



MOUNT ASPIRING COLLEGE

Te Kāreti O Maunga Tititēa

Enjoy Success!



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NEWSLETTER Panui

20 October 2012

Tel: (03) 443 9901, Website: www.mtaspiring.school.nz, E-mail: learn@mtaspiring.school.nz

College and Community - Keeping you in the picture

This week we celebrate the success of many of our students at the Junior and Senior Prizegivings. Around two hundred students will be going up on stage to receive certificates that recognise their success in sport, culture, leadership and academic endeavours. We are extremely proud of these students and wish to invite all parents and caregivers to attend the ceremonies and join with us in this celebration of hard work and talent.

At the same time, along with most members of our community, I was shocked by the actions of a few young people who were involved in an ugly incident in the town centre a few weeks ago. I am saddened by the fact that most of those involved are students at Mount Aspiring College and am not surprised that members of the community are looking towards the college and asking questions of us as a result.

What has the college done about it?

- The incident is the subject of a police investigation and therefore we must wait for the outcome of this before any action can be taken against individuals. We cannot jeopardise any court proceedings by taking premature action.
- The local police have been in to the college to talk to the whole Year 11 year group about the potential consequences of this type of behaviour and the importance of good decision making.

Is this symptomatic of a culture of violence at the college?

- The college never condones violent behaviour and there is no evidence to suggest from all that we know about our student body that there is a culture of violence. Sadly this incident appears to have been fuelled by alcohol and teenagers being out late at night unsupervised.

What will we do in the future as a result of this incident?

We continue to believe that the community, parents, the college, and the police all have a significant role to play in supporting our youth in their transition to adulthood. In particular, in keeping them safe and accountable with their actions.

- We will continue to work with community agencies and to host forums for parents to help them with strategies in dealing with their teenagers.
- We will continue to work with all of our students, in conjunction with parents, on programmes about peer pressure, making good decisions, and believing in and acting on what you know is right.
- We will continue to work with the police to implement programmes to modify unsociable behaviour.
- We will continue to focus on the vast majority of students whose behaviour is exemplary and who make a positive contribution to our community.
- Finally, we believe that the individuals involved should receive the appropriate consequences according to the law. At the same time the Board will consider the behaviour of specific individuals and, in conjunction with the police, decide what school disciplinary action should also be taken.

In the meantime, we would like this week to whole-heartedly focus on the celebration of success of the vast majority of our students.

Wayne Bosley

**SENIOR PRIZEGIVING (Years 10-13)
Friday 2 December, 7.00 pm**

All students including year 10's may dress suitably for the occasion and should assemble by 6.40 pm.
A reminder to Year 11 - 13 students to assemble on the hard court at 1.00 pm on Friday for the rehearsal.
Parents are warmly invited to share this special celebration.

Thank you to Breen Construction Limited who have also sponsored a scholarship but were omitted from last week's acknowledgements.

WINTER TOURNAMENT WEEK 2012

The U15 Rugby Team will be competing in their tournament in Temuka next year. If anyone knows of any suitable accommodation which might be available please contact Kellie at the Sports Hub.

There are still 90 library books and 150 textbooks cluttering your space! Please return them to the library NOW!

Florence Micoud, Librarian ~ RLIANZA

Please be sure to come and check out the
LOST PROPERTY
bin before the end of term.
Any un-named items not claimed by the end of term will be donated to the Op Shop and Wastebusters.

Lake Hawea Christmas Pot Luck Dinner
Lake Hawea Community Centre, 6.00 pm
Father Christmas will visit!

Poetic Justice Youth Poetry Slam
12 December, 3.30 pm @ The Creek

Calling all young poets! Bring along three of your best poems and try to make it all the way to the last round to win some awesome prizes.
For more info: poeticjusticewanaka@gmail.com

EMPTY YOUR LOCKERS

**Year 10's - Your lockers should now be empty
Year 9's - Please empty by Friday 2 December**
After these dates locker bays will be checked and any remaining lockers will have their padlocks cut off and their contents removed.

Stationery Lists for 2012 are now available at <http://www.mtaspiring.school.nz/programmes/curriculum-documents/stationery-lists>

Ever thought about what Shakespeare would write if he were alive now? This was one of the challenges facing students from the four local high schools at the



2011 Open Minds Tournament which was held in Queenstown last week.

Some students chose the Arts category, which this year consisted of condensing a Shakespeare play into 5 minutes, devising a Shakespeare play for today, and writing a comic or cartoon on another of the Bard's plays. The Science and Technology category involved an eschatologists conference (people who look at the implications of the end of the world) and the requirement to build a wheel which would turn for exactly fifteen seconds to predict the end of the world. Mount Aspiring College won first and second place in the Year 7/8 Arts category, with condensed versions of A Midsummer Nights Dream and Macbeth, and also won the Year 7/8's Science and Technology challenge with a wheel powered by water that stopped at exactly 15 seconds. In the year 9/10 category Mount Aspiring College came second with their deep appreciation of the most complicated love one could possibly have, based on Romeo and Juliet. The overall trophy this year was won jointly by Cromwell College and Wakatipu High School.

Jilly O'Brien, Rutherford teacher (who also writes the Arts challenge) said that the benefit of Open Minds is "partly social. The meeting of like minds that we often talk about is very important to grow networks and friends between the schools. The other benefit is in encouraging creative, divergent thinking with a real outcome. Challenges are difficult, there is plenty of frustration before it all comes together, which is hugely important".

And what Shakespeare would write if he were alive now? According to MAC students, the title would be Wastebusters Versus QLDC (thou hast got it wrong forsooth).

Good luck to Ruby Coers and Levi Rye who are competing at the NZ Secondary Schools Athletics Championships in Wellington next weekend.

Otago Primary Schools Athletics Championships

Congratulations to the following:
Kenzie Findlay 1st 800m (Year 7/8 Girls)
Jack Turner 2nd 70m Hurdles (13 and over Boys)
Meg Timu 1st Long Jump (U13 Girls), 2nd 70m Hurdles (U12 Girls) and High Jump (U12 Girls).
Amy Jolly 2nd High Jump (12 and Over Girls)

Congratulations to the 27 students who competed really well in the Secondary Schools Year 9/10 Touch Rugby Tournament in Dunedin last week. You were all fantastic! Kellie Bailey.

TERM DATES 2012

Term 1: Monday 30 January - Thursday 5 April
Monday 30 January - Teacher Only Day
Tuesday 31 January - All new students
Wednesday 1 February - Returning students
Term 2: Monday 23 April - Friday 29 June
Term 3: Monday 16 July - Friday 28 September
Term 4: Monday 15 October - Monday 10 December

CAREERS NEWS



On Monday the whole Year 9 group worked together for the day

playing the Real Game as part of their careers work. The students each took on an adult work role and had a go at managing a household budget (after they had paid their income tax). They also got an opportunity to compare many jobs in terms of wages, training and roles. The day finished with an enjoyable, and at times bizarre newspaper fashion show where each student group brought workers to life. The students have been asked to go through their work with you at home.



This is a good way to start talking about any future ideas and dreams. Have a chat to them about their job and ask them if they managed to balance their household budget!

Important Sporting Dates

3 / 4 December Hawea Kayak Slalom, Wanaka
4 December More FM Duathlon, Wanaka
5 December International Badminton Coaching (Yr 8) - Must have PE gear
9/10 December New Zealand Secondary Schools Athletics, Wellington

See Kellie (baileyk@mtaspiring.school.nz) at the Sports Hub for more details

Don't miss Aspiring Children's Theatre School's Showcase Weekend of Theatre

Sat 3 December, 7.00 pm: 5 short plays (Year 1-10)
Sun 4 December, 7.00 pm: 2 short plays (Year 5 & 6) and a full length play (Year 11-13)

Tickets (\$12 / \$8) available from Souffood on Ardmore.

Important Dates

Sponsored by:



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

Term 4 (25 October - 9 December)

Week 6 Friday 2 December
Friday 2 December
Week 7 5-8 December
6 December
Thursday 8 December

Senior Prizegiving, 7.00 pm
Year 9 and 10 reports issued
Year 10 Exploration Week
Year 6 Orientation Day
Last day of term and Year 7 and 8 reports issued

Please return all school tracksuits to Kellie at the Sports Hub.