

A warm welcome to all new students and parents to FAHS - Feilding High School. I trust that your time with us will be positive. The year has begun extremely well with students settling into the school routines very quickly.

Our roll looks as though it will settle at about 1390 which is slightly up on last year. However, we do have a record 340 Year 9 enrolments which is promising for roll retention.

We have 11 new staff joining us this year:

Mr Maher	HOF Mathematics
Mr Bourke	Science
Mr Dryfhout	Technology
Ms Lelecque	French
Mr Howard	Technology
Miss Cloughley	Science
Mr John	Mathematics
Mrs Hartley	Mathematics
Miss Cadman-Wilson	Social Science
Mr Chiet	English
Ms Walker	Mathematics and Science

Mrs Casey and Mrs Dundass remain on maternity leave.

Our interim exam results are very pleasing:

	<u>FAHS %</u>	<u>National %</u>
NCEA Level 1	72.4	70.6
NCEA Level 2	83.5	75.3
NCEA Level 3	75.2	68.9
Literacy	90.5	77.3
Numeracy	90.1	85.6
UE	68.9	62.8
Scholarships	16	
Outstanding Scholarships	1	

Gaining 16 scholarships is a record number for the school and Elizabeth Fox's outstanding scholarship in Geography is a real thrill. I acknowledge the out of class mentoring from staff with all our Year 13 scholarship candidates which is necessary to achieve such results.

This year all Year 13 students have received leadership and goal setting training so that they can have improved focus for the year ahead. Group teachers will be following up on progress with goals set throughout the year. I encourage parents to also get involved with the process.

As is usual with the start of a new year we have been speaking to a small number of students with regard to their appearance.

- *Hair must be clean and well groomed and extremes of fashion may not be acceptable (i.e. multi-coloured hair, undercuts, rat tails etc.).*
- *Hair must be clear of the eyes and face and boys' hair clear of the collar.*
- *Hair product is not permitted.*
- *Girls' hair must be tied back.*
- *Make-up is not permitted.*
- *Other than one plain ear stud in each ear no other visible piercings are permitted, including tongue studs.*

Planning is well advanced for the two overseas trips in April. Twenty-four students and five adults will be spending three weeks in France, which will largely be spent in the small southern French town of Mazamet, where they will be hosted by the local school.

The 1st XV will be taking a similar sized party to the Gold Coast as part of their pre-season training. Three or four games will be played while away.

We wish both groups all the best for their time away.

BOARD MATTERS

The major focus for this term is the up and coming Board elections. Two existing members will not be seeking re-election so I encourage any keen parents to stand. The timeline is as follows:

Call for nominations by	15 March
Nominations close	23 March
Voting papers distributed by	28 March
Voting day	7 May
Votes counted	13 May
BOT takes office	14 May

Nomination forms are available from the school office now.

UNIFORM SHOP

Hours for this term are Monday - Thursday, 3.30 - 4.30 PM.

If any senior students have items of uniform that they wish to donate to school, these would gladly be accepted at A6. Also, any students who no longer need their old PE polos, the Physical Education department would like to have these as spares. You can also leave these at A6.

HIGH HEALTH NEEDS

At the beginning of the year we review students' personal files. A number of students have health needs listed. If you consider that your child's health needs require a care plan or are beyond them managing themselves, please make urgent contact with Cecile Ellery to discuss the matter.

FRENCH TRIP

Preparations for the forthcoming educational venture to France are going well. We really appreciate the support we have received from the school community in terms of sponsorship and fundraising in general.

Our final fundraiser is a show by well-known hypnotist David Upfold in the school hall on 22 and 24 March 2010 at 7.00 PM. Tickets \$20.00, available from the school office, Stationery Shop, and at the door on the night. There will also be a raffle featuring a wide range of tempting prizes.

MJ'S SHOES MARCH DEAL

Buy any footwear during March and 10 percent of the purchase will be donated to the 1st XV Australian Tour travel fund. Just say that you are a FAHS parent / caregiver / supporter. Now is the time to purchase winter footwear and sports shoes so please support our local business and our rugby team.

YEAR 9 MEET THE TEACHER EVENINGS

Top / Mid Band Classes	10 March 2010, 7.00 PM, Hall
Home / Supported Classes	11 March 2010, 7.00 PM, Library

TEACHER ONLY DAY

School will be closed on Monday 1 March 2010 so that staff can be involved with some in-house professional development.

LATE START TUESDAYS

For students new to the school, every second Tuesday school does not start until 9.40 AM. Supervision is available for bus students. The first late start Tuesday is on 2 March 2010. This arrangement will remain in place until senior students leave in November.

HPV IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME 2010

In 2010 your daughter will have another opportunity to receive free HPV immunisation at school. HPV immunisation helps to protect her against infection from the four types of HPV that lead to most cervical cancers and genital warts.

If your daughter received the HPV immunisation during 2009 or you do not want your daughter to receive HPV immunisation in school then please disregard this notice.

2010 is the last opportunity for girls in school Year 10 and above to receive the HPV immunisation at school. After this time HPV immunisation will only be available through general practice or local health clinics.

The Public Health Nurses will be visiting the schools to give out the consent forms early in the first term. Your daughter can only receive HPV immunisation at school if the consent form has been completed, signed and returned. Together HPV immunisation and cervical screening will offer your daughter the most effective protection against cervical cancer. For more information about receiving immunisation at school, please contact Tracey Bentall, HPV School Based Co-ordinator Mid Central Health 0800153042, your doctor, practice nurse, or 0800466863 (0800 IMMUNE).

CAREERS ADVICE FOR SENIOR STUDENTS

Mrs North is the Senior Careers Dean and she is available to help students with:

- Subject choices
- Learning goals
- Career goals
- CV preparation
- Advice and support for students as they transition to the workplace and further study, during the school year
- Information and material on:
 - Tertiary courses at Universities and Polytechnics
 - Armed Services and Police

A variety of careers visits are organised throughout the year and students are encouraged to attend any that may be of interest to them. Students should also talk to a variety of people including their parents and teachers as the accumulation of information is vital to ensure they make informed choices when required. There are also outside agencies which provide career information such as Careers Services (www.careerservices.govt.nz).

STUDENT MATTERS

Ben Anderson (Year 13) attended a selection camp for the New Zealand Secondary Schools Computing team to compete in Canada at the World Olympiad. We wish him well for final selection.

At the national Secondary Schools Athletics Championships in Timaru in December we had four athletes competing:

- Stephanie Dickins won silver in the junior girls 400m
- Sarah Champion qualified for the semi finals of the junior girls 800m
- Amy Cokayne finished ninth in the junior girls javelin
- Cameron McNaught finished seventh in the steeplechase

Amanda Hendra won two gold and a silver medal in swimming at the New Zealand Special Olympics in December.

Mathew Waghorn competed in the Australian National Mountain Bike Championships. He finished eighth in the cross country despite two flat tyres, and third in the short track event.

Our 2010 swimming champions are:

Junior Boys	Sam Pike
Intermediate Boys	Tom Hyslop
Senior Boys	Dane Whale
Junior Girls	Eliza Mudgeway
Intermediate Girls	Bianca James
Senior Girls	Jaymi Ngaia

Tom also won the Campbell Shield, our annual quarter mile race.

Our mixed touch team were knocked out in pool play at the nationals in December.

Liana Mikaera gained first place in a one-day equestrian event in Wanganui recently.

COMING EVENTS

February

19 Athletics Preliminaries

24 Board of Trustees Meeting, 6.30 PM, Council Chamber

March

1 Teacher Only Day

2 Late Start Tuesday

1st XV vs Karamu High School (home)

3 Athletics Finals Day

4 12 Geography Field Trip

Interim Reports Issued

7 Year 12 Physical Education Trip to Taranaki (4 days)

8 Commemoration Assembly, 11.30 AM

10 Year 9 Meet the Teacher for A and Mid Band Classes, 7.00 PM, Hall

11 Year 9 Home and Supported Classes Meet the Teacher Evening, 7.00 PM in the Library

12 International Arts Festival Trip

13 MISS Athletics at Massey Track

16 Late Start Tuesday

22 French Trip Fundraiser – Hypnotist, 7.00 PM, Hall

24 French Trip Fundraiser – Hypnotist, 7.00 PM, Hall

R.S. MENZIES
Principal