



From the Rector's Desk  
Greetings everyone to Newsletter 10  
Kia ora e hoa mā

We are holding our annual Open Night next Wednesday, 28th July. This is a wonderful opportunity to exhibit our innovative learning programmes and courses that are available at Gore High School. We are proud of our achievements and the sound learning culture that we have at this school. We welcome all prospective families with their children in Year 8 to come and enjoy time exploring the school and its facilities. This is an informative and fun evening and one that staff and students take real pride in, so please tell others who you think might be interested.

**Open Night -**  
**28th July from 5.00 - 8.00 pm**

Prospective students and their families are able to explore the school, meet with staff and view the various learning areas.

"The school has a strong focus on student achievement. Students are set high expectations for work and behaviour." - ERO



A group of Gore High School students who study French had a wonderful excursion to New Caledonia in the holidays. Their confidence in speaking French and their skill levels improved enormously through this experience as they were saturated in the language. The effort that goes into making such an event worthwhile is huge and I thank Chris Cheyne, their teacher for all her hard work, planning and enthusiasm. This is a wonderful opportunity for these students. Darren Smith, our Head of Science accompanied them on this trip and was able to add value over and above the language aspect by infusing the whole experience with interesting information about Marine Biology.

You will have all received an 'Entertainment Book'. Either the book or money was due back on Monday 19th July. If you do not want the book, please return it immediately to the 'drop box' located in the school office. If you do, please pay for it immediately, again through the 'drop box'. This is great way to raise funds for the Gore High School Foundation.

I spoke to the Year 12/13 students on Monday about 'talents'. We are half way through the year and the business half of the year has to start now, if it has not already, even though there are still a lot of other distractions. The NCEA qualifications that students receive at Level 2 and 3 open and close doors for them around their tertiary options. Due to limited funding, universities have lifted the bar for entry so the previous 42 credits at Level 3 are absolutely minimal. Most universities are now calculating grade point averages, using Level 3 Achievement Standard results and multiplying credits by factors if the standards are achieved with Merit or Excellence. It is not just accruing credits that is important, it is about trying to get as many Merits and Excellences as possible. Our Year 12 students last year, passed NCEA with an 82.5% pass, higher than Decile 9 schools so we know you, as Year 13 students, have the potential to do very well. Year 12 students always do well and you need to keep doing the good work as this will secure your entry into Halls of Residence. It is time to pull out all of the stops and make your school work the number 1 priority. That is not saying that sport, cultural or other extra curricular activities and socialising are not important, they are, it is just saying that you need to balance your life and get the most important thing done first. Sadly, some students leave their run too late, perform badly in the practice examinations (Week 8 this term), loose confidence for NCEA and then find they are unable to do what they wanted to do next year because they simply have not got the qualifications they need. Do not let this be you. We either heed the helm or we heed the rocks. Get on with it!

Eoin Crosbie

## 10A NETBALL TOURNAMENT

Congratulations to the Gore High School 10A netball team who spent the first week of their holidays in Christchurch for the South Island Secondary Schools Junior Netball Tournament. The team faced some strong competition in the tournament and, following a close encounter with Wakatipu High School, was placed second in their division of the combined grade.

The team would like to acknowledge their umpire, Morgan Fallowfield, who travelled with the team. A big thank you also goes out to the parents of the girls and their numerous sponsors for their generous support. Lastly, thanks to Phil Clement (Manager) and Gaylene Ridley (Coach) for making the trip possible.

Katie Paterson



Georgina Robertson, pictured second on the left, receiving her Silver medal in the Women's 15-16 years Synchronised Trampoline event at the Indo Pacific Championships in Japan. She achieved 10th place overall for her individual routine.

## BOYS' HOCKEY

A J Birse, Michael Hook, Dylan Stewart and Blaire Lowry were selected to represent the U18 Southland Hockey team in Auckland during the holidays. The team achieved 9th place.

Blake Shirley, Damon Hurley, Taylor Allan, Lachlan McKeogh and Anton Birse were selected to represent the U15 Southland Hockey team, again in Auckland. They achieved 3rd place, narrowly losing against Auckland in the semi final. Special mention to Anton Birse who scored 10 goals in the tournament.

Congratulations on your selection and achievements.

## NEW CALEDONIA



Imagine becoming part of a family in a strange, new country without being able to understand very much (at all!!) of what they say to you. Imagine having to go to buy your breakfast or lunch at a shop by yourself, not knowing if you would be understood when you asked for a baguette or a coca... or knowing if YOU would understand them, when they told you the price!

Stepping outside their comfort zones was definitely the challenge faced by 19 of the Year 11 and 12 French students in New Caledonia over the holidays. The object of this unique field trip was to immerse the students into the French way of life and its language - to give them more confidence with their speaking and to prepare them for their NCEA assessments. It was a great challenge!

As well as French lessons at a language school and being hosted by local families for four nights, we enjoyed the 25° temperatures together as a group – snorkelling, swimming, exploring the fantastic aquarium, being very close to poisonous sea snakes, visiting Amédee Island and climbing up its huge lighthouse. The French Bastille Day celebrations (like our Waitangi day) were on July 14, and so we joined an enormous lantern parade one night and watched fireworks with the Nouméan people.

Having Mr. Smith (HOD Science) there with us was an added bonus – his knowledge of fish, sharks and snakes was incredible and we had many Marine Biology lessons every day. I would like to say “Merci beaucoup” to him and also to our two awesome parents, Mrs. Catto and Mrs. Hall. Without these extra adults, trips like this would not be possible.

Très, très bien, tout le monde - you all did exceptionally well and I was very proud to watch you using your language skills and working hard to develop them more and more.

Mrs. Cheyne, HOD Languages

## CAREERS DEPARTMENT – UPCOMING EVENTS

We have some important events happening in the next four weeks, especially Years 11 – 13. We welcome parents/caregivers to any of these events. Any queries, please the Careers Department on 208 9130 ext. 826.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> July	10.00 am	Steve Walker, Otago University Liaison, visiting us to discuss the <b>new entry criteria</b> , and the importance of keeping those credits (Merits and Excellences) up! <b>Vital information for Years 11 – 13.</b>
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August	All day	Year 11 Careers Day – students investigating possible career pathways/options, subject selection information.
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> August	1.20 pm	Year 12 Financial Literacy presentation, facilitated by Westpac.
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> August	11.15 am	Year 13 Course planning for Otago Polytechnic 2011
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> August	1.20 pm 4.00-7.00 pm  7.00 pm	Loans and allowances presentation for students. Junior report/option evening. This is an important event on the Year 10 calendar, for sorting out subjects for the next step up in your child's education. Loans and allowances presentation for parents/caregivers. This evening presentation has speakers from Studylink; a local Accountant; and a parent who has experienced the "adventures" of putting young adults through university. <b>Appropriate for Year 12 and 13 students. These are extremely informative and important presentations as the loan and allowances criteria has changed recently.</b>
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> August	12.30 pm 1.00 pm 5.00 pm	Year 13 Course planning for Lincoln University. Year 13 Course planning for Canterbury University. Careers Expo at Gore Town & Country Club Stadium – up to 50 providers will be present. Universities, Polytechnics, local employers. This is an excellent opportunity for one to one discussion with these providers.
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> August	9.00 am	Year 13 Course planning for Otago University.

**Note for students regarding course planning:** Please let the Careers department know what course/s they are intending to pursue, so we can let the providers know before their visits so they can be prepared. The exception being those planning on attending Canterbury University – this information is to be lodged ONLINE

### SWIMMING

At the South Island Secondary School Swimming Championships in Invercargill last weekend:

- Lisa Catto achieved 1<sup>st</sup> in the 100m Fly, 200m Individual medley, and in 100m/200m/400m Freestyle.
- Aaron Barclay achieved 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 200m Freestyle, 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 50m Freestyle and 1<sup>st</sup> in the 400m Freestyle.
- April Miller achieved 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 50m Freestyle, 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 50m Fly and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 100m Freestyle.
- Bradley Catto achieved 8<sup>th</sup> in the 200m Individual medley and 5<sup>th</sup> in the 100m Freestyle.
- Danielle Guise achieved 10<sup>th</sup> place in the 200m Breaststroke event.
- The Freestyle Mixed Relay team, comprising of April Miller, Aaron Barclay, Lisa Catto and Bradley Catto achieved 1<sup>st</sup> place.

Well done to you all on your recent successes.

### CONGRATULATIONS

Elle Pullar has been selected to represent the Otago/Southland National Hockey League team. She is in the Southern Storm, which is the equivalent of the Highlanders NPC team for Rugby. Elle attends a tournament in Albany during the last week of this term. Out of this tournament, a junior Black Sticks team is selected.



James Matheson has been selected to represent the South Island in the SI Rugby League team. James has been to a series of trials and training camps to achieve this recognition. He plays 6 games for the Southern Zone (from 29<sup>th</sup> Aug) against other regional teams. A NZ Merit team is then selected. Well done Elle and James.