

BULLER HIGH SCHOOL

Te Kura Tuarua-o-Kawatiri

Issue 1
February 2011



FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES: office@buller.ac.nz

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2011. I hope you all had a good holiday and are refreshed for the term and year ahead.

Last year was again an eventful one for our school with many positive events, including the completion of the Hall project and appointment of Andrew Basher as the new Principal from Term 2, among other things.

With all of this and the work done in the previous couple of years, the commitment of staff and continuing achievements of students, the School has a stronger platform now to continue its progress forward. 'To be the best it can be' in ensuring we allow our students 'to be the best they can be' - whatever their passion.

I have no doubt all of us again have challenges ahead, but I am sure they can be met and passed with planning, hard-work, perseverance, integrity, communication and teamwork.

Kind regards and all the best for 2011.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL: principal@buller.ac.nz

Welcome back to Buller High School for 2011, which promises to be an exciting year with lots of challenges.

We are delighted with the new school hall and Performing Arts teaching areas which were completed on time and on budget. Thanks are due not only to the builders, Len Fitzsimons Builders Ltd who worked long hours to complete the Hall, but to Project Manager, Graeme Street and Executive Officer, Corrina Batt, who kept everyone on

track. Also, thank you to all the Buller High School staff who gave freely of their time to ensure all went smoothly.

I am pleased to report that students did well in NCEA in 2010, especially the Year 11 students.

Year 11 students

Performance is much improved on 2009.

NCEA Level 1:

77.9% achieved 73.5% nationally

Level 1 Literacy

80% 78.4% nationally

Level 1 Numeracy

92.9% 86.6% nationally

These are outstanding results from our students.

Year 12 students

At Level 2, results were down on last year, and below national average. However, students' performance was much improved over their performance in 2009, when their Level 1 pass rate was 53.8%.

NCEA Level 2:

67.3% 79.2% nationally

Year 13 students

Year 13 students in 2010 performed better than any previous cohorts. Although the achievement rate was 7% below the national rate, it is nevertheless a huge increase from 2004 when NCEA began, when the achievement rate at Buller High School was only 28.1%. This is particularly pleasing given that many more students are now staying at school longer. These results again reflect the way that Buller High is catering to the diverse needs of students, providing them with highly relevant and meaningful programmes, whatever their chosen career pathway.

As **all** Year 13 students gaining Level 3, also gained University Entrance, we know that our programmes are preparing students well for further study, as well as for the world of work. Our UE pass rate matched the national pass rate for UE.

NCEA Level 3:

64.5% 72.8% nationally

University Entrance

64.5% 64.9% nationally

Merit and Excellence

17 students gained a Merit Endorsed NCEA certificate, 12 at Level 1, two at Level 2 and three at Level 3. Two students, Elise Basher and Wei Nei Carleton, gained an Excellence Endorsed NCEA certificate at Level 1, and noteworthy achievement.

Unfortunately the term is likely to be marred by industrial action again, as teachers are still trying to settle their contract negotiations. On Wednesday 23 February, all teachers will attend a Paid Union Meeting in Greymouth. While school will remain open, we will not be able to instruct students in their normal curriculum subjects. Parents may opt for their children to go home that afternoon, but those remaining at school will be supervised.

2011 NEWSLETTER

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Attendance at Buller High School

This year all staff are recording student attendance electronically. This will enable us to more accurately monitor attendance of students.

In the mornings, all students who have not attended house time (8.45am) will be called to ensure that the absence is justified.

If you know that your son/daughter will not be attending on a particular day because of illness or family emergency, please call the School and let us know prior to 8.45am. This will ensure that you do not receive a call from us. If the absence is known in advance, you should also alert the House Teacher who will in turn let the office know.

Please assist us in ensuring that all students are at school when they are supposed to be, by informing us as soon as possible if for any reason your son/daughter will not be at school on a given day.



SIR PETER BLAKE YOUTH ENVIROLEADERS' FORUM WELLINGTON 17- 21 APRIL 2011



All expenses will be paid for the successful applicant to attend this forum.

If you are in Year 11 or 12 and have an interest in the environment, then please see Mr Dorey for an application form. Buller High School students have been attending this event for many years now and always return energized and ready to take action to help out with local environmental issues.

For further info: www.youthenviroleadersforum.org

IMPORTANT CONTACTS AT BULLER HIGH SCHOOL

PH: 789 7299 / FAX: 789 6790 /Email: office@buller.ac.nz

Dr Sheila Grainger	PRINCIPAL
Mr Bryan Forsyth	ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL (Junior School)
Mr Andrew Basher	DEPUTY PRINCIPAL (Senior School)
Mrs Corrina Batt	EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Mrs Angela Basher	GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR
Mrs Miriam Comeskey	CAREERS ADVISOR

website: www.buller.ac.nz

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825
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Houses	Grey	Marsden	Seddon	Wilding
Deans	Miss Westoby claire.westoby@buller.ac.nz	Ms Savage ainslie.savage@buller.ac.nz	Mr Dorey stephen.dorey@buller.ac.nz	Ms Redmond laura.redmond@buller.ac.nz
Year 9	Mr Haussmann gavin.haussmann@buller.ac.nz	Mr Jar steve.jar@buller.ac.nz	Ms Quennell rachel.quennell@buller.ac.nz	Mr Hollis joe.hollis@buller.ac.nz
Year 10	Mr Stevenson kim.stevenson@buller.ac.nz	Mr Maharaj sat.maharaj@buller.ac.nz	Ms Hollis sheree.hollis@buller.ac.nz	Mr Lindblom david.lindblom@buller.ac.nz
Year 11	Mr Tohia arnie.tohia@buller.ac.nz	Ms Christie-Cumming jacqui.christie@buller.ac.nz	Ms Pavka trisha.pavka@buller.ac.nz	Mr Curnow ray.curnow@buller.ac.nz
Year 12-13	Ms Szybowski anoushka.szybowski@buller.ac.nz	Mr Thompson nathan.thompson@buller.ac.nz	Ms Pottinger janet.pottinger@buller.ac.nz	Mr Dubs fred.dubs@buller.ac.nz

SCHOOL CALENDAR

16 Feb:	Swimming sports
22 Feb:	Athletics day
27-28 Feb:	Kaiapoi cricket
28 Feb- 1 March:	Year 12 OE Tramp
7-11 March:	Year 9 camp week
10 March:	Year 9-13 Interim reports posted
24 March:	Year 9-13 Parents evening

IMPORTANT NOTICE

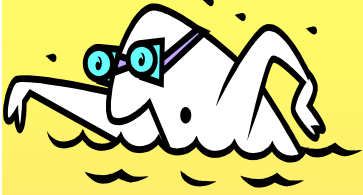
WEDNESDAY 23 FEBRUARY

Parents are advised that on Wednesday 23 February, all teachers will attend a Paid Union Meeting in Greymouth. While school will remain open, we will not be able to instruct students in their normal curriculum subjects. Parents may opt for their children to go home that afternoon, but those remaining at school will be supervised.

Schedule Change

All Parents/Caregivers Welcome To The Following School Events

SWIMMING SPORTS DAY: WEDNESDAY 16 FEBRUARY AT SOLID ENERGY CENTRE



Students must first arrive at School at 8.45am for roll call at house time. After this, all students will walk over to the Solid Energy Centre. Students need to wear their House colours (be creative) and must bring their swimming togs, towel and a bottle of water.

House points are awarded for the best presented House. Any students who are not swimming **MUST** have a note from their parents/caregivers.

ATHLETICS DAY 2010:

Buller High School is holding the annual Athletics Day on **Tuesday 22 February**. If postponed the reserve day is **Friday 25 February**. All students must first arrive at School (in PE uniform) and attend house time as usual at 8.45am for roll call. All students will then make their way down to Victoria Square for the start of the sporting events at 9.15am. If there is a postponement, then information will be available on **Coast FM from 7am** at regular intervals. If you are unsure then it would be best for students to come in uniform and bring their sports gear with them.

Students' parents and family are encouraged to attend and support their children.

Lunch will start at approx 12.30pm for 1 hour.

Rainbow Cake Kitchen will have food for sale.

Students are not allowed to leave Victoria Square.

See You All
There!!!



Students are reminded to:

- Wear their PE shorts with house colour tee shirts and suitable footwear for sports
- Bring their lunch and plenty to drink
- Bring their sunscreen and sun hat.

Junior Science Update

This year we are continuing our popular SCIENCE BADGE programme because it gives students a chance to extend their scientific understanding in an area of their choice and develop scientific literacy skills (and students enjoy it and are proud to wear their metal badge on their uniform).

Students choose from a wide range of topics to research and investigate. Once they have chosen a topic they are given a sheet of paper with a large list of activities. Each activity is rated as being worth 1, 2 or 3 stars depending on the difficulty of the activity. To receive a badge on their chosen topic, students must complete at least 20 stars.

It is expected that all students complete a minimum of **one** badge by the end of Term 2. So get together with your child and work on science badge activities like making an electromagnet, baking a cake or even testing out different brands of cat food and be careful because YOU might even have FUN!!



As the roads are very busy before and after school, we would urge students to remember safety when travelling to and from school:

Bikes - wear helmets...done up

Walkers - cross roads carefully...at crossings when able to

Drivers - being aware of road conditions and obeying conditions of licence (especially with regard to passengers).



REMINDER

It's very hot outside at the moment!! Please remember to drink plenty of water throughout the day, wear sunscreen and wear a sunhat!!!

The School Canteen is open before school, at interval and lunchtime. Pre-ordering with payment for lunch is a great idea – best to do this before school!! The aim is to provide a variety including healthy options like filled rolls, toasties, fruit juices. Prices range from about 70 cents for a Boston Bun through to around \$3.90 for a Chargrilled Chicken Burger.



Miss Westoby is on Facebook!

Get students in Miss Westoby's PE, Maths and Health classes to log in and "LIKE" Miss Westoby's new Facebook page for students at Buller High School. Useful for asking questions, quick quizzes and assignment dates. Parents can go along and have a look too. No disadvantage for those without internet or Facebook, just an extra for those that wish to use it.

Address is: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Miss-Westobys-classes-Buller-High-School/180942571938545> or just go to Facebook and search Miss Westoby.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS ON THEIR FINE ACHIEVEMENTS.
ALL OF THEM RECEIVED PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS.**

Dana	Button	For	Merit	In	NCEA Level 1
Hannah	Martin	For	Merit	In	NCEA Level 1
Hannah	Tuisamoa	For	Merit	In	NCEA Level 1
Carly	McMillan	For	Merit	In	NCEA Level 1
Jaydene	Gilbert	For	Merit	In	NCEA Level 1
Jessica	Griffiths	For	Merit	In	NCEA Level 1
Hannah	McMillan	For	Merit	In	NCEA Level 1
Brydie	Forsyth	For	Merit	In	NCEA Level 1
Amber	Allott	For	Merit	In	NCEA Level 1
Eden	Callaghan	For	Merit	In	NCEA Level 1
Hannah	Currie	For	Merit	In	NCEA Level 1
Alya	Tranter	For	Merit	In	NCEA Level 1
Elise	Basher	For	Excellence	In	NCEA Level 1
Wei Nee	Carleton	For	Excellence	In	NCEA Level 1
Tamika	Green	For	Merit	In	NCEA Level 2
Ben	Reynolds	For	Merit	In	NCEA Level 2
Charlotte	Ensor	For	Merit	In	NCEA Level 3
Dylan	Paterson	For	Merit	In	NCEA Level 3
Rachel	Pahl	For	Merit	In	NCEA Level 3

