



From the Principal's desk

February Earthquake

The weeks since the February earthquake have been a sobering time with a steady stream of news that was both sad and worrying. The loss of life, injury and destruction of property has been tragic. We have been fortunate that our Kaiapoi High School community has by and large remained safe, although most people will have been affected in some way either directly or indirectly by this event. At school our programme has continued as previously, though we are keeping watch with concern for effects on our students. To date we feel that most students are coping well. However, it is not always evident to us here at school if there are problems. We ask parents/caregivers to contact the form teacher or dean if there are concerns regarding students' wellbeing.

Enrolments

Most people would be aware that we have enrolled many students into Kaiapoi High School over the last month since the earthquake. In general, these are Kaiapoi students who have been attending schools in the city. They have fitted in well and we have had virtually no problems in integrating them into our classes and the school. There have been some pressure points in key option classes but generally we have been able to accommodate the numbers. This is partly due to the fact that there have been other families who have left the area since September as a result of the two earthquakes, and our school roll has only slightly increased.

Bullying

In recent times there has been attention in the media, of incidents of bullying in schools. This has served to highlight the prevalence of this unfortunate behaviour in schools throughout New Zealand and countries overseas. Bullying is the physical, verbal or social abuse of another individual, particularly when repeated. The Core Values of Kaiapoi High School, (Respect, Integrity, Community & Excellence), indicate that there is clearly no place for bullying-type behaviour. We have procedures and support facilities in place when instances of this nature do occur.

I have reinforced with students in assembly this last week the procedures and supports available. In short, they are the necessity to discuss with someone else, preferably a responsible adult, when someone feels that they are being bullied or harassed. Sometimes students are reluctant to do so, fearing that it will make the problem worse. In fact, it is likely to get worse if they do not tell someone else and take action to prevent this occurring. We have reinforced the availability of our counsellor, deans, form teachers and senior staff members in this regard. I have stressed the importance of not being rude, nasty or aggressive back to the bully, which tends to make the problem worse. I have also stressed to students the role that peers and bystanders can have in moderating the actions of bullies. Our senior students, and Year 13s in particular, are quite clear on my expectations of them in this regard. We welcome notification and involvement by parents in incidents where students feel they are being bullied.

Bullying is, of course, a community issue as much as a school issue. Our staff are often frustrated by the number of times issues from out of school make their way into school to be dealt with by teachers and deans. Your assistance in managing these incidents is appreciated.

School Policy Review

Over the next three months the Board will be reviewing several of the school policies as part of our regular cycle of review.

NAG 1 (Curriculum)

Curriculum Policy

- C02 Curriculum Planning
- C03 Gifted and Talented
- C04 Monitoring Student Progress
- C05 Curriculum Beyond the Classroom
- C06 Learning Beyond the Classroom
- C07 Removing Barriers to Learning
- C08 Careers
- C09 Development of Teaching Programmes
- C10 ESOL Provision
- C11 Special Education

NAG 4 (Finance and Property)

- Finance and Property
- School Donations

NAG 5 (Health and Safety)

- EOTC (21 Appendices in Guidelines)
- Health and Safety

NAG 6 (Administration and Compliance)

- Timetabling

Guidelines

- Use of School Facilities Procedure
- Electronic Surveillance

These policies will be available to be viewed at our school office and on the website www.kaiapoi.school.nz. Comment can be made on forms available at the office or by writing to BOT Kaiapoi High School, Ohoka Road, Kaiapoi 7630 (by May 1st).

Gavin Greenfield
Principal

Level 1 Outdoor Education

Overnight Tramps

The Level 1 Outdoor Education classes participated in an overnight tramp in the Craigieburn Ranges during Week 7. Students loaded up with their tents, food and other gear squashed into packs, then headed off in smaller groups with their teacher/instructor. They experienced what it was like to carry a heavy pack up hills, support each other when food and energy were running low and feel the elation of reaching the top of Helicopter Hill.

Overall, the students showed determination to reach their stop points on time, cope with the gale force winds at night and the wet conditions on both tramps, all the while maintaining enthusiasm towards taking part in their second tramp of the year. Thank you to Katrina Pollard (teacher) and Mark Johnson (instructor) for their time and effort.

Sophie Lewis
Teacher-in-charge



Students at the top of Helicopter Hill



Level 1 students on a stream crossing



Students chilling out after a hard day



Students visit Castle Hill after two days' tramping

Level 2 Outdoor Education Kayak Camp

The Level 2 Outdoor Education Kayak Camp took place on 22nd – 25th March. All of the students maintained a positive attitude throughout the camp, even when it was wet and cold and they had to put wet gear back on to go in the water. Over the week the students' level of confidence and their kayaking skills improved significantly. More than half could confidently roll their kayak in the pool by the end of the week. The students paddled the Waiau and the Hurunui River and were eager to paddle rapids. Overall this was an excellent camp, enjoyed by all. Thanks to the instructors, Steve Hodkinson, Danny Cartlidge, Bruce Webber and Sam Milne.

Katrina Pollard
Teacher-in-charge



Level 2 students attempting a roll during a rolling session at Hanmer Springs



The kayakers sitting in an eddy after paddling some rapids

Level 3 Outdoor Education Tramp 1

Our first tramp of the year was to the Cass Lagoon Saddle in Arthurs Pass National Park. It was an awesome tramp with a fantastic group – especially the teacher! ☺ This tramp took us through beech forest, over mountain passes and along river beds, all within two days. The original plan of cruising around the 35km in three days had to be adapted due to earthquakes and time constraints.

The group charged around the route, even taking time to explore some additional side streams (slight navigational errors, keep an eye on that map Ben and Caleb). Our camp in the river bed (away from anything that may fall – thanks Cory) was delightful, with a heart-warming fire and stories to entertain into the cold night. During Day 2 conversation ranged from war time poetry to the biology of the sandfly but spirits remained high, and, even with the mist descending and rain soaking us, everyone got to the end with their thoughts already on where Tramp 2 will be.

Thanks to the class for a great tramp.

Mr Hodkinson
Teacher-in-charge



Students tramping across Cass Saddle



Level 3 Outdoor Education students crossing a stream

International News

Recently we said farewell to Yuka Tamura, Fuminori Sato, Sakura Iwatsuki and Mare Inoue from Japan, who have come to the end of their programme of study and have returned back home to continue their education at their school or in university. We have also welcomed Takaaki Sato from Japan into Year 11.

The school continues to be well supported by our agents, parents and host families during this difficult period of recent earthquakes - all of our international students remaining here at Kaiapoi High School. However, short term group visits from Japan have been cancelled for now.

On Tuesday 29 March we had a very successful homestay parents meeting. We have a wonderful group of local families who welcome our international students into their homes.

On Friday 1 April Mr Neal and Mrs Cassidy accompanied the students on a very successful day trip to Hanmer Springs.

Mr Greenfield will travel to Germany and Holland soon to market the school and I will travel to Japan next month.

Robin Neal
International Director



International students at the top of Conical Hill

Picnic Tables for sale

The photo below shows the picnic tables that are for sale that the Level 2 building boys have constructed. The price is \$350.00 per table. Any enquiries please phone Peter Graham at the school 327 6129 ext 858.



Sports News

KHS Netball Teams 2011

Congratulations to the following girls who were selected for the 2011 KHS Netball teams:

Senior A Team 1

Emily Turner, Amanda Green, Leah Temesvari, Michelle Kitto, Nysha Temesvari, Candace Moir, Raina Joseph, Jess Box, Leah Aird

Yr 9/10/11 Team 2

Crystal Adams, Rita Giles, Aliesha Finlinson, Lauren Kelly, Bayley Plaskett, Lacy Berg, Georgia Tuuta, Jade Bowen, Dominique Spencer, Holly Smith

Mountainview Sports Exchange

70 students and five staff headed to Mountainview High School on Tuesday 29th March for our annual sports exchange. It was early rising as we met at school at 6.45am and left at 7am. The weather was great and the adrenaline was running high as the students were looking forward to this exchange.

10 teams took part and the games were all played in good spirit. The results were as follows:

Netball Snr A Won
Netball Team 2 Won
Indoor Football Boys Won
Indoor Football Girls Lost
Theatre Sports Drew
Tennis Girls Won
Tennis Boys Lost
Cricket U15 Lost
Cricket U18 Won
Softball Won

Maree Reynolds
Sports Co-ordinator



Boys' Indoor Football Team



Junior Boys' U15 Cricket Team



Girls' Tennis in action



Mixed Softball



Senior A Netball

KHS Sports Uniforms

Message to all parents/caregivers: Could you please check that your student does not have any items of KHS sports uniform at home, such as shorts, t-shirts, tracksuits or rugby jerseys. These must be returned to the school immediately.

School Uniform

The onset of winter weather often means non-uniform jerseys/jackets etc are worn to school. Students are expected to comply with uniform regulations in all weathers and a range of options are available from our suppliers (jacket, polar fleece, kilt). Second-hand uniforms may be obtained from the KHS PTA Second-hand Uniform Shop by contacting Fay Cleaver on (03 327 5080 or 0274 955 542). These are sold on behalf of the school's families/caregivers.

Please ensure all articles of school uniform are named as we get a large amount of unnamed lost property handed into the school office.

Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Competition

This will be occurring at the start of next term. Ms Swanson and Mr Morrison have a small team working hard on their interpretation of 'Othello'. Rehearsals are going well.

Stage Challenge

A large group of students has signed up to be involved in Stage Challenge this year. Circumstances have meant that we have a short period of time to prepare before presentation in early May. Ms Gourley and Ms O'Callaghan are the teachers leading this group.

Report/Interview Feedback

A number of you were concerned with the information regarding absences from school on the latest interim reports. We are looking at our systems and will have a different format for the mid-year reports. We are obliged to report absence to school and wish to provide the information that a student has missed class (even for legitimate reasons like school camps, trips, practical assessments, etc.), and therefore is missing teaching and content from that class. These absences can affect progress and students and families need to be aware of this. How this information is reported is being reviewed. Any feedback on this can be directed to Mrs McMeeken on 327 6129, ext 843.

The timing of our interviews is also a point we would like feedback on. Traditionally our interviews have been in the evening. Circumstances led us to have our interim report interviews from 2:30pm to 5:00pm this year. The timing had advantages for our staff and the community but we would like to have your opinion on whether this option is one we should keep. The earlier time would avoid the dark of winter but it may not suit all. We will not meet all needs but we will endeavour to get the best fit. Please direct your feedback to Mrs McMeeken on 327 6129, ext 843.

NZQA News

In this posting there is an enclosed information pamphlet from NZQA for all senior students. This gives important information, particularly around the cost of the qualification and assistance available. Please contact the school accounts department on 327 6129 ext 801, for information regarding payment options (we collect these later in the year during term 3), and Mrs Enersen, ext 814, if you have questions regarding assistance for sitting exams.

2010 NCEA Academic Blues

Congratulations to the following 2010 senior students who achieved NCEA Academic Blues:

Level 1

Nichaela Harbison-Price, Josie Dawber, Bradley Grootelaar, Leah Temesvari, Hayden Broadhurst, Tayla Reece, Tresha Hodson-Seel

Level 2

Callum Bell, Jess Attwell, Matt Challenger, Samantha Healey, Nicole Greenwood

Level 3

Robert Oram, Adam Davies, Megan Harrop, Tessa Davies, Heather Giles, Hazel Guyan, Alicia Harbison-Price, Meagan Davies

Level 2 Hospitality 2011

This year the class consists of 22 girls, all wanting to look at Hospitality as an option for a career choice. 14 of the students take part in the eight hour per week course and the rest take part in the four hour per week course.

This term the students have been completing both written and practical work, working towards achieving the Level 2 Unit Standard 167, Practise Food Safety Methods in a Food Business. All the assessments completed in this course are industry-based unit standards. The photos below are of the class running our own training restaurant at school.



Gateway 2011

Gateway at Kaiapoi High School has started, with the school having 30 placements for 2011 from the Tertiary Education Commission.

At the moment we have 25 students doing Gateway, with most of them already doing work placements each week in their chosen field.

It is a bit more difficult to find placements as at this stage we are trying to keep all the students in North Canterbury (Kaiapoi, Rangiora) and not use our contacts in Christchurch. If you know of businesses in the Computing, Automotive, Hairdressing or Health and Beauty areas who would be willing to have a Gateway student, please contact me at school.

The students have just completed a two-day course in Health & Safety in the Workforce and are working towards their First Aid Certificate. They are also completing their Career Planning work at school. These will all gain them level 2 credits.

If you have any questions about Gateway at Kaiapoi High School, please don't hesitate to contact me on 327 6129, ext 847.

Myra Waugh
Gateway Co-ordinator



Some of this year's Gateway students

Important Dates

Monday 2 May	Term 2 starts
Monday 6 June	Queen's Birthday
Tuesday 7 June	Teacher Only Day
Friday 15 July	Term 2 ends
Monday 1 August	Term 3 starts

Thank you very much to parents/caregivers who have paid or are paying off their children's school fees. We are a small school and your support assists us to provide the wide variety of subjects that are available to your child. This support of your child's school community is very much appreciated.

Updated school accounts are included in this mailing. If you have not received a statement, or have any questions please phone the school office on 327 6129, ext 801.