



# Dargaville High School

Plunket Street  
Dargaville Phone 09 439 7229

Newsletter 25<sup>th</sup> June 2008  
Issue No. 4

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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

Tena koutou katoa

This term we have been privileged to have had a number of adult volunteers to provide assistance for a number of our students. Pauline Gough has organised for 10 adults to come into Dargaville High School to assist with the reading development of individual Year 9 students.

They spend 35-40 minutes listening to the pupils read and then they ask them questions about what they have just read. Strategies will be provided for these adults to assist the pupils they work with. So far relevant English and Social Studies material has been used, but we will be looking to use Science texts as well. The atmosphere is positive and productive.

We really appreciate the caring attitude these adults have shown already, and I know that these students will benefit from their thoughtfulness and interest.

We have three teams participating in the Northland Secondary Schools Young Enterprise Scheme (YES). Throughout Northland 16 schools have entered 50 teams. Team **Apex Innovations** with team members James Blair, Dallas Dreadon, Daniel Nash, Jordan Rae and Nick Reed placed 2<sup>nd</sup> overall for their Business Plan receiving a prize of \$150. They also placed 4<sup>th</sup> for their Oral Presentation. Their product is a water level safety device.

Team **Nu-Era** with team members Bradley Sherman, Kane Gosnell, Brayden Nichols, Adam King, Ricky Harris and Luke Johnston place 3<sup>rd</sup> overall for their Business Plan for a prize of \$100. They also placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Business Card Competition and will have their business cards printed for free from Keri Print. Their product is a high quality Student Newsletter.

Team **Handy Ma'am** with team members Taria Tane, Lana Taylor, Vanessa Moffett and Janelle Wordsworth also reached the final 8 teams for their Business Plan. Their service is Chemical-Free Household cleaning.

To have all 3 teams reach the final 8 for their Business Plan is a complement to the students and their teacher Mr Middleton.

Lastly, our congratulations go to Ming-Ming Edgar who placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the 75kg weight class at the North Island Power Lifting Championships this week.

He lifted the following:

Squat	130kg
Bench Press	85kg
Dead Lift	150kg
(Grand Total Lifted	365kg)

Well done Ming-Ming we are all extremely proud of you.

**David Bargh**

**Principal**

## From the Board

Many of you will have already seen in the local newspapers that following the Board election process Simon Gray has been appointed to the Board of Trustees. I would like to wish him well.

The Nga Toi fundraiser is taking place this weekend and I would like to encourage everyone to attend and thank those people who have supported the fundraising to date. Stage Challenge is next week and on behalf of the Board I wish everyone a successful outcome and thank all those parents and teachers who help out with this event.

Recently the School hosted Botany Downs 1<sup>st</sup> XV. It was very humbling to see students, teachers and the public in attendance. The Home Economic Department provided a superb after match meal at the Hostel.

Discipline is again an issue in the school which the Board and Senior Management Team are closely monitoring as is the whole question of attendance at school. Next term there will be the Parent/Teacher interview evenings which I strongly encourage everyone to attend.

The Board has recently surveyed the students on a number of aspects of school life and the results of these will be published in due course.

**Kelly Bryers**  
*Chairperson*

## Calendar and upcoming events.

### TERM 2

1 <sup>st</sup> July	Stage Challenge
2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Senior Reports issued
4 <sup>th</sup> July	End of Term 2

### TERM 3

21 <sup>st</sup> July	Start of Term 3
31 <sup>st</sup> July	Senior Report Evening
7 <sup>th</sup> August	Junior reports issued
14 <sup>th</sup> August	Junior Report Evening
18 <sup>th</sup> August	Careers Evening
25 <sup>th</sup> August	Options Evening and NCEA information for 2009
22 <sup>nd</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Senior Examinations
26 <sup>th</sup> September	End of Term 3

### TERM 4

13 <sup>th</sup> October	Start of Term 4
20 <sup>th</sup> October	Senior Interim Reports issued
13 <sup>th</sup> November	Senior Prizegiving
17 <sup>th</sup> November	NCEA External Exams begin
26 <sup>th</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Junior Exams
8 <sup>th</sup> December	Senior Reports issued
10 <sup>th</sup> December	Junior Prizegiving.

### Schedule for BOT Meetings

Term 2	30 <sup>th</sup> June
Term 3	12 <sup>th</sup> August
	9 <sup>th</sup> September
Term 4	14 <sup>th</sup> October
	11 <sup>th</sup> November
	9 <sup>th</sup> December

## From the Deans

### Year 9 DEAN

1. I mentioned in the last newsletter that students are arriving at school without their equipment – books, pens, compasses, rulers, PE gear etc. This still continues to be a problem for some. Would parents please check at the start of each week that your child has all their gear in their school bag. Having NO school bag is probably a dead give away that they do not have all their gear.
2. Junior exams have been held this week. Parents will be contacted if your child is to change class.
3. A very advanced warning to parents that well behaved Year 9 students will have the opportunity to attend the end of year trip (Rainbows End and Waiwera Hot Pools) in early December. This does end up being a costly trip. If parents prefer, you are able to start slowly paying for this trip now through the office (\$3 - \$4 a week should probably cover the cost).

And lastly, may your child cost you lots and lots of money in the coming school holidays!

*Karen Exley*

### Year 11 Dean

Dear Parents and Caregivers – With only a few days of school left this term, the pressure is on for students to keep up to date with assignments and assessments. The reports are due out soon, and it is nice to be able to indicate on them, ‘credits achieved’ rather than ‘being assessed’, or worse .... ‘not achieved’ – the former being credits ‘in the bag’ so to speak! Also, speaking of assessments – please ensure that the necessary NZQA fees are paid ASAP – and if you have a Community Services card or if you are a beneficiary please make an application for a reduction of these fees – Financial Assistance forms are available at the school.

I have been very pleased with the ‘state’ of Year 11 lately – they have been, in general, tidily presented and in correct uniform. Thank you very much. This is a good forum however to remind students and parents that wearing white trainers because one’s “shoes are wet” or “I left them in my mate’s car” or “I left them at my nana’s” or whatever else may seem like a reasonable excuse, is not acceptable. I have a lovely selection of shoes that I have picked up from the Red Cross and the Salvation Army for students to borrow when they turn up in non-regulation footwear!

There is a matter of some concern at present and that is the number of ‘unexplained absences’ in the Year 11. It has come to my attention that a number of students have been coming to school in the morning and then leaving for the day and while others are staying at home for long periods of time ‘just because’. If a student is away for more than three consecutive days then either a doctor’s certificate is required or a phone call made to the school. By law the school has to hold a note to explain a student’s absence. From now on, I expect a student to bring a note **on the day they return to school** after an absence explaining why they were away. If they do not have a note then they will be doing a lunchtime detention until they do bring the note and a phone call to their home will be made. It is not sufficient that the school is called to explain an absence. This is a courtesy not the requisite.

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If you have any queries I am available either at school or at the shop. Please have a good, injury free winter holiday.

***Rebecca Matich***

## **Year 12 Dean**

The majority of year 12 students are working well and are on track with their internal assessments and with preparation for their external exams. Fees for all exams are due soon. Students should have checked their entry papers and should be preparing to pay their fees. Credits are not posted to your record of learning unless you have paid the fees – this applies to internal and external standards.

Some students however are “letting the side down”. They are missing form periods, bunking classes and generally compromising their chances of, not only successfully completing Year 12, but they may find that their subject choice in Year 13 will be extremely limited. It is not too late to apply yourself to your studies and to make the year a success. Continued non-compliance will result in the issuing of a leaving certificate. Term two reports are due out soon so take heed of your teachers’ comments and work hard for the exams at the end of term 3.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to ring the school to make an appointment to either see me or to talk to me.

***Prue Burnet***

## **Uniform**

Just a reminder to parents and caregivers to please help us ensure all our students follow the uniform code. When students don’t comply it can be an unnecessary distraction. Jackets should be plain black or the School jacket and shoes should be black leather full covered shoes. Black trainers are not school uniform, and unsuitable for the workshop areas anyway!

## **Careers Evening**

### **Parents, Students, Caregivers**

There will be a Career Expo in the School Hall on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2008 from 4.30 pm to 7.00 pm.

All parents, caregivers and students are welcome and encouraged to come along. Universities, Polytechnics, Industry Training Organisations, Local Industries and Local Professionals will be available to answer questions on courses, training and career options. The computer room will be open and available for people to try the Career Quest Programme.

## **Subject Choices for 2009**

It is that time again when decisions will have to be made about subject choices for 2009 and beyond. There will be an Option and NCEA information evening next term and we would encourage the parents and caregivers of all Year 10 students and above to come along.

However what is important is that all students should be checking out that they are obtaining the credits needed to move on in certain subjects. This is particularly critical in areas such as English and Mathematics where there are national criteria for NCEA .  
**Check it out now!**

## Past Pupils Successes

Congratulations to the following past pupils who have recently graduated from the University of Waikato:

Phillip Muir	Bachelor of Laws with Honours
Carl Bishop	Grad. Diploma of Teaching
Scott Griffiths	Bachelor of Management Studies/Grad. Diploma in Finance
Phillip Guest	Bachelor of Management Studies
Bronwyn Lovatt	Bachelor of Management Studies
Kurt Stringer	Bachelor of Management Studies
Viki Hokai	Cert. of University Preparation

## Stage Challenge 2008

Nearly there.... July 1<sup>st</sup>.... The Big Night! With only a matter of days left, it is all go on the Stage Challenge front! As you can see from the photos, the performance looks interesting.

Months of hard work are coming to an end. Well done to all the students who have stuck with it, and thanks to the myriad of people who have helped behind the scenes. It will be great to finally see it on stage.

We finish our practices for the year with a full dress rehearsal at 4.30pm (Sunday, 29 June) in the School Hall. If you can't make it over to Whangarei, (7.00pm at Forum North) come up and have a look at what we have been working on: 'Tiananmen Square Remembered'.

Please note that tickets purchased through the school office will be available for collection on Friday. If you want tickets, they are still available through Ticketek.

***Ruth Chitty – Liaison Teacher 2008 Stage Challenge***

## Staff Matters

### Noho Marae for DHS Staff

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> May the Te Kotahitanga team organised a Marae experience at Oturei Marae for the staff of DHS, opening up the invitation to outlying Primary schools. Although the number attending was small, the group that attended was well looked after by the tangata whenua and we would very much like to thank Oturei for your meaningful korero, fantastic food and warm hospitality. This being our second noho, last year being held at Te Houhanga, the main purpose is for new and overseas staff to be welcomed onto local Marae and to find out a little more about Maori culture. Te Kotahitanga team members feel that this was a worthwhile experience for all teachers of the Northern Wairoa and hope that these continue at different Marae in the future.

### Te Kotahitanga – Heard of it, but what is it?

One of the goals for Dargaville High School is to raise levels of achievement of all students with particular focus on Maori students. One strategy towards achieving this goal is the project called *Te Kotahitanga*.

You might ask ‘why is it necessary to focus on raising Maori student academic achievement?’ One reason is to address the academic achievement disparities between Maori and non-Maori. However, what’s important to remember is that raising Maori academic achievement through developing teaching practice will leverage benefits for all students here at DHS.

The aim of the project is to raise Maori student academic achievement through professional development with our teaching staff. The focus of the project is on interactions between teachers and Year 9 and 10 students in the classroom. This involves a cycle of observations, feedback sessions, one co-construction meeting per term and shadow coaching where necessary.

The current facilitation team has 4 team members. The Lead Facilitator is Sharlene Rogers, who has help from Alison Greaves, Gayle Dowsett (Team Solutions) and Alison Nathan (RTLb).

If you would like further information you are welcome to contact Sharlene Rogers at Dargaville High School 439 7229 ext 742 or email [srogers@darghigh.schoolzone.net.nz](mailto:srogers@darghigh.schoolzone.net.nz)

He Whakatauki:

Te manu e kai i te miro, nona te ngahere,  
Te manu e kai i te **matauranga**, nona te ao

The bird (student) that partakes of the miro berry, theirs is the forest,  
The bird (student) that partakes of **knowledge**, theirs is the world

## **Maori Department – Nga Toi (Performing Arts)**

### **Alzheimer Mobile Day Clinic**

Nicola Lewis, Vasemaca Ranamila, Danielle Cochrane, Jorina Nett, Lise Ueese, Erenistina Maake, Linda Rapana and Dalyce Joseph made poi with the elderly at the Alzheimer Mobile Day Clinic on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2008. The elderly really appreciated the visit, and loved learning to make and perform the poi.

### **Polynesian Night**

The students and adults travelling to Te Maeva Nui Festival being held during Constitution week in Rarotonga have one last major fundraiser event coming up. Please join us – it'll be a fabulous night!

Where: Dargaville Town Hall

When: Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> June 2008 6.00pm – 9.30pm

What: Ultimate Dining Experience, Polynesian Feast and Floor Show  
(Nga Toi Rarotonga Fundraiser)

Cost: \$30 – Tickets available from the High School

## **Sports Update: DHS 1<sup>st</sup> XV 2008**

The first game of the year against Botany Downs College, from Auckland was an enormous effort from the Boy's themselves. Highlights for me were the team dressed in formal uniform, participation in the Powhiri (welcome), the after-match function for both teams and management staff and the game itself. All coaches were pleased with the effort displayed from the boys.

We are looking to purchase team jackets for each player. The standard cost is between \$120.00 to \$150.00 for a standard jacket. We will look for funding to assist with the costs involved, but the majority of the costs will be needed from our players and management. We are looking at getting \$70.00 from each payer and management staff.

Our next game is planned for the 30<sup>th</sup> July and then the 20<sup>th</sup> August 2008. Please put these dates in your calendars and come and support the team.

Cheers – Ed, Paul and Simon – Coaches

## Free Health Services at DHS

The School, with the support of Northland Health and the Dargaville Medical Center, runs two FREE 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.

## Host Families Wanted

Our annual visit from Kokoku High School, Osaka, Japan is coming up next term. Once again we would like to invite families to host a boy (15-16 years old) for the time they are here (for a small reimbursement). The dates are Tuesday, 22 July 2008 – Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2008. Please leave your details at the School's office, or call Jeanette on (09) 439 1449. It is a fabulous opportunity especially if your child is studying Japanese.

## Newsletter

If you wish to receive a copy of the school newsletter by e-mail please go to the Dargaville High School website: [dargavillehighschool.co.nz](http://dargavillehighschool.co.nz), click on the "News and Events" category and subscribe to receive newsletters electronically.