



MASSEY HIGH SCHOOL

TE KURA TUARUA O TIRIWA

MONDAY NEWSLETTER



19 May 2008

Phone : 831-0500

274 Don Buck Road Fax : 833-9200
 Massey Waitakere City 0614
 PRINCIPAL : B S RITCHIE

"WE ARE AN EXEMPLARY SCHOOL"

www.masseyhigh.school.nz

Dear Parents/Guardians

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 Namaste

銘謝指教 | 안녕하세요

PARENT-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT 15 and 16 MAY

On Thursday and Friday last week, we welcomed into the school our parents and our students for interviews with the form teachers. This was a new format for parent-teacher meetings in 2007 and because it was such a success then, we repeated the format this year. Again we were overwhelmed with the response and the positive feedback we received from all concerned. We thank the parents for their part in making this such a successful exercise. We also appreciate the involvement shown by many students in assisting with the running of this event.

The interviews were held as part of our Academic Counselling Programme. We want to strengthen the relationship and communication between the school, the student and the family so that we are all working together to achieve our students' academic success. At the interviews the parents and students were able to look at the progress and academic record of the student so far, and then discuss the ways to address any problems and to build on the student's strengths during the rest of the year.

We know that many parents took away good advice for helping their children in future and a clearer understanding of what Massey High School is trying to do for their children's education. We hope that this greater involvement of parents in their children's learning will translate into improved achievement overall for our students.

The teachers and support staff at the school are to be congratulated on the time and effort that they put into making this event a success. It was a huge undertaking to organise appointment times for 2400 students and to make all of the other arrangements required to provide information for the parents and students. Many thanks go to the planning team of Miss Cox, Miss Evans, Mrs S. Smith and Mr Lambert.

The form teachers enjoyed meeting their students' parents and value the contact made with them. They hope that this contact will be maintained and that the parents will continue to keep in touch when they have any concerns about, or need any help with, their children's education.

Here are some comments from parents.

"Very good - I like e-mail communications."

"It is great being able to sit with the Form Teacher to find how our child is doing."

"It is really good to have a partnership with the school so I know what is going on in the school."

"Well organised time schedule."



Refreshments in Anawhata School (Science Block)



Interview in Te Henga School (F Block)



Interview in Piha School (Whare)



Fundraising in Muriwai School (C Block)

"It felt very open and comprehensive."

"Valuable and met our requirements. Excellent feedback and forum."



Interview in Karekare School (B Block)



Parents enrol in Unitec Course (Hall)



At the crèche



Interview in Piha School (D Block)

As well as receiving their child's Term 1 Report, the parents were able to take away with them a lot of other useful information from the interview and from the Hall. Year 9 were given a fridge magnet (Years 10-13 received theirs last year) and all parents received a paper on how they can help their child at home. We hope that the magnet and the helping at home hints have made it onto your fridge door.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Amy Latu (13TCU) who has been selected for the NZ Aotearoa Secondary School Team and Arnel Chou-Lee (13MMO) who has been selected for the NZ Pasifika Secondary School Team. Both students will be at the Trans-Tasman Tournament in Australia next month.



Congratulations to Mesha Blair (12PJA) who has been selected for the NZ Under-18 Girls' Basketball Team.



Congratulations to Chevannah Paalvast (12KVA) who has been selected for the NZ Under-19 Junior Tall Ferns and will be competing in the World Championships Qualifying Series against Australia and in LA Vision Sports for Basketball.



Congratulations to Dion Smith (11MMT), Grace Fursdon (12TPR) and Chris Butt (13TSR) who competed in the Superdune Multisport Event at Te Henga last weekend, retaining Massey's hold on the Schools' Division Trophy by being the first Junior Team across the line. The team also came sixth overall, an outstanding effort against seasoned adult competitors.



Congratulations to Lujia Xu (11APA), Jai Min Choi (11APA), Laura Gan (11APA) and Sophie Sills-Younger (11APA) who have made the cut for the second round of the International Brain Bee Challenge, and who will now compete against New Zealand's best at Auckland University in June.

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.



LANGUAGES TAKE YOU PLACES



That languages can take you around the globe and find you new friends and families was experienced last month by many of our language students. Twelve German students travelled to Germany, seven French students to New Caledonia and four Japanese students to Japan. Hosted by local families, they all enjoyed the new culture and the chance to apply and to improve their language skills.

Many formed close friendships and will definitely return in later years. The next study tour planned will be a tour to Spain in 2009.

If you learn languages, the world opens up to you!

KEY DATES

May
29 Board of Trustees Meeting - 7pm Library

June
2 Queen's Birthday
16-20 Exam week for all students
26 Board of Trustees Meeting - 7pm Library
30 Musical week