lightly and always follow thorough investigation of the incident where all information available is very carefully considered.

Our stand down rate is a reflection of the behaviour standards we set and expect of our students and I make no apology if our standards are higher than other schools. At Waimate High School learning comes first and it is not okay for the poor behaviour of a very few students to impact on the learning of others.

Our school stand down data indicates that a total of 21 students out of our total of 388 in 2008,

received stand downs, some of them more than once. 13 of these students are no longer attending Waimate High School. In most cases they have moved out of the district to live with the other parent. Of these students three of them were also excluded. Two of those students are presently on a Correspondence School programme because the Ministry of Education consider it to be inappropriate for them to be attending a school for safety reasons.

I am uncertain why the Ministry of Education data quoted in the Timaru Herald reported that there were no exclusions for the Waimate district. We know there were three exclusions from the high school in 2008. At the present time I am endeavouring to obtain the stand down and exclusion data that is specific for our school, so it can then be reported accurately.

Senior exams have taken place this week and it has been pleasing to see that most students have shown a serious attitude towards these assessments. They have prepared beforehand and have come along with a positive attitude of wanting to do their best.

This year students were not on study leave between exams. Instead they had their usual scheduled classes and in most cases teachers ran tutorial sessions. We believe this encouraged the students to make better use of their time. I would be interested to hear from parents any feedback you may have about this change.

**Congratulations** to James Morgan on his successes at the Secondary Schools Trapshooting Competition at Alexandra last weekend. James received the Galloway Trophy for first place in the Single Rise and Highest Overall. He received the J

Swan and Co Trophy for first place in the Point Score and Highest Overall and the Dunstan Trophy and Gold Award for Highest Overall. This was an outstanding effort among 80 other shooters in the competition.

Best wishes to our netball girls who will be competing in the South Island Secondary Schools competition in Timaru next week.

Janette Packman  
Principal

### **NCEA Fees**

NCEA fees payments were due today. Invoices were issued by group teachers 3 weeks ago. Please make arrangements to pay on Monday if you have not already done so. Financial Assistance is still available. There are forms at the school office to apply for this.



### **Moto X**

The South Island Secondary School's Motocross Championships were held at Tapanui Saturday 22 August. There were four entrants this year, Brodie Wilton and Todd Aikman, competing in the 14-16 years 250cc 4 stroke and Tom Cochrane and James Morgan in the over 17 years 250cc 4 stroke races.

The team of Tom, James and Brodie were placed fifth in the South Island and the best result for any schools in this region.

### **Trapshooting at Alexandra**

James Morgan, Simon Davis, James McEwan, and Travis Proffitt travelled to the Alexandra Clay Target Club last Sunday, (23<sup>rd</sup> August). 80 Secondary School shooters competed in the Interschool Competition.

James Morgan's and Simon Davis's first event for the day was the Skeet event. James shot a possible (25/25), putting him in the final with 3 other shooters to win Gold (1<sup>st</sup>), and the Dunstan Trophy for the Highest Overall (H.O.A.).

The next event was the Single Rise. Both Travis and James Morgan shot a possible (15/15), and into a shot off with 20 other shooters, James again winning Gold and the Galloway Trophy for H.O.A. Point Score, third event for the day, saw James once again into the final with a possible (60/60), to win this and presented with the J.Swan & Co Ltd Trophy.

### **Miniball prize giving Tuesday 1 September 2009**

The Stadium will open from 3.30pm if anyone wants to come and have shots in the big hoops. Prize giving will start at 4.00pm for all miniball teams. See you all there. Has anyone taken home a miniball ball by mistake, if you have can you bring it back next week thanks.

### **PTA Update**

Thanks to everyone that attended our Maree Hynes night last week. It was a fun night and I am sure everyone enjoyed spending time and money in her shop. We raised just over \$300.00 which will be put to the outdoor tables currently being made by some of our students. Thank you for your support.

A big thank you to Trish and Penny who helped us out at the Cromwell Exchange luncheon recently.

### **Waimate High School Cricket Tour Fundraiser**

Garage Sale Saturday 5 September 9 am at Perry Hall.

### **Arts Tour Fundraising Quiz Night**

Friday 11 September 2009 at Perry Hall at 7pm \$20 per team Limit of 5 people per team. Book your teams place with Mrs Foster or Mrs Kilmartin.

### **Calendar**

**Mon-Thur 31 Aug – 3 Sept** SISS Netball Tourn

**Tues 1 Sept** Yr 9 Ski Trip Dobson

**Wed 2 Sept** Yr 9 Ski Trip Postponement

**Thurs-Fri 3-4 Sept** Yr 8 girls Self Defence &

Yr 8 Boys Personal Skills

**Fri 4 Sept** Nominations Close Student Rep BOT

**Sun-Tues 6-8 Sept** Yr 12/Y13 Trip Queenstown

**Mon-Tues 7-8 Sept** Yr 10 Girls - Keeping Ourselves Safe course

**Thur 10 Sept** Geraldine Exchange

**Sat 12 Sept** SISS Snowsports Mt Dobson

**Mon 14 Sept** Talent Quest Week