



NEWSLETTER #11

11th August 2011

MANIOTOTO AREA SCHOOL

Principal's Perspective

Welcome back to Term 3. A special welcome back to Louis Graham, who has returned from his AFS Spanish Scholarship trip to Argentina. We look forward to Louis informing us of his highlights at our next assembly.

I hope everyone is refreshed after the holidays and ready to put in a big effort this term. A word of warning for our seniors, there are only 52 school days left in the year before the first NCEA exam. If your report last term suggested an improvement in effort is needed, now would be a really good time to start. No excuses, just put your head down and get preparing.

Thanks to everyone who made our inter-house singing competition so successful last term. The standard was exceptional (possibly excluding the staff item!) and it was an excellent reflection on the leadership our seniors showed in getting their houses up to scratch. Congratulations must go to Hamilton's who were named as the winning house by our astute judges Paul Dougherty, Vaughan Dowling and Liz O'Neill.

Giles Graham and Shayne Hughes ventured to Dunedin last week to receive their Otago Daily Times Class Act Awards from our Prime Minister, John Key. Both students represented our school admirably and are worthy recipients of this prestigious award.

The Junior School has finished its ice skating for the year and now their focus turns to Cross Country. Weather permitting this will be held next Wednesday at Wedderburn. Good luck to all the athletes and we are looking forward to sending a strong team to the Otago Championships in Dunedin later on in the term.

On Friday next week we have been asked to provide a Powhiri for the visiting curlers as part of the Winter Games in Naseby. Our Kapa haka tutor, Piripi Gage will lead the ceremony which will involve the entire school. Parents are most welcome to attend and see first hand the advancements our children have made in their Kapa haka skills.

Finally a cynical comment from me on the amount of double page advertisements appearing in the newspaper recently enticing students to particular schools. I understand the competitiveness of education and the need for some schools to spend exorbitant amounts of money to attract more students. We won't be running any big glossy promotions informing everyone how good we are. I don't

see that as a wise use of money. We have a unique school which provides a wealth of opportunities to students of varying interests and abilities. Sometimes big isn't always better. If you would like to discuss the exciting developments taking place in our senior school please pop in and have a chat.

Regards

David Hunter

Principal

NCEA Fees 2011

Information on NCEA fees has been given out to students in Year 11 to 13 and these are to be paid by 26 August 2011.

Students may apply for Financial Assistance and the application form is to be returned to school office by this date also.

Maniototo Area School PTA Meeting

Tuesday 16th August @ 3.15 in the Library

All welcome.

AGENDA

- Chocolate sales, ideas for the left-over unsold chocolate.
- Swings (Miranda)
- Treasurer
- Email addresses
- Equality of teacher representation. re voting
- Teacher requests

Any other items or matters needing to be discussed at the meeting must be in the writing to the secretary by Friday 12 August by 3pm.

Jane Girvan

Secretary

pta@maniototo.school.nz

PTA FUNDRAISING—CHOCOLATE

- Please have chocolate money in asap.
- Some chocolate is still available to sell.

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Rippa Rugby Rivalry

The Otago regions top teams came together to compete in a Rippa Rugby Tournament in Dunedin at Carisbrook on Wednesday 3rd of August. Our year 3 and 4 team played well enough to make the cut. The team included, Will Duffy, Lucy Neilson, Mitchell Duncan, Nikita Blackledge, Charlotte Hutton-Atkins, Will Becker, Christian Napier and Te Ariki Tapatu. Unfortunately due to sickness Hamish Hunter and Jamie Napier were unable to attend. Luckily Tom Duffy and Todd Duncan were able to fill in and help us out!

We trained with our coach Stu Duncan every Wednesday at school. He made us run to the tunnels and back twice! He got us to practice getting in close and getting the rips. Stu also gave us team talks and gave us tactics that we were able to win with.

We were in Pool A and had to play 3 teams. We lost our first game to Balclutha but won our other two games against Outram and Balaclava. We came second in Pool A so we made it to the semi finals.

In the semi finals we had to play the winner of Pool B, which turned out to be Arrowtown Gold. Arrowtown Gold is a very dedicated team that practiced a lot. We played our best and tried really hard but we lost 7-4. In the final Arrowtown beat Balclutha 9-3.

We played to the best of our abilities and had a lot of fun. We got 3rd overall for the Otago region. It was amazing to be able to play at Carisbrook for the last time and we took a little piece of grass with us.

By Lucy Neilson, Mitchell Duncan and Will Duffy



Junior Sports Report

Year 3 /4 Rippa Rugby - Our year 3 /4 Rippa team traveled to Carisbrook last week to play in the Otago wide finals. They ended their season by finishing in 3rd place. A fantastic achievement for the whole team and their coach Stu Duncan. Congratulations to you all.



Note: The referee was ex MAS pupil Kris Miller.

Maniototo wide Athletics coaching programme -

Maniototo Area School is going to host a Maniototo wide Athletics coaching programme beginning in September. It will be held on a Wednesday after school, initially running for 6 weeks until the Maniototo Sports day and then for a further 2 weeks more concentrated training for those kids who are selected to compete at the Otago Athletics Day in Dunedin. It is open to all students (seniors included) and several schools. For those interested in participating please register either in the school office or at the registration table at the Cross Country at Wedderburn next Wednesday.

Maniototo Cross Country - There is still time to squeeze in another couple of training runs before the Inter-school Cross Country at Wedderburn next Wednesday. Here are the approximate distances the children will need to be able to run.

New entrants - 500m

Year 1 /2 - 1km

Year 3 /4 - 1.5kms

Year 5 /6 - 2kms

Year 7 /8 - 2.4kms

Remember to return your permission slips please.

JUNIOR SCHOOL BUZZ



Term Two has got off to a great start in the Junior School. Great to see the children again after the holidays refreshed and eager to get into some learning. A HUGE Thank you to the parents/grandparents who joined us for our winter sports sessions in Naseby. Your help was much appreciated and I know the children enjoyed having you there to show off to!

Congratulations to the Year 3/4 Rippa Rugby team who competed at Carisbrook last week, you all played outstandingly and represented our school proudly. Extra special thank you to Stu Duncan for your superb coaching and commitment to our Rippa Rugby teams.

We have the Cross Country to look forward to on Wednesday, very exciting for the children to be running a new course at Wedderburn. It promises to be a real cross country course with mud and hills! See you all there to support the children.

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HOUSE SINGING CONTEST

On the last day of term 2 we held our first ever 'house' singing contest. Each house group had to perform their song in front of the rest of the school and other audience members.

They had to sing a compulsory song and then a song of their own choice. The singing contest was judged by Vaughan Dowling, Liz O'Neill and Paul Dougherty.

It was a very closely contested competition but Hamiltons was announced the overall winner.

Not only was the contest about improving singing skills but it was an exercise in leadership for the senior students.

We look forward to next years contest!



The Judging Panel:
Vaughan, Liz & Paul.

PS. This gives the staff plenty of time to practice their next item too!

Right: Hamiltons house intro was 'black & yellow' and then sang 'Don't stop believing'.



Below: Garabaldi house perform their 'Greased Lightning' song.



Below: Danseys house made up their own house chant.



Below: Serpentine house with 'The Lion sleeps tonight'.



Book Week

Winners for the dress up day were Lucy Neilson - 'Fancy Nancy' & Mitchell Duncan - 'Army Joe'

Thank you to all who supported the Scholastic Book Fair, nearly \$400 worth of new books has been donated to the library. Awesome!

Important School Dates

****Please remember to update your calendar at home****

12 August	Ski Trip
17 August	Cross Country @ Wedderburn (Cancellation Date 24th August)
18 August	Ski Trip (Back-up Day)
19 August	Winter Games Ceremony in Gym 9am
25 August	Junior Assembly 2.15pm in Art Room (Tawa & Kahurangi hosting)
26 August	Funky Friday
2 September	Funky Friday Assembly
8 September	Junior Assembly 2.15pm in Art Room (Whero & Kowhai hosting)
9 September	Otago Primary Cross Country (Dunedin)
16 September	School Photos
21 September	Class Speech Competition
22 September	Class Speech Competition
28 September	Maniototo Speech Competition
29 September	St John First Aid (Years 1-8)
30 September	St John First Aid (Years 1-8)
5 October	WOW Assembly
6 October	Reports go out (Years 1-8)
7 October	Term 3 ends
24 October	Labour Day—SCHOOL CLOSED
25 October	Term 4 begins
13 December	Term 4 ends (half day of school)

Dear parent/caregiver

If your teenager is learning to drive (or about to start), please read on. This can be a stressful time for both of you. But don't worry, help is at hand.

- www.safeteedriver.co.nz is a new FREE website to help parents and caregivers like you
- The resource was put together by the NZ Transport Agency in collaboration with a parent/teen relationship psychologist and an expert in driving psychology
- The website has lots of great tips to help you connect with your teenager and tools to teach them how to become a safer driver.

The Graduated Driver Licence System (GDLS) is a three-step process. So the things you need to teach your teenager will change as they progress from Learner through the Restricted phase to their Full Licence.

At the Learner stage:

- Teach them the practical driving skills (in a range of conditions and situations) using the tools on the website
- In February 2012, the restricted driving test is getting harder to encourage around 120 hours of supervised practice.

At the Restricted stage:

- Young drivers are most at risk during the first 6-12 months of driving solo
- If your teenager has friends in the car with them, they're ten times more likely to be involved in a fatal crash
- Learn how to manage the risks using the tools on the website
- It may be convenient for you to let your teen break their Restricted Licence conditions but:
 - your insurance may be compromised if they breach their Restricted Licence and cause a crash
 - they could be fined \$100 and receive 35 demerit points (licence suspended for three months if they get 100 or more demerit points within two years).

Your teenager still needs you

It can be hard communicating with teenagers. But you're still a positive influence on them, even though it might not feel like it at times.

So it's important you get involved with your teenager's driving education and stay involved until they have a Full Licence.

Visit www.safeteedriver.co.nz to use the tools and help your teenager become a safer driver.

If you don't have the internet, you can order hard copy resources.

For the Learner phase call 0800 772 284 to sign up to Practice.

For the Restricted phase call 0800 822 422 for a Safe Teen Driver pack.