Te Kura o Kaipatiki

School Newsletter

3 September 2010

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents, Guardians and Caregivers
Tena Koutou Katoa



Mr E A Bento

Course Selection for 2011

This is the time of the year when students in years 10 to 12 are asked to make decisions about their subjects for the following year and we endeavour to make this decision as informed as we possibly can. Students in these year levels will receive a Senior Curriculum Handbook this week, which sets out the subjects available at each level and any pre-requisites required to take a subject. Information on each subject includes a brief description of course content and

how it will be assessed. Ask to see this handbook yourselves.

Students have been prepared for course selection through work done in our pastoral programme to raise awareness about individuals' strengths and weakness, likes and dislikes, and therefore, possible career options that might suit. Students are then asked to link possible career options to subjects that they must choose so that a clear pathway emerges. Tutor teachers and Deans also play a critical role in making sure that pathways and subject choices chosen are both challenging and realistic. We do not want students undervaluing themselves, nor do we want them moving in a direction where they are most likely to fail. The final step in this process is the academic counselling that we do at this time. Each student in years 10 to 12 will be interviewed by a key staff member about their subject choice for 2011, and these will be checked for appropriateness. You are invited to join your child in this process. These take place on the following days:

- Year 12 Thursday, 9th September

- Year 11 Tuesday, 21st September

- Year 10 Wednesday, 22nd September

We are asking that those year levels only attend school on their designated day for their interview. In this way, we can staff our classes and the interviews. We believe the process to be vital to achieving good decisions.

You will receive a letter from me stating your child's interview time for academic counselling a few days beforehand. Remember, you are welcome too.

NCEA and Pathways Parent's Forum

We are holding an NCEA and Pathways information evening on **Tuesday 7**th **September at 7:00pm in the staffroom**. This is our second parents' forum for 2011. We are going to provide information on how NCEA works for those who may want that, and then we will talk about University Entrance and other specific requirements asked for by key institutions.

Key Dates

Teacher Only Day

BOT Meeting

6th September

NCEA and Pathways
Parents' Forum
7th September

Y12 Option Choice Day (Academic Interviews and no Y12 classes) 9th September

> Sports Photos 14th September

Teachers' Strike Day 15th September

Year 12 Play "Romeo & Juliet"

15th-16th September

Time: 7:30pm Venue: Kaipatiki Theatre

Year 13 Restaurant Night 15th-16th September

Y11 Option Choice Day (Academic Interviews and no Y11 classes) 21st September

NCEA/NZQA Fees

A reminder to pay these entry fees please. Final results will not be issued unless fees are paid. In order to avoid a penalty for late payment, please pay by Wednesday, 15th September.

Congratulations

To our 1st XV Rugby team for winning the 1B competition and final on Saturday. The team has had an outstanding season (7th in North Harbour).

To the 1st XI Girls Hockey team for winning the top grade of North Harbour Hockey this season (5th in North Harbour). These two teams have punched well above their weight.

To the Bollywood Dance Group for winning the Judges Award at the Auckland Secondary Schools Competition.

Strike Day Warning - Wednesday 15th September

The teachers' union, the Post Primary Teachers Association (PPTA), have voted to strike on Wednesday 15th September due to a lack of meaningful progress in their current contract negotiations. Most of our teaching staff are PPTA members, so I must ask you to keep your youngsters home on this day as I will be unable to staff classes. Should you want your year 9 child to be supervised at school on this day, please call the Student Centre on 444 9066 ext 814 and give your child's name. (Year 9 students are under 14 and cannot be left at home unsupervised.) Should the strike be called off by the PPTA, we will send a note home with students.

Notices

Electronic Newsletters

We are in the midst of transitioning sending the school newsletters by email instead of posting them. Please help us update our database by emailing reply@gc.ac.nz giving your student's name, your name and the email address that you would like our newsletters sent to. This process may start in Term 4. Thank you for your patience.

The Unitec in Schools STEP UP secondary school revision programme can help your child prepare for their end of year exams. STEP UP offers years 11-13 students the opportunity to attend intensive NCEA and CIE revision classes during the September holiday break, as well as NCEA examination preparation classes in early November. Class sizes are limited, taken by experienced secondary teachers and held at Unitec's Mt Albert campus. 99% of students last year said they would recommend STEP UP courses to other students. For further information call 0508 STEP UP or enrol online at www.stepup.unitec.ac.nz.

TOUGHLOVE

Are you at the end of your tether with your troubled teen? You can turn it around. A self-help programme that gives parents the support and the tools needed to deal with unacceptable teenage behaviour. Find out how parents just like you have turned their families around. Go to www.toughlove.org.nz or phone 624 4363.

Y10 Option Choice Day

(Academic Interviews and no Y10 classes) 22nd September

Dance Concert 22nd September Time: 7:00pm Venue: Kaipatiki Theatre

Last Day of Term 3 (Early Finish 12:30pm) 24th September

First Day of Term 4 11th October

> Labour Day 25th October

Sports Prize Giving 26th October

Senior Prize Giving 9th November

> **NCEA Exams** 13th Nov - 1st Dec

Last Day of Term 4 10th December



DRIVING LESSONS Local, Ex. A.A. instructor Manual, dual control car (or I can teach you in your own car - manual or automatic)

Tel: Steve - 482 0661 Mob: 027 2655511 Email: steve@drivesure.co.nz



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ASB Glenfield Branch Branch Manager, Ph 09 445 4141

