



Villa Maria College NEWSLETTER

TERM 4 WEEK 6 – 19 NOVEMBER 2009

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Thank you for your patience and understanding about the PPTA Paid Union Meeting yesterday afternoon. As Principals we often reflect on how teachers are a school's most valuable resource. In recent years there have been many changes in education and these changes will continue with the implementation of the new New Zealand Curriculum. The changes in learning and teaching are so exciting – I must confess I wish I was starting my teaching career in this exciting time!

During this week, junior students have been doing examinations. There are several reasons why we do examinations:

- ❖ learning is consolidated
- ❖ next steps or gaps in learning are identified with and for students
- ❖ students have a particular target time in which to learn and revise
- ❖ the College has one indicator of how effective the learning and teaching programme has been and can adjust the classroom programmes accordingly
- ❖ students gain some insight into their own learning strategies and may make adjustments to get better results next time
- ❖ there is the simple self-discipline of being still and concentrating for one or even two hours

We hope that the examination experience has proved beneficial for your daughter. We ask that you take the time to discuss the examinations with her, to look at her work in each learning area and see if the subject/topic reports reflect a progression in learning. Look particularly at her self-evaluation and her goals for the next learning task. Has she achieved each of the goals set?

After Merit Assembly at the end of the year, your daughter will receive her end-of-year report along with the College magazine. Please take the time to discuss the report with her. She will, initially at least, probably be more interested in the magazine!

We continue to pray for those people who are coping with financial hardship, serious illness or bereavement. We pray that they will know God's peace and we pray that we will be aware of the ways in which we can support them in their time of need.

"Do all you can for God, because time is short."

Catherine McAuley

PRIZE GIVING

**Wednesday, 9 December, 6.30 pm.
Isaac Theatre Royal**

Please arrive from 6.00 pm so we can begin promptly at 6.30 pm. *Attendance at Prize Giving is compulsory for all students. Tickets for parents will be available from Monday, 23 November at no cost.* Students will be able to pick up tickets from the Student Office. There are limited numbers for wheelchair access, so please ask for Level 1 if there is a disability requirement. There will be a **limit of TWO tickets for each family.**

Hello!

The latest edition of **VMail** is now available online on the all new College website. If you have any suggestions for the next issue of VMail or for our new website, please let me know.

Jill Borland, Villa Maria Development Officer

Tell of your achievements!

We like to profile the accomplishments of our students, staff and graduates - in Academic pursuits, Music, Singing, Performing Arts, Art, Sports, Scholarships, Exchanges and Career Achievements. If you are the recipient of a notable award, experience or achievement, or know of another Villa student or graduate who has been, please contact us and let us know!

villa@villa.school.nz

"Exam time is a time of constant study, no sleep and a lot of chocolate." Coping with exams, this week on www.inspirationaltv.net. Great for sharing with a friend.

Nau Mai Haere Mai.

**Villa Maria College Whanau Komiti Hui
at Wheki 105, College of Education,
Dovedale Ave, University of Canterbury
Monday, 30 November, 6.00 pm.
Please bring kai for a shared BBQ (7.30 pm)**

We congratulate Holly Hill of 10M who has been accepted to go to Nikaho, Japan for a student exchange during the school holidays, leaving on 23 January for 11 days. She is travelling with a group of 12 students from various Christchurch High Schools with the Newton Dodge Exchanges programme. Holly can look forward to 3 metres of snow on the ground in the town she is going to!



SPORTS NEWS

Cricket –Natalie Cox (Year 10) has been selected to play for the Magicians this weekend as a one-off game (due to injury in the team). They are travelling to Timaru to play against Otago. The Magicians are the top Senior Women's cricket team so this is a huge achievement for a 15 year old!!!

Also, Natalie has been named in the Canterbury Women's Development Cricket team - which is the team below the Senior Womens Magician's team – congratulations Natalie!

Netball Coach - Applications for the Senior A Coach are now invited. Applications must include your CV. Coaches are also required for other grades in the 2010 season. Please apply to The Secretary, Carmel Brown, 78 Bowenvale Ave, Cashmere, or via email typerite@xtra.co.nz. Applications close Friday 12 December 2009.

West Zone Athletics – Last Thursday the Villa team had a very successful athletics day at the West Zones. We congratulate the following girls who have qualified for the Canterbury Champs in December:

11 years: **Tara Erenskjold** – 1st High Jump, 1st 60m; **Evie Sefton** – 2nd Discus; **Ella Hutchinson** – 2nd 1200m; **Roisin Donohoe-Phillips** – 2nd 60m.

12 years: **Hannah McCarthy** – 1st High Jump, 2nd Long Jump; **Jessica Gorrie** – 1st Shot Put, 2nd 100m; **Gemma Culling** – 2nd High Jump; **Emma Murdoch** – 2nd 1200m

13 years: **Hannah Petersen** – 1st Discus, 2nd 100m; **Georgia Mackwell** – 1st Long Jump, 1st 1200m, 1st 100m

Sports Uniforms – All sports uniforms must now be returned to the Sports Office. If you still have one at home please return ASAP!

Equestrian - Sally Spicer competed at the Christchurch A & P Show on Thursday and won the Junior Nydfa Cup for Under 15s, riding "Tauhara Silver Fern". This event attracts riders from all over New Zealand, so this was a great result for Sally. Congratulations!

Canterbury A&P Show Success: **Thursday:** Champion Working Hunter – **Holly Alfeld**; Reserve Champion – **Rose Alfeld**; Fourth Place – **Hayley Morris**; Fifth Place – **Charlotte Bellew**. **Friday:** Canterbury Cup, Best Rider, Best Qualified, Champion Pony – **Rose Alfeld** – well done!; Grand Prix Third Place – **Charlotte Bellew**. Congratulations girls!!

CON BRIO'S UNIFORM COMPETITION

We want a creative individual to design the new uniform for the College's award-winning Choir, *Con Brio*. The closing date is Monday, 1 February 2010. Entries are welcome from all ages, please check the College's website or see Miss Bennewith for further information about the requirements.

Old Girls of Christ the King School

Christ the King Primary School is currently taking orders for the School Magazine. The Prize Giving section covers awards for years 2007-2009 and there are many past students with their names published. If you would like to order a copy of the magazine please send your name and mailing address to Christ the King School, 90 Greens Rd together with \$12.00. Cheques should be made out to CTK Parent Council.

Our Lady of Victories School Fair – 7 March 2010

Are you having a late spring clean? The following items are required for our school fair and garage sale: furniture, good household items, bikes, toys, books, etc (no broken items please). These items can be left outside the container at the school (behind OLV Church) before 9.00 am weekdays or 3.00 pm after school.

LOST PROPERTY

Please check out the lost property on the trestle table outside the Student Office. There are brown school shoes, 13 pairs of sports shoes, cardigans (plus 3 un-named new uniform cardigans), an un-named new white blouse, sleeping bags, 6 un-named pencil cases. PLEASE come and check – parents are welcome also.

Junior students will complete sign out procedures during the last week of term, Monday 7 – Friday 11 December. Students must clear out their lockers completely before they leave school at the end of the year.

Parents please note, in order that your daughter can sign out at the end of the year and receive her magazine, all school accounts need to be paid. Please contact the principal, Mrs Lynch, if this is a problem.

The PTA are still collecting **Jetstar boarding passes**. Please hand them in to the Student Office – thank you!

Change *is* possible: In Niger, hundreds of thousands of people in rural communities greatly improved their livelihoods and reduced their vulnerability to droughts through large-scale reforestation driven by national policy reforms.

CANTEEN

Our grateful thanks to all the parents who have helped in the Canteen during the year. We look forward to working with many of you next year.

COMING EVENTS

Monday 23 November: Prize Giving tickets available at the Student Office

Wednesday 25 November: Itinerant Music Concert P.3

Monday 30 November-Wednesday 2 December: Yr 10 Camp classes 10B, 10M and 10A.

Monday 30 November-Friday 4 December: Yr 9 Integrated Studies Week

Tuesday 1 December: Taster Day for 10E, 10C, 10X at Christchurch Academy, Canty Primary Schools Athletics

Wednesday 2 - Friday 4 December: Yr 10 Camp classes 10C, 10E and 10X

Thursday 3 December: Taster Day for 10A, 10B, 10M at Lincoln University and Villa (with CPIT/UC)

Monday 7-Friday 11 December: Students complete sign out procedures during the week

Wednesday 9 December: Prize Giving Isaac Theatre Royal begins at 6.30 pm

Friday 11 December: Merit Assembly, Graduation, T4 ends

Saturday 12 December: NZSS Athletics Timaru

Yours sincerely

Mary Lynch
Principal