



MOUNT MAUNGANUI COLLEGE

Success with Integrity
Whaià te pono

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Newsletter 5 June 08

Breeze Brunton



The school wishes to express its sincere condolences to the family of Breeze Brunton, a Year 9 student who was tragically killed while crossing Maunganui Road on Wednesday 4 June.

Our sympathies at this time lie with family, the extended family and all those who knew Breeze.

Breeze had a vibrant personality that made an impression on those who knew her. She will be sadly missed.

Support is available through our Guidance network and we encourage students and families to make contact with them.

Breeze's tangi will be held at Pikitu Marae, Wiltsdown Road, Waotu (pass Putaruru) at 11am on Saturday 7 June 2008.

INTRODUCTION

As I am writing this our Year 11 to Year 13 students are beginning their Internal Examination week. We have reintroduced this examination to assist our students to better prepare for the external examinations in November (only 5 months away). Keep in touch with your son and daughter's progress by asking to see the marked exam papers as they are returned to students and just check on how well your child is doing. There will of course be an opportunity

for you to also discuss your child's progress at the parent-teacher meeting on 7 August.

It is important that we continue to impress on our students the goal for 2008, "No Choice But Success" and continue to raise the learning culture of our students.

ERO

Last week we had the three yearly review of the college by the Education Review Office. While it will take a while before we receive their final report, the feedback from the reviewers has been very positive. The review process is important for the college as it identifies good practice and supports the college in developing its goals for continual improvement. When the final report is received and is put on the ERO website I will let parents know through this newsletter.

Sabbatical Leave

From the 28 June I am taking sabbatical leave until the 20 September. While on leave I am attending a Principals' Leadership programme at Harvard University for two weeks, looking at the MET Schools in Rhode Island/Providence (special schools where each student has a tailored curriculum linked to an internship with businesses in the community), and then a conference in Boston entitled "Expanding the Boundaries of Learning".

Leaving America I will be travelling to England to meet with education officials connected with the redevelopment of the English School Curriculum and buildings to meet the needs of 21st century learners. The borough of Knowsley in Liverpool is the first to undergo this change (British Government is spending 45 billion pounds updating their education system), and I will be having a look at this. On the way home I am stopping in Singapore and meeting with a principal of one of their lead colleges to see what they are doing in integrating information technology into their teaching and learning.

The Board of Trustees has been very supportive of my leave and I would like to thank them for their interest and great support in allowing me this opportunity.

Tina Yule will be Acting Principal while I am away, Ady van der Beek will be Associate Principal and Arona Jacobs will move into a Deputy Principal role.

School Ball

This Saturday the Year 12 and Year 13 students will be attending their college ball. This is a wonderful occasion for our students and it is

great to see the effort they put into decorating the ball venue and into their own appearance.

I would ask all parents to make sure that the ball is a success by ensuring that their son or daughter arrives without being under the influence of alcohol. Parents will be rung and asked to pick up their son or daughter if they are thought to be in an unsuitable state.

If we hear of any large organised after ball functions, the ball will be cancelled. We want our students to focus on the ball and support those students who have put so much time into organising it. We do not want to have to deal with what can be an unfortunate consequence of an after ball function. Parental support in ensuring the success of the ball is very much appreciated.

Congratulations Bryn Palmer

Bryn was one of the 140 young people from around the country who was nominated for Celebrating Everyday Young New Zealanders Project that is part of Youth Week 08. The theme of Youth Week 08 is relationships and creating a society that values young people and affirms their diversity. Celebrating Everyday Young New Zealanders promotes the many positive things young people do all around New Zealand.

Despite being diagnosed as Aspergers Syndrome (Autistic Spectrum), Bryn stuck at school, doing his best to deal with things himself using strategy, rather than adult intervention.

In 2007 Bryn and SIDS New Zealand – a national organization that provides services for families and communities when children have died of any cause including SIDS (cot death) – were selected to take part in a Media project, the Ubersavvy Conference, sponsored by Microsoft NZ, the conference involved young students and aimed to teach non-profit organisations about the digital generation. Bryn, along with two graduating students, updated SIDS New Zealand's one-page website into a fully functional business tool, which can be seen at www.sids.org.nz. Bryn was given exposure to the latest web development software and continues to develop the site. Margaret Free from SIDS NZ says about Bryn, "You couldn't meet a more kind and generous young man."

Terry Collett
Principal

SPORTS NEWS

Lynfield Sport & Debate Exchange

It's hard to believe we are half way through the year and the Lynfield Sport and Debate Exchange is only 3 weeks away, 24 and 25 June. We are travelling to Auckland this year to compete in the exchange that is in its 50th year. This will be a very special, memorable exchange. The top winter sports teams will be involved in competing and battling it out for the trophy. Teams for this year are:

MMC One and MMC Tuis Netball, Soccer Boys and Girls 1st XI, Rugby Boys and Girls 1st XV's, Hockey boys and girls, Basketball Snr Boys and Girls, Mixed Waterpolo, Mixed Badminton, Mixed Volleyball, Golf, and the Debate Team. Permission slips and overnight details MUST be completed and returned to the sports office. The fee for Lynfield is \$55 per student. This can be paid in the main office and automatic payment options are available to all students. There will be a social for the students on the Tuesday evening that will cost \$5 payable at the social. Both schools competitors will attend.

To mark this special year Lynfield have designed a t-shirt that is available to buy at Lynfield. This can be purchased for a cost of \$25. Meals will be provided for our students from their billets. Any enquiries about the exchange please contact Mr Cochrane on 575 3096 ext 845. There are 7 staff members travelling with the team. The students will be billeted, (you may ask to be billeted together, no guarantees though) any students that have accommodation in Auckland with family, you can stay with them, as billeting of 150 students is sometimes difficult. You MUST tell Mr Cochrane any outside arrangements at the sports office so we can pass this onto Lynfield.

Cross Country Results

This day was a wave of colour as the students participated and competed in the cross country. This is the only full school event and it was a lot of fun and well supported by the students and staff.

6 km SNR BOYS: 1st Owen Miller, 2nd Logan Walsh, 3rd Jason Haines

6 km SNR GIRLS: 1st Tracey Carter, 2nd Kelsi Efford, 3rd Jessie Smith

3 km INT BOYS: 1st Simon Miller, 2nd Caleb Matteijon-Smith, 3rd Levi Sherwin

3 km INT GIRLS: 1st Jessica Aiken, 2nd Amy Stephenson, 3rd Briar Merrett

3 km JNR BOYS: 1st Lewis Hart, 2nd Mal Butler, 3rd Joel Widmer

3 km JNR GIRLS: 1st Betty Magee, 2nd Leonie Young, 3rd Michaela Aitken

Teachers: 1st Terry Cochrane, 2nd Hayden Burns, 3rd Richard Howard.

BOP / Waikato Duathlon Champs

Held in Karapiro, Ross Cowdrey 6th U14 Boys, Ashley Cochrane 7th U14 Girls, Owen Miller 6th U19 Boys. Sam Durrant, Simon Miller and Nathan Smith also finished in top 15.

BOP AWARDS:

Congratulations to Nathan Smith, a year 11 student, for receiving the prestigious BOP Surf Lifesaving Award for rescue of the year.

Nathan rescued five girls caught in a rip at Papamoa Beach single handed with one of the girls being pulled from the water unconscious.

Nathan's rescue now goes on to National selection as the NZ rescue of the year to be held mid year. Teacher John Devery also received the coveted award of Volunteer Lifeguard of the Year in the BOP. He is also up for the National award.

TECT

In 2006, 22 candidates stood for election and three of these were adamant that TECT should immediately stop all support for community groups. Two of those candidates were elected and at the time of writing, they remain a minority on the Board, but if one or more candidates with that same view are elected this time, it is most likely that this will be the end of any TECT support for community groups.

Obviously, it is a critical time for the future of TECT and a critical election, and the only way to ensure that a philosophical change doesn't happen is to vote for candidates who support consumer benefit by direct distributions as well as indirect benefit via community groups.

Not only that, but it's important that the vote isn't split amongst all "status quo" candidates as it was last time allowing the minority viewpoint to win the day. Please consider this, and cast your vote wisely when voting. By doing so, you will be sending a strong signal that TECT should continue as it has done over the last 12 years.

Last year our school received over \$28,000.00 towards the heat pump for the swimming pool and in 2006 \$30,000 towards data shows and computer cabling. Without their support we would not have this level of technology in the school.

Three candidates are standing independently of any political organisation but in favour of continued community support. They are:

Bruce Cronin
100percentplus@gmail.com

Ken Collings
patken@wave.co.nz

Richard Cashmore
rc@realtgroup.co.nz

Please help organisations like our school, the rescue helicopter, Waipuna Hospice and Coastguard continue to receive grants by voting for these candidates.

CONGRATS...

Abby Stewart (past pupil) who gained her Masters in Creative Writing at Victoria University in 2008, has had a short story published in a prestigious journal produced by the University of Texas - Bat City Review. The latest edition will be online shortly at

www.batcityreview.com

PTA

The successful Community Quiz Night on May 16th generated a healthy \$4500 that will assist our students in various activities throughout the year.

Gold Sponsors:

- Bake Shack
- Mount Drainage Limited
- Visique Mount Maunganui
- Visique Greerton
- Carpet Xtra
- Champions Bar
- Pharmacy 257
- Mount New World

We are extremely grateful to the wonderful community support shown in donation of prizes and sponsorship. It wouldn't have been possible without their assistance. Please remember they have helped us to help our students and we should endeavour to patronise their business.

Sponsors

A & K Goodhall, Active Hair Design, Bay Flight International, Bayfair Florist, Beaches Café, Beaurepairs, Bees 'n' Buttercups, Bernina Sewing Centre, Brewers Bar, Bunnings Warehouse, Butler Gray Law Office, Carpet Xtra Flooring, Champions Bar, City Markets, Daltons Ltd, Doug Jarvis Family Butcher, Farmer Jones, Framing Gallery, Gusto Café, Hobec Lawyers, Imbibe Restaurant, Kwang Chow Restaurant, La Chic Cottons, Latitude 37, Lifestyle Hair, Lonestar, Mayo Jewellery, Mexican Liquor Ltd, Morton Estate Wines, Mount Golf Club, Mount Mainstreet, Mount Mellick, National Bank, Nevada, Northbeach Surf n Skate, Ocean Blue, Omanu Golf Club, Options Living, Paul & Denise Geoghegan, Pero's Hairtek, Rain Bar & Amphora, Ray & Kathy Young, Robertson's Menswear, The Body Shop, The Body Workshop, Totali, Ultimate Motor Group, Whitcoulls, Zeytin.

NEXT MEETING

16 June - 7pm in College Staffroom.

- Topic of Discussion: Ins and Outs of our College Website

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 23 June

Teacher only Day

Monday 30 June to Friday 4 July

Junior Assessments