

Term 2 has begun well with students quickly settling back into their routines.

Term 2 marks the beginning of our busy winter sports programme so I wish to thank all those folk who are helping to coach or manage one of our many teams. We still require help with managers for netball and basketball, so if you can assist please telephone our Sports Co-ordinator, Mrs Sarah Norman, 027 3525622.

Our extra curricular programme has an important impact on school tone and pride, so we are keen to have as many students involved as possible.

Our senior mid-year exams will run over three days this year, beginning on Thursday 20 May 2010. Over these three days we will be running two-hour periods in the morning for all classes. There will be no study leave for seniors. They will either be sitting an exam or attending class.

We held a very successful ANZAC Day assembly on Tuesday 27 April 2010 where Lieutenant John Samuela, from the NZ Army, was our guest speaker.

The Food and Farce production proved to be a great success and I wish to congratulate the Arts and Technology faculties. The logistics of entertaining and feeding audiences over three nights at the end of Term 1 was expertly achieved and the culinary, musical and theatrical talent on show was impressive.

My thanks to all staff involved with our very successful French trip to Mazamet. No doubt the outlook of all the students involved has been broadened and that huge gains in language and culture have been made. It is great that we have been able to offer such a rich experience to all those involved. Hopefully an enduring relationship has been established with Lycée Jeanne d'Arc College in Mazamet. I know that many on the trip were hoping that the Icelandic volcano was going to extend the trip.

The 1st XV also had a successful trip to the Gold Coast where they played three and won three games. Pre-season tours such as this tend to set up a successful season for the team involved – here's hoping. I also acknowledge the staff input here.

We continued our success at the recent Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Competition, winning the Best 15 Minute Scene for Much Ado About Nothing. Congratulations to Miss Harris and thespians.

I wish to remind students that during late start Tuesdays they are not permitted down town. The Truancy Officers will be patrolling the CBD at this time.

Lately we have been having a blitz on boys' hair. Our rules are very clear and I ask parents for your co-operation. Hair must be clear of the face, eyes and collar and must be well groomed. Extremes of fashion are not acceptable. Students who do not comply will be sent home until the issues are addressed.

Mrs Meena Buksh has joined the Mathematics Faculty as a replacement for Miss Emma Lochhead, and Mrs Tracey Emmerson has been appointed as the new Nurse / Administrator. We are presently advertising for a new Farm Manager as Mr Ray Huxford has signalled his retirement.

Voting for the Board elections closes this Friday. There are seven nominees for the five positions. They are:

Jayne Cameron	Sitting Member
Michael Campion	
Kevin Hodgetts	Sitting Member
Shane Hoggard	
Cathie Prior	
Glenys Taylor	Sitting Member
Geoff Walker	

BOARD MATTERS

Obviously the impending election is the immediate focus.

On the property front two of our projects will shortly go out for tender:

- the re-landscaping of the main quad
- the refurbishment of A Block Science Laboratories and establishment of a Science resource space

Approval in principle has been given to upgrade the aging hostel hot water systems.

The Strategic Plan has been adopted and the annual Achievement Reporting and Variance Report has been approved.

The auditor has approved the annual financial reports and these have been submitted to the Ministry of Education.

Policy review continues with all hostel policies being the latest to be dealt with.

MAORI CONSULTATION MEETING

The annual school consultation meeting with Maori parents is scheduled for Thursday 20 May 2010 at 6.30 PM in the Council Chamber. Our 2009 assessment results and initiatives that we have in place to improve achievement will be discussed.

NCEA PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

Thursday 13 May 2010, 7.00 PM in the library. This will cover NCEA awards and their criteria.

STUDENT MATTERS

Sarah Goss (Year 13) won the National Junior Shearing Competition in Te Kuiti recently – a first for a female. Dan Rush (Year 11) won the Novice title.

The girls' rugby team won the Taranaki Sevens last weekend with Sarah Goss being named Player of the Tournament.

Mathew Waghorn won the U19 title at the National Secondary School Mountain Biking Championships recently. Siobhan MacDonald was fourth in the U16 girls. Others competing were Nathan Waghorn, Monika Allen, Larissa Waghorn and Keryn Knight.

At the Manawatu Secondary School Swimming Championships the following swimmers gained first placings:

Hannah Henson	Bonnie Keall
Bianca James	Tom Hyslop

Tom Hyslop gained two second placings at the New Zealand Division 2 Swimming Championships in Wellington for butterfly and backstroke.

Kiriana Butler competed for the New Zealand Junior Polocrosse team against Australia during the holidays.

We had a number of students compete at the Horse of the Year Championships in Hawkes Bay recently:

Jemma McKay	Steph Atmore
Kate Marumaru	Britney Shirriffs
Hannah Swenson	Courtney Mitchell
Leanne Ireland	Victoria Middleton

Tom McKay (Year 9) has been selected for the Manawatu U15 representative hockey team.

OPEN DAY / COMMUNITY DAY 2010

Open Day this year is Thursday 24 June 2010. On this day we will be hosting all Year 8 students in the district as well as many prospective boarders.

To allow us the space to run this day all Year 10 students will be out of school working in the community for no financial reward. We call this Community Day and Mrs Paki, our Year 10 Dean, oversees the day.

CAREERS EVENTS TERM 2

The following agencies will be visiting in the Careers Room to present opportunities and advice:

Week 3	Monday 3 May	Taratahi
	Friday 7 May	International Pacific College (PN)
Week 4	Tuesday 11 May	Army

Week 5	Tuesday 18 May	University of Waikato
Week 7	Tuesday 1 June	Police
	Wednesday 2 June	University of Auckland
Week 10	Tuesday 22 June	Air Force

Students are encouraged to attend these lunchtime presentations, whether they have a definite interest or would just like to explore the opportunities available.

University Update

Many university courses have limited entry and students have to compete for places. Most universities are developing criteria to rank students – at present different universities use different processes. Some are currently ranking students according to their top 80 credit values. I strongly advise students to aim high, trying to gain Merit and Excellence grades where possible. Year 13 students can refer to the university websites or see Mrs North (Senior Careers Dean) for further information. The dates for applying for university courses and campus accommodation have been brought forward by most universities this year so students will need to check these dates.

It is essential for Year 13 students to be aware of these requirements for university study now, as being unprepared may affect acceptance into a course.

UNIFORM SHOP

Hours for the rest of this term are:

Monday and Wednesday	3.30 – 4.30 PM
Tuesday	1.00 – 2.00 PM

Hostel parents may book appointments for Friday afternoons when collecting students.

Available Now

Rugby Jerseys	\$80.00
Socks - Hockey / Rugby	\$15.00
Girls Over-the-Knee Socks	\$7.00 per pair
Navy V-neck Thermals	\$35.00
V-neck White T-shirts	\$16.00

SHEILAH WINN SHAKESPEARE

Sheilah Winn Shakespeare had a successful night at the recent Great Shakes Festival at the Palmerston North Globe. FAHS – Feilding High School won Best 15 Minute Scene for Much Ado About Nothing. We will now be heading to the National Festival at Queen's Birthday weekend. Fundraising efforts have started and a performance evening will be scheduled in a few weeks.

Jess McLean (Year 12) was selected as the Best Overall Actor of the festival. She has gained direct entry into the National Schools Shakespeare Production Week in September.

Students selected for the Otago University Sheilah Winn Shakespeare National Festival are:

Brooke Rush	Rowan Patching
Jesse Richardson	Jacob Wilson
Steph Mosley	Imogen Atkins
Jess Dunne	Lisa Swinbanks

YEAR 10 WORK DAY

On Wednesday 12 May 2010 Year 10 students will be issued with letters about Work Day which will be held on Thursday 24 June 2010. All students are required to find unpaid employment for the day. This is a community work day and a way in which we can show our gratitude for the support the community gives us. If you are able to place a student for the day please telephone Mrs Paki, Year 10 Dean.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Year 9

Year 9 students will participate in activities in Term 4. There will be a choice this year. A note detailing activities and payment due dates will be issued later this term. Due to the prior planning needed for this, late payment will not be accepted.

Year 10

Planning is well underway for Year 10 camps in Term 4. They will be held from 29 November to 3 December 2010. The notice detailing all activities available will be issued next Wednesday, 12 May 2010. Choices with deposit are to be returned to school on Tuesday 8 June 2010. Hostel students cannot charge this deposit to their account. Please choose wisely.

We are able to offer four sponsored places on particular Year 10 camps due to generous donations. Please ensure applications for these places are made on time.

Refunds were given for a large number of overnight camps in 2009. These were credited back to accounts.

YEAR 10 SELL PROGRAMME

On Wednesday 9 June to Friday 11 June 2010 the New Zealand Enterprise Trust is coming into the school to run a practical Business Education programme for 80 Year 10 students. Over the three days the students will work in groups (companies) and develop and market a product. On the afternoon of Day three the students will run a business expo where they will be judged by a panel of local entrepreneurs, including the Manawatu District Council Deputy Mayor, Mr Matt Bell.

Parents are welcome to come to the school assembly hall at any time, but especially on Day three from 12.30 PM onwards when they can observe the students' presentations.

COMING EVENTS

May

13 NCEA Information Evening, 7.00 PM, Library
18 Late Start Tuesday
20 Senior Mid Year Exams Begin (3 days – no study leave)
Maori Consultation Meeting, 6.30 PM, Council Chamber
26 Board of Trustees Meeting, 6.30 PM, Council Chamber

June

1 Late Start Tuesday
8 Sell Programme for Year 10 (3 days)
15 Late Start Tuesday
24 Open Day
Community Day for Year 10
29 Late Start Tuesday
Report Afternoon 1, 3.30 – 6.30 PM
30 Board of Trustees Meeting, 6.30 PM, Council Chamber

July

1 Report Afternoon 2, 3.30 – 6.30 PM
2 Last Day of Term 2



R.S. MENZIES
Principal