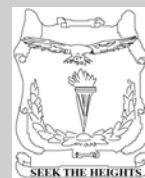




# MASSEY HIGH SCHOOL

## TE KURA TUARUA O TIRIWA

### MONDAY NEWSLETTER



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 Massey Waitakere City 0614  
 PRINCIPAL : B S RITCHIE

16 March 2009

Phone : 831-0500

*"WE ARE AN EXEMPLARY SCHOOL"*

[www.masseyhigh.school.nz](http://www.masseyhigh.school.nz)

Dear Parents/Guardiansogden

Greetings Kia Ora Talofa Guten Tag Bonjour Malo e le lei Dobar Dan Kia Orana こんにちは

Fakalofa lahi atu Shalom Goeie Dag Sawadee Croeso Bula Fáilte Ciao Mabuhay Namaskaar

銘謝指教 | 안녕하세요

## BARISTA CAFE

On Wednesday 4 March we had an opening ceremony for our new Barista Cafe. This started with a blessing by one of our kaumata, Tahu Williams. This Food Technology room has been upgraded thanks to money provided by the The Trust. The Trust will use this facility to train their staff after school hours. This cafe will be open to staff and senior students at interval and lunch time for cappuccinos, flat whites, long black coffee and hot chocolate.



## BUSES

Buses 13 - Waimauku and 14 - Falls Road/Anzac Valley are chartered buses and students must have a bus ticket to ride on them. Students eligible for Ministry funding must get on the correct buses to eliminate overcrowding.

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Congratulations to Matthew Oxley (12AVE) who has been chosen to represent N.Z. at the International Softball Academy U-19 in Canada in July.

## P.D. DAY - Friday 20

This is a reminder that we will be having a P.D. Day on Friday 20 March. Students do not have to attend school. If you wish to send your child to school we will provide supervision. In this case the student must report to the hall with study materials.

A letter was sent home last week in relation to the above and also about the rearrangement of Tuesday's timetable. All students are still expected at school by 8.35am on Tuesday, as they are for every other day, and all five subjects for each student will be taught.

Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

## THE DIRE EFFECTS OF ABSENTEEISM

A series of winter storms closed schools for several days. A university researcher started wondering if all those days of lost learning would affect students' test performance. The results of his investigation might surprise you. He found that, in a year with five lost school days, the number of children who met learning targets was lower than in years with no school closings. In brief, student time on task at school is important to learning.

## Every day your child is out of school, for whatever reason, his or her learning achievement suffers.

Just being in school, however, is only the starting point. Researchers have pointed out a difference between the amount of time that schools allocate for learning the amount of time during which students are engaged in learning, and actual learning time.

## Academic year

The amount of time schools allocate for learning is the academic year, the time designated for students to be in school. This is the typical school calendar amounting to 186 days, give or take a day or two depending on where you live. With few exceptions, all schools must meet the regulated number of days.

## Academic learning time

The amount of time students are engaged in learning is more variable. Their own attentiveness is a significant factor. Another variable factor is the teaching style. In some classrooms a lot of time can be spent explaining, demonstrating, or doing — while students watch. In other classrooms, students are more involved for more of the period. Students also do a great deal of important learning during activities like lab experiments, sports and music practice, supervised study, or homework.

## What do missed days mean?

So how can missing three or four days of school be so important to their learning? For one thing, missed instruction due to unscheduled school closings affects all students. To make up for the lost time, teachers may hurry instruction or simply skip some lessons. When students miss school due to illness or other reasons, some will fill in the missed instruction on their own, some will stumble but recover and some, unfortunately, will stumble, falter and be confused for the remainder of that unit. Their learning suffers.

## Time is important to learning

The amount of time that schools allocate for learning, the amount of time during which students are engaged in learning and actual learning time are so important that students, teachers and their parents all need to take it very seriously.

## What can we do?

We can start by eliminating as many classroom disruptions as possible. Every activity will be closely examined for its relevance to good learning. Teachers will ensure time in class is spent in active, engaged learning.

You can assist by making sure your child is ready for school every day – rested, well-nourished and equipped – and is absent only when absolutely essential.

That way we can all make best use of the learning time we have at our disposal and every student can make the progress we all are striving for.

## ROAD SAFETY

We have received complaints from the public about students using the roads unsafely. Students must give way to cars on the roadway to Massey Primary School. Students should not step out in front of cars on the road and should use pedestrian crossings when crossing roads. Please keep safe at all times.



## WEBSITE

Visit our Web-site [www.masseyhigh.school.nz](http://www.masseyhigh.school.nz). See all our Newsletters and information about the school.

### MASSEY HIGH SCHOOL

### 40<sup>TH</sup> REUNION

EASTER 2009 – April 10,11,12

We warmly invite all past students and teachers to join us in this celebration.

[www.masseyhigh.school.nz](http://www.masseyhigh.school.nz)

e-mail: [reunion09@masseyhigh.school.nz](mailto:reunion09@masseyhigh.school.nz)

Phone: 831-0506

## ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

Entertainment books are \$65.00 each, available from the School Office.

Payments may be made by cheque, eftpos, visa or mastercard.

These books make great gifts and are handy to have in the car for discounts on activities and meals. Many people buy them year after year. Don't miss out on yours. Order it now!



## KEY DATES

### March

- 18-21 Polynesian Festival
- 20 P.D. Day - no school for students.
- 26 Board of Trustees' Meeting 7pm Library
- 30 Assessment week

### April

- 1-3 Assessment week
- 10 Easter - Term 1 ends
- 27 Term 2 starts
- 30 Board of Trustees' Meeting 7pm Library

### May

- 1 1st half semester ends
- 7-8 Academic Counselling - Parent/Teacher/Student interviews.
- 28 Board of Trustees' Meeting 7pm Library