



MOUNT ASPIRING COLLEGE

Te Kāreti O Maunga Tititēa

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NEWSLETTER PANUI

Thursday 11 June 2009
Term 2, Issue 7

Kia ora,

Thank you for taking the students off our hands on Tuesday 2 June as it provided us with a valuable opportunity to work together on the New Zealand Curriculum. This curriculum is a significant shift from the previous version. The following is from Karen Sewell, Secretary for Education.

The previous curriculum, implemented from 1992 onwards, was our first outcomes-focused curriculum: a curriculum that sets out what we want students to know and to be able to do. Since it was launched, there has been no slowing of the pace of social change. Our population has become increasingly diverse, technologies are more sophisticated, and the demands of the workplace are more complex. Our education system must respond to these and the other challenges of our times. For this reason, a review of the curriculum was undertaken in the years 2000–02.

The New Zealand Curriculum is a clear statement of what we deem important in education. It takes as its starting point a vision of our young people as lifelong learners who are confident and creative, connected, and actively involved. It includes a clear set of principles on which to base curriculum decision making. It sets out values that are to be encouraged, modelled, and explored. It defines five key competencies that are critical to sustained learning and effective participation in society and that underline the emphasis on lifelong learning.

We have been charged to implement this new curriculum in a way which best meets our students' needs. This means knowing what is required by the students in our community, what we value and where we are going as a school. We have a strong focus on students currently but this has challenged us to review what we offer and to evaluate what more we can do for our students. One key element was to look firstly at who we are teaching and what they need rather than starting with what we need to teach and working our way back to the students. The discussion and ideas that came out of this day are exciting. This means change, which is something we need to be well prepared for as a staff and, as such, these Teacher Only days and your ongoing support are invaluable. Another day will be taken early in Term 3 where we will build on the great start that we made last week.

The full curriculum and latest developments can be viewed online at <http://nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz/>.

We are all very positive about what this change in curriculum will mean for the present and future students of Mount Aspiring College.

Ka kite ano, **Greg Thornton (Deputy Principal)**

Con Brio

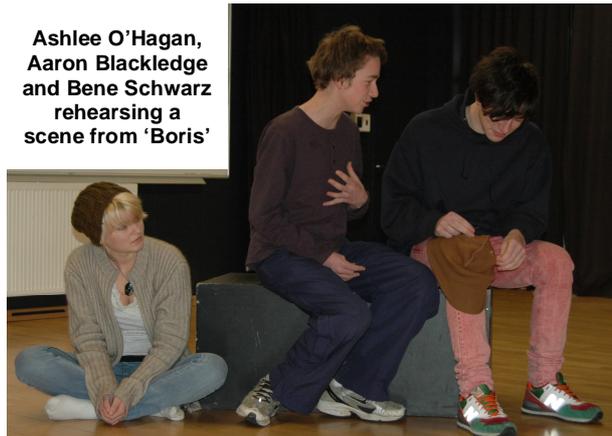
A feast of dance, drama and music:

- 'BORIS' performed by the senior drama classes (see below right)
- Solo performances performed by senior music students.
- A chance to see MAC's Stage Challenge 2009 performance

Tickets on sale at the college from next week!



Ashlee O'Hagan, Aaron Blackledge and Bene Schwarz rehearsing a scene from 'Boris'



BORIS
written by Amy Kennerley and Rosemary Wolfin

*A story of love..
a story of heartbreak..
a story of Russians..
a story of ninjas...
and, most importantly,
a story of ghosts!*

Join Team Green!

Student Voice

A little known group at Mount Aspiring College is recruiting new members, and this could be YOU!

Their aim? "To make school more sustainable and environmentally friendly," said group member Molly Holloway. Florence, our librarian, is the organiser of this troupe.

"We are setting up things like recycling bins and worm farms around school. We want to provide more information to people who are already interested." The MAC Team Green is still in its relatively early stages, and needs more people who are interested to join them for a good cause. There is a workshop coming up in mid June aimed at teaching how to run a team of this type and to put ideas into action. Florence hopes to give the group members information they can use to create strong arguments for the cause. "We want to shy away from just concentrating on rubbish, and think about other sustainable ideas for the college. Not everyone is interested in rubbish!!"

So does this sound like you? Why not visit the MAC Green Team blog – <http://www.macgreenteam.wordpress.com> Lauren Wootton

LOVE COMPUTING? HOW ABOUT THIS?

Have you ever wondered how computer games and 3D movies like Shrek are made? Learn the latest in 3D Animation and Games Design on a Bubble Dome School Holiday workshop this July. Located at John McGlashan College. All ages and experience levels catered for. 0800 GET BUBBLE (438 282) info@bubbledome.co.nz www.bubbledome.co.nz

STRICTLY NO DOGS

Did you realise that Mount Aspiring College is a dog-free zone? Our sports fields are heavily used and are NOT an area for walking your dogs. Please ensure that no dogs are brought onto the grounds at any time.

NETBALL NEWS

Our MAC A, 9A and 10A netball teams all competed really well at the Otago Secondary Schools Tournament in Dunedin last week.

Special congratulations to the 10A team who entered the competition ranked 12th and finished in 5th place.

CONGRATULATIONS to Brent Woolhouse (right) who flew solo for the first time on Friday 29 May.



WELL DONE to Greg Redai who came 4th in the Otago Secondary Schools Cross Country Champs last week.



TREE PLANTING
Pictured left are the oldest MAC student (Eileen Cao) and the youngest (Sam Turner) who planted a kowhai tree at the college last Friday to celebrate World Environment and Arbor Day.

Under 16 and Under 18 Otago and Otago Country Representative Rugby Team Selection Process

After a review of the structure and selection policies a change has been made for this year. Selection of the top 44 - 46 players in the province in each age group will be made from those players who attend the Otago Age Group Coaching Clinics (run by the ORFU Resource coaches) which will take place on the 14 and 28 June at Roxburgh: Otago Country U16: 9.30 am - 12.30 pm Otago Country U18: 1.00 - 4.00 pm These coaching dates are an opportunity for all boys to come and develop their skills. Those selected will represent either the Otago Metro or Otago Country teams in the respective South Island Tournaments.

Gifted Awareness Week—15-21 June 2009

To recognise achievement and human potential, the school is celebrating "Gifted Awareness Week" with a variety of stimulating activities for all students. We will be highlighting displays of outstanding work and projects around the school as well as running some planned activities. For example MAC library will host book displays, brain games, smart studying etc. Look out for the online brain teasers and logic activities as well as whanau competitions. In addition there are other competitions organised by the New Zealand Association for Gifted Children. Check it out on MACLIC blog: <http://maclic.wordpress.com> or <http://www.giftedchildren.org.nz/>

CYBERSAFETY for Parents (so we can help keep our teens safe on the net) TUESDAY 23rd June, 7.30pm, East Common Room, Mount Aspiring College

Learn how to check what your child is doing on the internet and learn tips on how to stay safe. Any queries to Karyn Munro or Tim Harper (443 9901).

MACLIC Corner

Have you checked out MACLIC blog yet? Here you will find your library news and events, books and comments. There are links to "Reference websites", links to help you find your next read and links to other blogs of interest, in particular the blogs for the English courses taught at MAC. I have moved MACLIC's blog to Wordpress to benefit from the multi-pages facility. You can now find a "Book lists" page which will be updated regularly and the "Rules and Services" of MACLIC to know all about your library (with links to interactive activities and games). We encourage you (this includes students, parents, MAC staff...) to contribute by writing comments, or sending book reviews to be posted. We recommend that you add maclic.wordpress.com to your blogroll or dashboard, or subscribe to its Feeds, so that you can follow up what is new in your library. Happy blogging :)

Florence Micoud



'Friends of MAC' Planning Meeting MAC staff room, 7.30pm Thursday 18 June

If you would like to get involved with the Friends of MAC group either by contributing ideas or organising events (or anything in between) please come along. All welcome. Any queries please contact Nicole Meldrum (443 7768).

MAC Ski and Snowboard Champs will be held on 22 July at Cardrona Alpine Resort. Entry forms will be available from the office on Tuesday 16 June. Places are limited to 140 so get your entry in as early as possible.

Community Events

Well done to Bronte MacKenzie, Jessica Jay, Ashlee O'Hagan, Andrew Hamilton, Nick Jolly, James McCaughen, Ellie Perriam, Josephine Ulbricht and Katarina Schwarz who were all models or artists in last week's Wearable Creations show.

Good luck to Ben and Saskia Hulsbosch, Eren Toralp, Ashley Campbell and Breanna McNeill who are performing in the Best of the Best show this week.

Wanaka Futsal (5 aside indoor soccer)

'Come & Try' Session and Registration
MAC Gym, Saturday 13th June 2009, 3.00 - 6.00 pm

RUGBY DRAW

U18 Upper Clutha v Telford	Showgrounds, 1.00 pm
U16 Upper Clutha v Bayfield	MAC fields, 1.00 pm
U15 WBHS Chiefs v Upper Clutha	WBHS, 1.00 pm
U14 Upper Clutha v McGlashan 2	Showgrounds, 12.30 pm

Important Dates

Term 2

Week 8

Tues 16 June
Thurs 18 June
18 / 19 June

Board of Trustees Meeting, 6.00 pm
Friends of MAC meeting, 7.30 pm, Staffroom
Level 2 Biology Field Trip to Catlins
Senior Drama / Music Performances
Last day for MAC Champs entries
Reports issued to students
South Island Secondary Schools Clay Target Champs

Week 9

Week 10

Thurs 2 July
Fri 3 July
4/5 July

Term 3

Week 1

Mon 20 July
Wed 22 July

First day of Term 3
MAC Ski/Snowboard Champs

Sponsored by:



Owner / Operator: Lindsay & Carol Parry
20 Dunmore Street, Wanaka
Phone: 03 4430048
Fax: 03 4430050
wanaka@newworld-si.co.nz

TERM DATES '09

Term 2: 27 April - 3 July

Term 3: 20 July - 25 September

Term 4: 12 October - 11 December
Labour Day: 26 October