

Mount Maunganui College

Newsletter No 6

29 June 2007

Introduction

Motivated to Achieve

In the Listener (16 June), there is an excellent letter by Phillip Capper on what motivates students to learn. In discussing what motivates children to persevere or continue to make an effort, Phillip refers to a growing body of research that shows when children are regularly praised for their effort (deservedly), they become more predisposed to attempt harder challenges, whereas those who are routinely praised for their ability become predisposed to avoid harder challenges for fear of failing.

It is important to praise genuine effort, even when the result of that effort was failure. Capper says that children perceive that they have some control over their effort, but little over their ability.

Students can be motivated through praise for their effort, but demotivated by praise for their ability, thinking either "I don't have to try" or "If I try something difficult I might show myself up".

In reference to a suggestion by the Principal of Scot's College that students need to be confronted by the (negative) "consequences" of failure, Capper notes this emphasis on fear-based motivation ignores the influence of positive motivation.

Motivation to learn is best stimulated by parents and teachers who foster an inquisitiveness and curiosity about the world. If such an outward-looking spirit of inquiry is successfully instilled, then the effort required generates itself.

Phillip Capper also refers to certain disquiet at the seeming success of Asian students within their own countries. However, there is considerable disquiet in China among educators about the limited ability or unwillingness of young Chinese to think for themselves, even though they may have achieved very high academic results.

In contrast, Capper notes that when he observes New Zealand Chinese parents interacting with their children of any age, he sees them fully engaged with their children in their play, sport, music and study, and are much more likely than parents in China to encourage enquiry, experimentation and adventurousness.

If he is correct, Capper says, then that may well be a "world-beating synthesis".

Examinations and Reports

By the time this newsletter arrives home, parents will have received a copy of their child's report and many will have taken the opportunity to meet with the teachers on 26 June Parent-Teachers Evening. While the reports give a snapshot of a student's performance at this stage, it is important to read the comments carefully and see where a student needs to develop skills or manage their behaviour in a more positive manner. We welcome parents to contact the school if they have any concerns about their child. A strong school-parent partnership will assist students in meeting their academic goals. Please do not hesitate to contact the Dean or Senior Manager of your child's year level if you have any concerns.

Kip McGrath Education Centre

The Mount Maunganui branch of the **Kip McGrath Education Centre** has relocated from 42 Farm Street to **45 Girven Road**. Kip McGrath Education Centres offer after school tuition in maths, reading, spelling and writing for PRIMARY, INTERMEDIATE AND SECONDARY STUDENTS. For a **free assessment** ring Judith Kramer, 578 1518.

Acrylic on Canvas

Children's Holiday Painting and Drawing tuition with artist Paula Knight. "Acrylic on Canvas", two great days to choose from. Also enquire about term classes and adult classes. For further details phone 542 3455 or 029 6024108.

Congratulations to University of Waikato Scholarship Recipient for Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarships:

Please note this scholarship went to **Marc Le Lievre** not Sarah Lee as stated in the last newsletter.

Stage Challenge

The Stage Challenge team has returned from Auckland winning their competition against 10 other schools. The challenge was called "What's up, Universe".



The theme explored how humans have perceived the universe. Five scenes depicted the views of cave man, the meaning of the Stonehenge standing stones, the Romans and their gods, the Renaissance and

the conflict between the church and scientists and finally the present views about the 'Big Bang Theory'.

The college won every award of excellence, which includes choreography, visual enhancement, set design and function, costuming character, performance skill, stage use, concept, drama, and sound track. Success from

all these sections allowed the accumulation of enough points to be the top school. The lighting team also won the best lighting plan and direction award. There were 100 performers and 20 crew involved in the production. All students participated with great enthusiasm. An outstanding day for Mount Maunganui College. The stage challenge team is looking forward to the television event which starts on August 11 on TV2 at 11:00 am.



Year 10 Speech Competition

The Year 10 Speech Competition took place at the end of Term Two. This is an opportunity for our Year 10 speakers to show an interest in public speaking. The topics for this year were focused on Aotearoa and its people. The students shared their thoughts on New Zealand – the place and its people. Brody Leatham from 10St, who won the competition, presented an entertaining speech to the tune of "The Twelve Days of Christmas". We, as New Zealanders, were compared to Dan Carter, Tui drinkers and Bro Town. Hannah Brewer was second and she mimicked us as a nation but also showed the positive qualities we share. Congratulations to all our speakers and thanks to Mrs Everett, Year 10 Dean, who judged the speeches.

Lynda Whiting

Quiz Night and Golf Day

Mount Maunganui College PTA are holding their two major fundraisers next term.

A **Quiz Evening on Saturday 4 August** in the College Hall at 7 pm. Entry forms for tables of 6 are available from the School Office.

The **Annual Community Golf Day** is booked for **Sunday 16 September** at the Mount Golf Club. This is a fun day so keep the date free.

Any offers of prizes, product or sponsorship would be gratefully appreciated.

Drama Sport Tournament

This is to be held on Tuesday 3 July 2007 between 10.00 am and 12.00 pm at Papamoa Primary School Hall. Students will participate in teams in a variety of drama activities. Teams are awarded points for projected voices, facial expression etc. The cost is \$5 or free for PIC Drama Teams. You will need to bring along a water bottle and a snack. For further details please phone 542 2068 or email playitcool@clear.net.nz

Student Homestay Opportunity - Japan

The dates for this are 22 December 2007 to 16 January 2008. Any students parents interested in this opportunity can find more information regarding this by going to their website www.letshomestay.com or by emailing enquiry@farmstay.co.nz

Manu Korero

Congratulations to the four speakers who represented our college at the recent Mataatua Regional Manu Korero competitions.

Lance Westrupp - Pei Te Hurinui Jones - Senior Maori

Te Rangitutaki Rolleston - Korimako - Senior English

Jayden Grant - Sir James Carroll - Junior English

Te Haana Jacob - Rawhiti Ihaka - Junior Maori

Tauranga Moana Rangatahi Awards

These inaugural awards were recently held to celebrate the skills and talents shown by Maori youth in Tauranga Moana. Several students from Te Kura Tuarua o Mauao were nominated in the various categories. Finalists from our school were:-

Yana Butler – He Arataki Whakamua/Excellence in Leadership

Summer Bennett – He Korowai Atawhai/Contribution to others and the community award

Hope Kerr-Bell – He Arataki Whakamua, He Taumata Rehia/Excellence in Performing Arts, He Toi Whakaari/Excellence in Visual or Media Arts.

Congratulations to Hope Kerr-Bell for being the recipient of the 'Te Apaarangi' trophy sponsored by Te Orea Trust for Excellence in Visual or Media Arts.

Career Education Update:

Year 13

- o **Send in your Halls Applications;** complete them yourself over the holidays. Some may require documents to be signed by a JP or Principal. Most applications are online.
- o **Start working on your Course Applications;** put on your calendar the dates when they have to be in, identify what information must be included.

Work-Based Career Pathway Day - 15 June –What a success, students got to explore and expand their understanding of their 'World of Work', with exposure to a huge range of different career options. At the risk of being controversial students get to view a method of learning and earning with no student loan. Often these careers can net an income far greater than a person who has a degree. Identifying your passion and being able to work within that area is obviously a real advantage resulting in job satisfaction.

Subject Choice – this process is occurring in August – As part of the students Career Education we have been working towards students researching career ideas and looking at the qualifications required in order to achieve what they desire. This process naturally progresses onto the students looking at their subjects at school. Year 11 students are well underway and the Year 12 students will be starting in week 2 of term 3. The Career Pathway Evening is an excellent opportunity for both parents and students to talk to people who do the career – over 60 different careers options were represented last year.

Work Exploration – we have an opportunity for focused senior students to explore a career idea and confirm their career choice. For example: one student went and spoke with a Trainee Orthopaedic Surgeon, resulting in an opportunity to observe a surgery. Another student in the holidays is observing Dental Surgery – what a fantastic opportunity for our students!

Thank you to all the **Parents** and **Community** for your support enabling successful 'Careers Pathway' choices for Mount Maunganui College students.

Sports Report

Lynfield sports exchange would have to be the highlight for this terms sporting fixtures. We played host to Lynfield College this year and they travelled down with some 150 players to compete for the annual trophy in Rugby, Soccer, Hockey, Netball, Basketball, Water polo, Golf, Badminton and the Great Debate.

Lynfield arrived to a warm welcome on the school marae and a great lunch, which was provided by the MMC 1 Netball team. The visitors were whisked away for the start of the



games. At the end of day 1 Mt College were well in front with the following results: WIN Golf 4-0, WIN Netball Tuis 52-10, WIN Rugby 48-8, DRAW Soccer boys 2-2, LOSS Badminton 2-3, WIN Girls Hockey 2-1, WIN MMC 1 Netball 60-31, WIN Mixed Water polo 19-5, WIN Hockey Boys 2-1, taking us to a 15 point to 3 lead. Day 2 started early with the Basketball, girls Soccer and The Debate. We won the girls Basket Ball by 1 point margin, 35-34, but lost the boys game 50-61. Girls Soccer posted a 3-3 draw and we won The Debate for the first time in a number of years by 325 - 305. The overall points came to 20-6 and we secured the trophy for 2007.



Thank you to all the families who hosted students and to the Netball MMC1 Team for supplying a great lunch, Rob Parkes who got sponsorship from Sanitarium and pump to supply healthy options for the lunches, and to everyone involved in helping to run the fun evening function for our students and billets. Next year marks the 50 anniversary of the schools inter challenge and we will be travelling to Lynfield, make it your goal to get into one of the top sports teams for 2008 for this event.

All the winter teams are performing well and a lot are playing their 2nd rounds of competition. **Thank you** to all the coaches, managers, parents, teachers and student helpers for your ongoing support and help.

Our school entered an indoor bowls senior team in the secondary schools comp and they finished in 3rd place in the mixed 4's behind 2 Rotorua girls and our girl pairs came first. The team was Ethan Berry, Scott Walker, Ashley Vanstone and Megan Watson.

Erin Weston our Trampoline star is away in Australia at their Nationals

Competing for NZ and we wish Maddy Candler good luck as she travels to Australia with the NZ Secondary Schools Wrestling team in the holidays.

Torrin Bright has recently returned from competing in Australia and is off to Egypt to compete in the NZ U20 Kite Surfing Team.

This year we have 3 teams heading off to tournament week at the end of August, MMC 1 Netball to Upper North Island Champs in Whangarei, Boys Hockey and Boys Soccer in Tauranga, and the 1st XV are heading to Australia for a tour over this same week. All teams are preparing well and fundraising is in full swing to help cover the costs. Keep up the good work team.

LOST PROPERTY: A reminder with this hot/cold weather that **ALL** uniform items should be named and if you take it off and loose it, it is very hard to prove it is yours with no name on it. Please take the time in the holidays to label your clothing. Lost property will be on display outside sports office Thursday and Friday this week.

House Points Update

Ruru	Kotuku	Takahe	Huia
7030	8372	7243	7870

Key Dates

- 26 July Massey University Enrolment Assistance
- 29 July Tauranga Career Expo – Parents a great opportunity for you and your teenagers to attend
- 30 July Tauranga Career Expo – Year 12 students
- 1 August Victoria University – Career Evening 6.30 pm – 9pm at Sebel Trinity Wharf. Parents and teenagers welcome.
- 2 August School GALA DAY Period 4 and lunch
- 3 August Study Link visit 9.45 am Senior Assembly
- 4 August Global Connections Fashion Show
- 8 August Career Pathways Evening for all students and Parents Subject Choice
- 14 August Study Link Electronic Applications

Terry Collett
Principal