



Dargaville High School

Plunket Street
Dargaville Phone 09 439 7229

Newsletter 29th FEBRUARY 2008
Issue No. 1

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

He mihi nui ki a koutou
Greetings to all Parent and Caregivers



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Tena koutou katoa

Greetings to you all and welcome to the new school year at Dargaville High School.

We extend a warm welcome to our new members of staff in 2008.

Mrs Sylva
Mrs Hayhurst
Mrs Philpott
Mrs Fitness

English
Mathematics and Science
Health and Food and Nutrition
Gateway Co-ordinator

Our prefects for 2008 are:

Head
Deputy Prefect
Maori
St Patrick's
St George's
St David's
St Andrew's

Girl
Terri Gough
Danielle Cochrane
Kerri Lemon
Jessie Moffett
Zelda Senekal
Hayley Corfield
Sarah Evans

Boy
Alex Boyd

Alex Sydney
Thomas Koloï
Matthew Taylor
Jonathan Grant
Cole Windust

The Student Representative to the BOT is also a prefect. This year Hayley Flay is the Student Representative.

Please feel welcome to contact the school if you have any concerns or questions regarding your son/daughter. Usually the Dean of their year level should be the initial contact. Please contact the office to make an appointment so we can ensure that they are available.

Deans for 2008 are:

Year 9
Year 10
Year 11
Year 12
Year 13
Adult
Assessment Dean

Mrs Exley
Miss Schick
Mrs Matich
Mrs Burnett
Mr Barnes and Miss Troath
Miss Schick
Mr Barton



Term Dates for 2008 are:				
Term 1	Monday 4 February	To	Friday 18 April	
Term 2	Monday 5 May	To	Friday 4 July	
Term 3	Monday 21 July	To	Friday 26 September	
Term 4	Monday 13 October	To	Friday 12 December	

We are very pleased with our 2007 NCEA results where we are above the national.

	DHS Students	Schools comparable to DHS	Overall nationally
Level One (≥ 80 Credits)	65.8%	51.6%	63.2%
Level Two (≥ 80 Credits)	62.0%	39.9%	50.9%
Level Three (≥ 80 Credits)	44.4%	28.3%	40.1%

We are also thrilled for the students and their teachers who gained the three scholarship awards.

They are:

Rachel Chiaroni-Clarke

Natalie Robinson

Ryan McInnes

English

Art History

Mathematics with Statistics

Attendance and Punctuality

Developing sound work habits are vital to a student's success at school. Developing these work habits comes from acquiring a general positive attitude and commitment to education, which translate into achievement in the classroom. I know it is stating the obvious when I note that students cannot learn if they are not in class. To do well in class students need to attend all their classes and to arrive on time. Late arrivals disrupt the class and hinder the student who arrives late.

Parents need to be aware that, apart from being illegal, it gives very mixed messages to students when they are supported in unacceptable absences. We recognise that there will be emergencies and times when absence is unavoidable, this should be the exception. When an absence can be anticipated parents are required to request this in writing from the Principal. With any other legitimate absence, the school office must be notified and a note sent in with the child on their return to school.

David Bargh

Principal

From the Board

I would like to welcome all new parents and students to the first newsletter of the school year. You may receive a copy of this via email by asking Sue in the general office.

The Board of Trustees' role lies in the governance and strategic direction of the school, rather than in the day-to-day management of the school, although we are very aware of issues that may arise. Of concern over the past 12 months has been the poor attendance at school for a significant number of students. I would urge all parents to think twice about arranging appointments, holidays and shopping trips during school hours. Once students fall behind, there is tendency for them to give up on a subject, when, with a little effort, and with the help and support of their teachers, they can catch

Another area in which the Board of Trustees are closely involved, involves disciplinary issues. These can take a significant amount of our time. Teachers and students have the right to work and learn in an appropriate environment without abuse, swearing or misbehavior. A small number of incidents can result in a significant amount of lost time in the class room for both teachers and students, most of whom would rather get on with their studies rather than witnessing the bad behavior of others. In 2005, the Board of Trustees conducted a large scale survey on bullying within the school. Last year this was repeated for year 10s. Although the results of the follow up survey were encouraging, the Board and the school recognises that for a minority of students, life can be an exceptionally unpleasant experience at the hands of bullies. All school staff are vigilant in monitoring this, but cannot be present or witness to incidents at all times. It is important that any incident of bullying is reported and those students witnessing bullying need to be encouraged to report it. Together we can make a stand against this most unpleasant aspect of student life.

All students will have been given a homework diary to complete, and I would ask that you check this regularly and make use of it as a communication tool between yourself and the school. When they are not teaching, Deans and teachers are available to discuss any issues with parents. I would encourage all parents to attend the school Meet the Parents evening which will provide a good update on how your child is progressing. During this evening there will again be a questionnaire for parents to complete to help influence the Board in future decision- making. If you are unable to attend, but would like to complete the questionnaire please contact the school office.

The School is proud to announce that it has secured a regular column in the local newspaper which will provide more information on school activities to the wider community. Please watch the space for further developments.

Kelly Bryers
Chairperson

From the Deans

Year 9 DEAN

Fabulous start to the year by all Year 9 students. Every student has been arriving at class with a positive attitude and a willingness to learn. What more can I ask of them?

Thank-you to all parents/caregivers for ensuring that your child has the correct school uniform and stationery. This too, has created a positive atmosphere and has meant that lessons can just get going.

Please continue to support your child and encourage them to get involved in the wider school life – Stage Challenge about to start, Kapa Haka just underway and numerous other school activities for students to try. And lastly, please remember, I am just a phone call away.

A very happy Year 9 Dean –

Karen Exley



Year 10 DEAN

Greetings to all Parent and Caregivers of Year 10!

I hope that all students had a good holiday and are back to work hard this year.

It has been really noticeable this year that a number of students in previous years have not worked hard, particularly at their English and Maths and ended up in Year 11 alternative classes with no where to go in the following years. I am referring particularly to those students in 10DH, 10CB and 10AB who need to make sure they do not get themselves into a similar situation. Please make sure homework is done well and is handed in on time.

There have been a few changes in form classes and a few option changes. Option changes now will be difficult as class numbers have reached maximum.

Year 10 uniform is looking good – thank you for your co-operation with this.

I hope you have a worthwhile year.

Eileen Schick

Note: Year 10 Fees – Unfortunately on our Year 10 Stationery Requirements & Subject Fee list the price for Workshop was omitted. The subject has a fee of \$50.00 to cover the cost of materials supplied. We apologise for this omission.

YEAR 11 DEAN

Kia Ora parents and caregivers – Welcome to 2008 at DHS! I have been thrilled to welcome back so many of our cohort from last year – even those who ‘had difficulty’ attending last year!

What a BIG year for Year 11 students! Achievement Standards, Unit Standards, credits, courses it’s all on! There will be success for everyone as long as they attend regularly and give everything their best shot. Already we have had our swimming and athletics sports days and congratulations to our Year 11 Intermediate Boys Swimming Champion Sam McCahon and Intermediate Girls Athletics Champ Demi Exley – well done both of you! Year 11 participation in both of these events was high.

Just a reminder to you all about correct uniform – Grey shorts or skirt (a seemly length please), white polo shirt (white singlet or t-shirt may be worn underneath – no ‘lacey bits’ hanging below polo shirts girls), grey knee-length socks for the boys and white ankle socks for the girls and black lace-up leather shoes. All students must have shoes for Science and Technology subjects!! Black sandals with backs may also be worn. As the weather becomes more unpredictable students should have either a maroon sweatshirt or the woollen jumper. PLEASE name the jumper carefully - I recommend using a twink pen and writing the student’s name on the inside of the neck band – the school jumpers are very expensive and too easily ‘lost’. If it is cold or wet students may wear a plain black jacket – there are a couple of options available – over their jumper, not instead of it. Leave the jewellery at home and if girls are wearing more make-up than me, they will be told to wash it off!! A reminder too about cell phones – we advise students to leave them at home – if they get ‘lost’ it is not the school’s responsibility to locate them.

Please, if you have any concern about any of the above feel free to contact me either at the school or at the shop. I am always accessible!

Rebecca Matich

YEAR 12 DEAN

Students are back in class and most are working well towards NCEA Level 2. We had some very good results at level 1 NCEA, and I wish to congratulate all students who gained the necessary credits to pass and to continue on to level 2. I would especially like to congratulate those students who gained NCEA with merit – well done.

Unfortunately, we have a group of students who failed to heed their teachers' warnings about study techniques, planning, organisation and attendance and they have to repeat some level 1 work. Make the best of the opportunities given to you.

Please remember that you need signed permission to bring cars to school. If you have an appointment away from school a note from home must be handed in at the office and a pass given before you are allowed to leave. If you are away from school, on your return, please bring a note from home and give it to your form teacher.

In year 12 most students study 5 subjects and have one resource subject. This means that most days they have a free study period. Once a week a transition programme runs, and during the other free periods students are expected to be quietly working on homework, revision or silent reading. Please encourage your children to be organised with work for this time. It is not a time for socialising or time wasting.

Uniform has been good so far this term, but please remember the rules about earrings – one small stud in the lower lobe per ear, If you have any concerns about your students or courses please ring the school to make an appointment to see me.

Prue Burnett

YEAR 13 DEANS

Welcome back to the start of your last year at school! We are still working with some of you with regards to timetabling issues – so hang on and we will get round to you. Year 13 is a special year concerning privileges – you have your own common room – please look after it and keep it tidy. Sharni, Rose-Leigh and Marieke are the common room committee. They will be collecting fees from you for a number of items – so please ensure that your common room fees are paid.

You cannot bring a car to school unless it has been registered with Mrs Pumipi. If you live within walking distance of the school do you really need to bring a car in?

Signing in and out – the book is in the common room. Remember the book is for you to sign in and out during **lunchtimes** and **resource** periods.

If you are thinking of going to university make sure that you are aware of the entry qualifications and what are university approved subjects/standards. Mr Calder and Mrs Bourke-Heerikhuisen can advise you. Keep your eye on the notices for Moving on and university/careers days.

Bye for now

Mrs Troath & Mr Barnes



NOTICES

WAIKATO UNIVERSITY OPEN DAY

On May 8th and 9th we will be taking a bus down to this day. The trip is open to all Year 13 students and is especially important to any student thinking of Tertiary Study in 2009. We also look at Massey University Albany, A.U.T., Auckland University and WINTEC (Waikato Polytechnic). We stay over night at Ngaruawahia at a Christian Youth Camp. The Transition Department subsidises the trip. Even so the cost of bed, breakfast and transport will be \$50.00 per student.

MOVING ON

The Transition Department organises this day for all Year 13 students. The day is designed to help students focus on what they need to do to make a success of this year in order to achieve their future goals. There are workshops on Study skills, interview preparation, C.V.'s, career planning, identifying and achieving goals as well as talks from Liaison Officers from Auckland, Otago and Waikato Universities, NorthTec and Modern Apprenticeships. The day is on Wednesday, 12th March 2008.

HEALTH CLINICS

The School, with the support of Northland Health and the Dargaville Medical Center, runs two clinics at the High School Health Room.

On Monday the Public Health Nurse runs a clinic. She can see students with a range of issues from dieting, asthma, sexual health issues and wound dressings.

On Thursdays Dr Bev Hopkins is running a G.P. clinic every Thursday from 12.00 noon. Students can see her at School rather than having to go up to the Medical Center. There is no cost for this service. Students make appointments for both these clinics through Lyn Lucich in the School office. Parents can ring her to make an appointment if they want their child to see the nurse or the doctor.

DARGAVILLE HIGH SCHOOL WEBSITE

The School's new website is up and running. The new address is:

www.dargavillehighschool.co.nz

ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARGIVERS

We have recently had problems with students leaving the school grounds without permission. **NO STUDENT** is entitled to leave the school grounds without permission. A note **MUST** be provided to the School Office and a pass will be issued. Students **MAY NOT** just sign out or leave the school without a School Pass. Any students leaving the grounds without permission will be referred to the district truancy services and will face serious consequences.

PTA

The next Dargaville High School PTA meeting will be held on the 19th March 2008 at 7.00 p.m. and the AGM will be held on the 16th of April 2008. Both meetings will take place in A1 at 7.00 p.m. We would encourage parents/caregivers to join the PTA. It is a great way of finding out what is happening in the School and a good forum to express any concerns or ideas you have.

FREE TEXTBOOKS

The High School has old Science textbooks which are free for the taking. These books would be suitable for revision and/or if anybody is traveling to the Islands they will be suitable to take to the Schools. They will be held until the end of the first term. Any enquiries should be directed to the School Office.

RUGBY WEIGH IN

There will be a Weigh-In for all rugby players (all age groups) for the 2008 season in the Dargaville High School Hall following assembly on Monday, 3rd of March 2008.

CANTEEN NEWS

Welcome to our new and exciting menu for 2008. As part of our Schools commitment to the Healthy School recommendations we are offering our students the following menu:

BREAKFAST MENU

Hot Chocolate	\$1.50
Hot Chocolate & Cereal	\$2.50
Weetbix and Milk	\$1.50
Bacon & Egg Wrap	\$2.40

DAILY MENU

Salads	\$2.00 - \$3.50
Toasted Sandwiches	\$2.50
Calzones	\$2.40
Pizza	\$2.40
Heart Foundation Potato Top Pie	\$2.50
Noodles	\$2.20
Fruit Muffins	\$1.20
Baked Potato with Savory Topping	\$3.50
Yoghurt	\$1.50
Fruit	.80
Sandwiches & Filled Rolls	\$1.50 - \$2.80
Cold Drinks	\$1.50 - 2.50

The whole community has responsibility for providing a healthy environment for children, including a healthy food environment. We all have to work together to achieve this.

TAITOKERAU KAPAHAKA FESTIVAL 2008

Kapahaka is all go again at Dargaville High School as we prepare for the 32nd Taitokerau Secondary Schools Kapahaka Festival which will be held on the 15th & 16th of April at Okaikau College, involving twenty two teams.

More than fifty students from all year levels and a variety of nationalities have signed up with the 2008 DHS Kapahaka team. Whaea Ripeka Paraone has put together a programme using proverbs as the theme and will be the lead tutor for the Kapahaka. Mr Simon Barnsley has made the commitment again this year to support and participate in the Kapahaka. A welcome addition to the team is Matua Pere Tahere, who brings his haka skills and unique sense of humour.



All members of the Kapahaka have committed to eight weeks of lunch time, after school and two full day Wānanga (practice). Kapahaka at Dargaville High School is financially supported by the Dargaville High School Board of Trustees, Te Uri o Hau Settlement Trust (2007), the Dargaville Youth Committee, and the families of the students who participate.

Tama tu tama ora, tama noho tama mate.

The person that works hard survives, while the person that does nothing dies.



Nga Toi 2008

This year we have a Year 10 class and a Level 1-3 class. 17 students will be going to Rarotonga in August during Constitution Week to experience the cultural dances, singing and drumming competitions as part of their NCEA studies this year. The group will be fundraising over the next five months. Some major fundraising ventures we hope to organise are: Bike Trail Ride, Flea Markets, and Concerts, as well as all the usual things like raffles, car washes and sausage sizzles.

We need to have a meeting in the **Whare on Thursday 6 March at 4.00pm** for Ngā Toi students (and their whānau) travelling to Rarotonga in August. Please be there. ☺

Mauri ora!

Whaea Ripeka Paraone

General Announcements

NORTHTEC

Northtec will be starting the Level 4 Horticulture Course at the Dargaville High School site next week on Wednesday the 5th of March 2008. Lessons will be on Wednesdays and Thursdays during school time. Northtec would like to thank Dargaville High School for the use of facilities and its continued support in being able to offer this course. Any persons interested in participating should contact Vance Greaves at the Northtec campus.

PIANO LESSONS

Available in school on Tuesdays. Experienced, qualified teacher. Phone Margo Short (09) 434 7674 for more information.

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

Dargaville Rotary Club needs help from families willing to host a female student from Europe who will be with our club from July 2008 to July 2009.

Ideally we need 4 families, each to host this young lady for 3 months. Rotary Exchange students have been through a rigorous selection process and are subject to strict rules for the duration of their stay. Rotary provides a counsellor who the student will be responsible to, and who will ensure that all commitments by the student are met.

The student becomes a member of your family for the duration of her stay and will be subject to normal family rules and activities. She will be required to attend Rotary meetings and assistance will be given by the club for her to do so.

She does not pay any board or lodging fees, but our experience is that your hospitality will be repaid many times over by gaining a new daughter/sibling and that the benefits accruing from that continue in many ways for many years.

For more information please contact Neil Clements, Ph: 439 8160

SPORTS UPDATE

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT DHS THIS TERM

Secondary School Events: - see Elsie in the Sports Office for entry details

NSSSA Swimming – Kerikeri High	27 Feb
NSSSA Triathlon – Marsden Cove Marina	6 Mar
South Zone Athletics – Dargaville	7 Mar
NSSSA Athletics – Whangarei	12-13 Mar
Clay Target Trapshooting – Kaeo	29 Mar
Nth Island Athletics – Auckland	31 Mar
NSSSA Tennis - Whangarei	9 April

Interhouse Events: - enter with your House Prefects

Touch
Senior Tennis
Junior Tennis

Results from Swimming Prelims & Finals held on the 15th February

POINTS FOR PARTICIPATION			CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS		
167	George	1st	358	George	1st
112	Davids	2nd	287	Davids	2nd
101	Andrews	3rd	269	Andrews	3rd
79	Patricks	4th	186	Patricks	4th



McConchie Cup Relay

Patricks	1st
Andrews	2nd
Davids	3rd
George	4th

New Record for Junior Mixed Medley Relay 3 x 1 length by DAVIDS
1.15.07 (old record 1.19.93) Swimmers were Soul Winstanley (freestyle), Jasmin Pomare(backstroke) & Taryn Gillespie (breaststroke).

2008 DHS SWIMMING CHAMPIONS**Jnr Girls**

1st	April Nordstrom	G	1st	Matt McCahon	A
2nd	Taryn Gillespie	D	2nd	Soul Winstanley	D
3rd	Holly Millan	A	3rd	Steven Pocklington	G

Jnr Boys**Int Girls**

1st	Vanessa Moffett	P	1st	Sam McCahon	A
2nd	Nicole Zwaans	G	2nd	David Mullan	D
3rd	Melissa Flower	G	3rd	Royce Taylor	G

Int Boys**Snr Girls**

1st	Sarah Evans	A	1st	Tai Marsters	G
2nd	Jessie Moffett	P	2nd	Henk Estehuisen	G
3rd	Evie Marinkovich	A	3rd	Jason Wykes	G

Snr Boys

At the Lower North Swimming Events new Records were achieved by:

Junior Girls	
50m Freestyle	Holly Millan
100m Freestyle	April Nordstrom
3 x 25m Relay Medley	
Backstroke	April Nordstrom
Breaststroke	Taryn Gillespie
Freestyle	Holly Millan
Intermediate Girls	
4 x 25m Relay Freestyle	
	April Nordstrom
	Taryn Gillespie
	Vanessa Moffett
	Holly Millan

ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIPS 2008 RESULTS

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS

Junior Girls	1 st	Aidan Gent	(St A)
	2 nd	Rebecca Conn	(St G)
	3 rd =	Kalolaine Maake	(St G)
	3 rd =	Janine Rees	(St G)
Junior Boys	1 st	Mathew Morris	(St D)
	2 nd	Alex Skudder	(St G)
	3 rd	Joel Evans	(St P)
Intermediate Girls	1 st	Demi Exley	(St P)
	2 nd	Hayley Gilchrist	(St G)
	3 rd	Tamara Van Leeuwen	(St P)
Intermediate Boys	1 st	Steven Morris	(St D)
	2 nd =	Hamish Younger	(St D)
	2 nd =	David Mullan	(St D)
Senior Girls	1 st	Taria Tane	(St P)
	2 nd	Hayley Le Noel	(St P)
	3 rd	Helen Foy	(St G)
Senior Boys	1 st	Jason Wykes	(St G)
	2 nd	Leigh Kuljish	(St G)
	3 rd	Michael Thurston	(St P)
Schick Relay	1 st	St George	
	2 nd	St Patrick	
	3 rd	St David	
	4 th	St Andrew	

HOUSE RESULTS

4 th	St. Andrew	1193pts
3 rd	St. David	1289pts
2 nd	St. Patrick	1308pts

1 st	ST. GEORGE	1736 PTS
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