

## MASSEY HIGH SCHOOL

## TE KURA TUARUA O TIRIWA



MONDAY NEWSLETTER

12 November 2007

274 Don Buck Road Massey Waitakere City 0614 PRINCIPAL : B S RITCHIE

"WE ARE AN EXEMPLARY SCHOOL"

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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 銘激指数 (セリキベル)

#### THANK YOU

As this is our last Newsletter of the year the school would like to extend sincere thanks to all parents, community supporters and sponsors who have given so much to our school and our students over the year.

Your support has made it possible for our students to achieve highly in academic, sporting and cultural dimensions of the school.

Thank you very much.

### ACADEMIC COUNSELLING

This was our first year for a new strategy to raise academic achievement in the school. We called this *Academic Counselling*. Part of it involves the new parent-student-teacher interviews programme held in Term 2. This was highly successful with 76% of our parents taking part. Another part of this strategy was one-on-one interviews with the student's Dean to develop an educational plan, goal setting and target setting.

While this is our first attempt, and it may need further development and it has put Massey High School on the educational map throughout New Zealand and we thank students, staff and parents for their participation in this new and exciting development. It would appear at this stage from interim data the academic achievement levels of our students and our school will reach a new and higher level.

SENIOR PRIZE GIVING WEDNESDAY 14 November 2007 7pm in Hall

#### SCIENCE AND YOUR FUTURE

Last Wednesday senior students were privileged to listen to a special guest speaker, Professor Paul Callaghan. Professor Callaghan is currently the Blake Medalist sponsored by the Sir Peter Blake Trust for being one of this country's most outstanding leaders and recognising the strategic relevance of leadership in shaping the future of our nation.

In 2001 Paul became the 36th New Zealander to be made a Fellow of the Royal Society of London. He was awarded the Ampere Prize in 2004, the Rutherford Medal in 2005, in 2006 was appointed a Principal Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit and in 2007 was recognised by a KEA/NZTE World Class New Zealander Award and the Sir Peter Blake Medal.

Science has shaped the way we live in ways we take for granted. It has changed the way we think about life and each other and it lies behind the quality of life enjoyed by many "developed" countries like New Zealand. We are luckier than most countries with our natural resources and our environment, but our future prosperity will depend on how smart we are in using science to turn great ideas into products the world wants to buy.

But New Zealand is also part of the global village and we cannot escape the changes sweeping the entire world. This century, science will both enable and challenge humanity. Nanotechnologies, new advances in brain science, and new knowledge of biology will require us to face the question *"what does it mean to be human?"* That's a question each person must try to answer as best they can.

Finally, in the lifetime of young people alive today, the world's population will rise to 10 billion. The very survival of 10 billion people on the planet will depend on science and using science. We humans may well need to take direct responsibility for the biosphere and climate. What might that mean?

We thank Fuji-Xerox for bringing Professor Callaghan to our school.



Professor Callaghan Mr Ritchie Mr Caunce- Fuji-Xerox

#### **STARTING DATES - 2008**

| Year 13                         | 1 February   | 9am-10.40am       |
|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Year 13 Camp                    | 4-8 February |                   |
| Year 12                         | 4 February   | 9.00am-12.30 noon |
| Year 11                         | 5 February   | 8.30am-12.30pm    |
| Year 10                         | 7 February   | 8.30am-12.30pm    |
| Year 9                          | 8 February   | 8.30am-3pm        |
| Whole school starts 11 February |              | 8.30am-3.10pm     |

#### JUNIOR EXAMS

Junior students are continuing with their learning in the classroom in preparation for their end-of-year exams which will be held in the week beginning 19 November. They should be spending homework time on study for these.

#### NCEA EXAMS

We would like to wish our senior students well for their NCEA exams which start on Monday 19 November. Students already know the results of their internal achievement and unit standards assessed during the year. A Record of Learning detailing this is being issued to them with their reports. Years 11, 12 and 13 will receive their reports on their last day at school before they go on study leave.

Last week students received their candidate exam pack from NZQA which includes instructions for sitting the exams, the exam timetable and information about results. It also contained their exam admission slip with their code number which they must bring with them to each exam. It is important that they read all of the information carefully. We look forward to seeing some good results in the new year.

#### **STATIONERY SHOP**

The stationery shop is closing down at the end of this year, and we will no longer be selling general stationery items within the school as it has become uneconomic. Some small items such as ballpoint pens, paper refills and rulers will be sold from the uniform shop.

We are having a sale of all items presently in stock before the end of this year with most items at approximately half the previous selling price

#### STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Lance Beddoes (10KCW) has been selected for the World Junior Elite Squad for squash. Lance is also contesting the Scottish and British Junior Open Squash Championships in December.



Congratulations to our Head Boy, Harry Aitken (13KBE) who has been awarded a prestigious University of Auckland Scholarship. This scholarship will pay all his tuition fees plus give financial assistance throughout his degree. It is awarded for academic excellence, all round ability and leadership.



### SENIOR SPORTS PERSON

At the Sports Prize Giving on 8 November our Senior Sports Persons of the Year were announced.

Congratulations to Daniel Bell (12PRH) Senior Sportsman of the Year and Armel Chou-Lee (12MBW) Senior Sportswoman of the Year.



Amongst other things Daniel won eleven Gold Medals at the Australasian Tri-Series Swimming Championships and was judged male swimmer of the meet while Armel is ranked seventeenth in the World for junior discus following the World Championships held in Croatia and is a member of the NZSS Netball team.



# HOW TO PREPARE FOR EXAMINATIONS

BELIEVE while others are doubting.
PLAN while others are playing.
STUDY while others are sleeping.
DECIDE while others are delaying.
PREPARE while others are daydreaming.
BEGIN while others are procrastinating.
WORK while others are wishing.
SAVE while others are wasting.
LISTEN while others are talking.
COMMEND while others are quitting.

Acknowledgement: William Arthur Ward, US scholar, pastor and author.

#### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

Please advise the school office if your address has changed. We will be posting out letters in the new year to all students.

## **KEY DATES**

#### November

| November             |  |
|----------------------|--|
| 14                   | Senior Prize Giving 7pm in Hall                  |
| 15                   | Year 11 Prize Giving 9.45am in Hall              |
| 19                   | NCEA Examinations commence                       |
| 19-23                | Junior Exams                                     |
| 29                   | Board of Trustees Meeting 7pm Library            |
|                      |  |
| December             |  |
| <b>December</b><br>5 | NCEA Examinations finish                         |
|                      | NCEA Examinations finish<br>Year 10 Prize Giving |
|                      |  |
| 5<br>7               | Year 10 Prize Giving                             |