



Rangiora High School

Te Kura Tuarua o Rangiora

Newsletter - October 2011

Top Tuba Talent

Jordan Seaton of 10LPM was recently selected for the New Zealand Secondary Schools' Brass Band. This band assembles in Brightwater, Nelson during the October school holidays for a week of intensive tuition, rehearsals and concerts.

Jordan started learning to play brass at Ashgrove School when he was in Year 6 and has continued his tuition at Rangiora High School through the Itinerant Music Teacher scheme. Jordan has played for the Rangiora Brass Band and now plays for Addington Brass.

Jordan was one of four players selected to play Bass (Tuba) for the secondary schools' band after an audition during which he played two pieces of music, one chosen for him and one of his own choice.

It is a fine achievement for a Year 10 student to be selected for this national band and we congratulate Jordan on his great achievement.



Gateway Success Stories

The Gateway Programme is designed to strengthen the pathways for students from school to further education, training or employment. On 27 September the Gateway end of year function was held, combined with Kaiapoi High School, Rangiora New Life School and Oxford Area School. Jo Seagar and other Gateway employers spoke and students were presented with their Gateway Certificates by the Principals of their respective schools. Gateway has had another successful year, with many students moving into apprenticeships or employment. We are now looking for interested students from Years 11, 12 or 13 for next year's Gateway programme. Please contact our Gateway Co-ordinator, Mrs B Tomkies, at school on 03 3118888 (extension 4602).



Rangiora High School
East Belt
Rangiora 7400
New Zealand

Telephone 03 3118888
Facsimile 03 3138005
Email admin@rangiorahigh.school.nz
Website www.rangiorahigh.school.nz

From the Principal

Kia Ora Koutou Katoa, greetings to parents, caregivers and friends of the school. It has certainly been a very busy month for staff and students alike with a focus on examinations for our senior students and co-curricular activities for junior students. The greatest challenge of the academic year is fast approaching for Years 11-13 and in a few short weeks students will be sitting their NCEA external assessments. There is a lot of pressure for them to do well, especially in a year that has offered more than the normal set of challenges for students.

I had the great pleasure of attending the Gateway prize giving on 27 September. It was the first of many celebrations of student success we will engage in over the next 10 weeks. It was heartening to see so many successful students, so many proud parents and caregivers and so many satisfied staff. Gateway is an effective programme that offers real life opportunities for students and provides worthwhile and genuine pathways to success.

As well I was privileged to attend the annual PTA Quiz and Art Auction on 21 September. Always a successful and fun evening, it was wonderful to see so many parents/caregivers, staff, students and ex-students competing in such a relaxed and informal atmosphere.

As a school we pride ourselves on providing diverse opportunities for all learners and for challenging our students to be the very best they can be. Sadly there are occasions when a student will let us down. You might see that student smoking in the street, wearing a very short school dress or behaving badly in the High Street. Like you we are disappointed when that happens. I recall receiving a call from an incensed parent who informed me that he had just seen three boys smoking in school time, in uniform, on East Belt. I too was irritated by that, but pleased as well because that meant that more than 1680 students were in fact in class and engaged in learning. As a school we work tirelessly to engage students so that school will be a place they want to be and, for 99.9% of our students, that is their experience. However we do have to be realistic there are students for whom school is not a totally rewarding experience. Take for example the following four students. The first was caned repeatedly by his teachers for low grades and poor attitude and left school as soon as he turned sixteen. The second failed remedial English and came dangerous-



Kate Wilkinson presents a book to the Library

-ly close to being asked to leave university. The third very nearly didn't make it through high school and required a learning support teacher aide. The fourth finally learnt to read in Year 9, devouring Captain Marvel comics, whose pictures gave him valuable clues to help him untangle the words.

These four 'challenging' students are, respectively Richard Branson, Charles Schwab, John Chambers and David Boies. Branson a billionaire, Schwab a millionaire broker, Chambers the CEO of Cisco and Boies the American lawyer who took on Microsoft and won.

We have so many talented students, but as well we have so much undiscovered, untapped talent. It is our job, together, to create an environment where all of our students really can achieve to their true potential. So next time you see someone wearing our school uniform, behaving badly, please do what we do and politely call them out on it.

It is a collective responsibility to educate our nation's youth. We see it as a partnership between the school and the family/whanau and we don't presume to do it alone or in isolation.

Kia kaha kia toa, kia manawanui.

Peggy Burrows
Principal

Important Dates

5 October	The Lighthouse Showcase	27 October	BOT Meeting, 5.30pm
7 October	Year 11-13 Reports issued	28 October	Junior Workday
7 October	Term 3 ends	28 October	Year 8 Orientation Day
24 October	Labour Day (Public Holiday)	3 November	Junior House Quizzes
25 October	Term 4 begins	8 November	Final House Assemblies
26 October	Arts On	8 November	Senior Prizegiving (Years 11-12)



HILLARY HOUSE

HEAD OF HOUSE Mr N Moyle

DEAN OF HOUSE Mr A Cotter

Another term has sped past in Hillary House. It seems strange that only a month ago school was closed for three days due to heavy snowfall and now, as I write this, there is bright sunshine outside. Despite the interruptions this year it was pleasing to see the very good results of Hillary students in the recent school examinations. Students should be settling into a good revision programme to get the best possible results in the November examinations.

Our students have been doing the House proud in the various House Competitions. Our Junior Public Speakers – Tamsin Rees 9HHT, Nathan Fellows 9HHT, Brandon Tegas 10HPP and Monica Bean 10HRO – spoke extremely well in the recent competition. The Year 9 topic was Why mum knows best and the Year 10 Topic was Fashion in the last century – why it was far cooler than today's fashion. Tamsin, Monica and Nathan all won their rounds. This is a fantastic achievement.

At a combined Hillary/Rutherford House assembly on 27 September, we presented a cheque for \$4447 to Mrs Gillian Trewinnard. This was the amount we raised from last term's "Shave Your Lid for a Kid" fundraiser organised by Amy Newbury 13HMG. The funds raised go to help children suffering from cancer in our district.

Congratulations to the following Hillary students: Thomas Zahner 13MG for receiving a scholarship to Victoria University worth \$5000; Oliver Bersani 12MH for gaining entry to the Rotary Forum 2012 based at the University of Auckland and having half of the fee paid for by Rotary; Sheldon Pitama 11CT and Josh Siu 11VV for being selected in the South Island Under 15 Rugby League team.

In this newsletter we are celebrating the success of Rebecca Gibbs 13HMG and her achievements in rifle shooting:

How did you get involved in competitive rifle shooting?

My step Dad introduced me to it. I liked it, went every week and started to compete when he thought I was good enough.

What type of practice do you undertake for rifle shooting?

I shoot at the club every Monday and for school on Wednesday afternoon. When it gets closer to an important competition I will train more, close to 10 hours per week.

What is your long term goal in rifle shooting?

To represent New Zealand at the Commonwealth Games.

What is the best piece of advice a coach has given you?

Don't give up.

What do you think is your best performance? Why?

Getting a qualifying score and selection for the Oceania Games.

At the 2011 NZ Secondary Schools' Shooting Championships you were graded Individual Master. What does this mean?

It means out of every competitor I had the highest overall score.

What advice do you have for younger shooters at Rangiora High School to improve their performance?

Train hard and you will achieve your goals.





LYDIARD HOUSE

HEAD OF HOUSE Mr A Drayton

DEAN OF HOUSE Mrs P Graham



Lydiard House has been a busy group this term.

Most recently we have had a great win in the Junior Public speaking. The team of Riley Aitken, Mary Hurley, Harry Vincent and Lucia Newell all had great speeches. Harry won the year 10 prize for best male speaker.

The Fun Run fund raising went well and the RNZFB guide dog programme was grateful for all our efforts.

We are looking to the future and there is conjecture on what direction we head next year with the fundraising that the House does for a charity. We would like parental input and intend to put a survey on the school website in the near future. It is intended that we use the website in a far better way and put Lydiard House events and information on the school site so that parents are well informed.



In school the exams have indicated areas that students need to work on in preparation for external exams. The reports will also indicate subjects where students need to focus their energies.

There are not many lessons left for seniors and in many subject areas the teaching of content for the year may be over and the revision has begun. The school holidays should be enjoyed and during that time some time put into study as well.



In the last week of the term we have scheduled the inter-House SummerFest. It involves mixed Volleyball and mixed Touch for the Year 9 and 10 students. Hopefully the weather holds and we get the competition completed.

The last term is the shortest this year and likely to be until the next time New Zealand hosts a Rugby World Cup. It's only seven weeks long and will pass by quickly. We have a lot to look forward to.



The final House assembly is always a lot of fun. The Senior Prizegiving and Year 13 Graduation are also big events that will soon be with us. There is also the Junior Quiz as one of the final inter-House competitions.

In the meantime, enjoy a good break all "Tigers" and families.

Relax, recharge and refresh ready for the last term of 2011.





MANSFIELD HOUSE

HEAD OF HOUSE Mrs M Stephenson

DEAN OF HOUSE Mr A Gebbie



Mighty Mansfield Men: Cody Murphy, James Penrose, Jordan Moss and Cameron Godfrey. These four young men compete in very different sports and have reached high levels of achievement.

A description of their sport:

Jordan has been an exponent of the martial art, Karate, for 8 years. He describes it as "an intense sport of self-preservation and discipline that involves a variety of styles".

James is a go-karter "one of the most popular motorsports in the world... adrenaline-pumping... fast paced... and one of the least expensive forms of motorsport."

Cody's challenge is Motorcross "which is riding around on purpose-made tracks, racing people with the same size bike as you... doing natural and man-made jumps."

Cameron does grass-karting which is "go-karting on a grass surface as opposed to racing on tar seal."

Attractions of the sport:

Cameron: "It takes quite a bit of skill to keep your go-kart from spinning out. This teaches you very good driving skills... I have always wanted to race something in motorsport... it involves your families as well."

Jordan initially took up the sport for fitness and flexibility.

James "was about six years old when I had my first drive on a sealed surface and I made the switch from grass-karting to Sprint Kart Racing when I was about eight."

Cody "took up motorcross because my whole family do it... I have been racing motorcross since the age of four."

Best things about the sport:

Cody: "I like it because it's all up to you. If you do something wrong there's no one to blame and just going fast and winning."

Cameron: "the adrenalin rush when you pass on muddy corners."

Jordan: "sparring" or "fighting between two or more people is fantastic and thrilling."

James: "...for me it is the pure speed of the Kart and the close racing out on the track. It's important to enjoy the racing but it is always more fun when things are going well and I'm running up front."

Worst or most difficult things:

Jordan: "The most important part of Karate is perseverance and dedication. This means that no matter how hard things can get, you have to keep going." You need "mental and physical fitness and with no less than grit and determination you must push on."

Cody: "Probably crashing and breaking bones, but that's why I love it because of the danger and unpredictability."

Cameron: "When your kart breaks down on the day."

In five years I want to...

Cody: "...be in America or Europe racing with the best in the world."

Cameron: "...go on to race road go-karts, sprint cars, rally."

Jordan: "...be training in different styles in different clubs. I want to achieve a full black belt and learn some other styles of martial arts like Jujitsu and Shodokan."

James: "I hope to be competing at international level and representing New Zealand in the World Champs."





NGATA HOUSE

HEAD OF HOUSE Mr R Winson

DEAN OF HOUSE Mrs V Wilkins



It has been a busy end of Term 3 with lots happening again for our young people.

Tournament Week saw many of our students competing around the country in various sports. The Senior Girls' Football team in particular stood out with a win in their tournament, captained by Sophie Ainsley and including Franzi Falbesaner from Ngata Year 13. A massive achievement beating Otago Girls' in the final, the team which has dominated this competition for years now.



Sheppard House ran a 'Battle of the Bands' recently. Many of the school's top performers played two songs of their choice in front of a paying audience. The competition was spread over two lunch-times. Each day the audience then voted on their favourite band. 'Ngata Band', which includes Dylan 'JB' Bateup, Alex 'Slash' Ainsley and Brianna Reiri-Dobson, gained the top spot against other bands in their pool, and a second overall playing "Hurt" by Johnny Cash and "Sweet Dreams" by The Eurythmics. We are now working hard on performances for the final assemblies.

Our Senior Executive lead the Ngata House Cup Cake fundraiser this team which proved to be a great success. Mrs Wilkins and a large team of students from all year levels baked up a storm, making over 400 cup cakes. We then marketed them via a stall and mobile sales via a trolley to the staff and student population. The vanilla and chocolate cakes looked impressive and by the start of Friday lunchtime we were all sold out! Overall we netted a profit of \$415, most of which will be donated to Riding for the Disabled North Canterbury. A super way to have fun and support a great cause.



The annual Year 10 Camp was held recently after being postponed from February. Mrs Wilkins, Mrs Hamblin and Mr Planner all enjoyed seeing their form classes completing the huge variety of activities and adventures that make up the 'Boyle Lodge experience'. Comments from our pupils were that it was 'awesome', 'amazing' and 'choice'! That is despite Ellie and Sinead being returned to civilisation via ambulance and Westpac rescue helicopter! That's Ngata – we go hard out!

The Seniors recently enjoyed a super Wacky Week with a daily theme guiding their choice of fancy dress. It's been great to see Thomas the Tank Engine, Zombies, Fairy Princesses, several military uniforms, superheroes and Roman togas being sported around campus.



The last week of term is going to be very busy for our Juniors. After a respectful performance in the Junior Speech contest, we are now competing in the Junior SummerFest against the other Houses at Volleyball and Touch. A huge number of students have signed up; it's great to have so much talent in Ngata as usual, let's hope they can turn that into points in the House Competition!

I wish every student and staff member of Ngata a well-deserved holiday, get out there and enjoy the warm weather!





RUTHERFORD HOUSE

HEAD OF HOUSE Mr M Williams

DEAN OF HOUSE Mrs S Reed



The weather has warmed up and we can now see the lambs running around on the school farm. Summer will be here soon! Before then, there are some last minute things we have to complete as Rutherford House.

Our senior students have completed their mid-year examinations and are now faced with the NCEA Examinations starting on 10 November. I hope they got the deserved results in their mid-year exams and will use this to their advantage leading up to the end of year externals. We want to wish all the seniors the best of luck and we hope they enjoy their last few weeks at school.

Our juniors are currently in the middle of the last four competitions for the year. We are playing in the Junior Mixed Touch and Volleyball. Thank you for the amazing response to these competitions. Early next term we will have our Year 9 and 10 Classes competing in the annual Junior Quiz Competition. We hope to compete very well in the above competitions to improve our overall House ranking.

Our seniors had Wacky Week in the last week of September. They were given the opportunity to wear costumes to school every day. We saw a variety of costumes ranging from Airline Pilots to Army Officers. I had the privilege of being on Year 10 Camp with the two Rutherford Year 10 classes. It was worthwhile to see our students in a completely different environment. There were a number of students stood out as natural leaders and I hope they will take up leadership roles in the House in the future. We did a range of activities including the "infamous" mud run, solo, low and high ropes, swamp and the flying kiwi. I hope every student enjoyed their time at the Boyle and I also hope they gained some confidence after the experience.

We held a combined assembly with Hillary House on 27 September to thank students for their contribution to the Cancer Society. Students and staff shaved their hair and raised money for children with cancer. Brie Evans individually collected over \$1500 for this effort. Well done to Brie and all the other students who were brave enough to do this amazing fundraiser.

We also received a letter from the Home and Family Society thanking us for helping raise more than \$8000 on a chilly Friday earlier this term. Helping others surely cements the values that our House stands for. I am very proud of each Rutherfordian who has given up their time and effort for all the worthy fundraisers this year.

Recently, the First XV Boys' Rugby team had the opportunity to train with the Australian Rugby Team in Hanmer Springs. This was a great opportunity for our boys to meet the Wallabies and to learn some finer skills. Seta Manuseuga appears at right in a photo with the Wallaby Forward, Radike Samo.

We have also completed our House Captain application process for 2012. The student leaders and I have interviewed all the candidates for next year and we hope to announce the final House positions once the Head Students have been announced.

GO THE RUTHERFORD KNIGHTS! GO BLUE!





SHEPPARD HOUSE

HEAD OF HOUSE Ms A Hay

DEAN OF HOUSE Mr K Anderson



Another exciting and busy term draws to a close and students are preparing themselves for the business end of the year. Our senior students have just finished their internal examinations and from these results, will be able to see where there are gaps in their knowledge in order to focus their revision. Our junior students still have time on their side to ensure they are aiming at finishing 2011 with distinction for their graduation results.

Recently, Sheppard House hosted the first Battle of the Bands competition as the fundraiser for our charity, Ronald McDonald House. We had six student bands enter this competition and a staff band performing as the guest band. This competition proved once again, that we have some very talented musicians at Rangiora High School and we may see some of these young men and women playing professionally in the future. The competition was very close, but was won this year by 'Dream Rebels' (Kenzie Middleton and Grace Jones). A huge thank you to all the other competitors – 'Sam', 'Llamas in Pyjamas', 'Ngata Band', 'Ambition' and 'Pyrotechnics'. A special thanks also to the 'techies' for their work with the sound and lighting which helped to make this a spectacular event. This competition will be held again in 2012.



Sheppard House and Hillary House students joined together for the annual ski trip to Porters Heights ski field on 10 September. The day dawned cold and overcast but this did not dampen the excitement and enthusiasm for a wonderful day of skiing and a great time was had by all.



During the term students from 9SDB, together with students from Mansfield House, helped as collectors for the Multiple Sclerosis and Parkinson's Disease annual street appeal. The organisers were very appreciative of the assistance our students who helped with this very worthy appeal.

Our Year 10 classes have come back ecstatic after their three day camp at the Boyle River. This camp provides students with a wonderful experience that some may never get again. It was an opportunity for our students to take part in activities that were run by trained instructors, to feel the adrenalin rush of trying something that encourages students to step outside their comfort zone and the exhilaration of conquering their fears.



Junior SummerFest is being held in the last week of this term and it is wonderful to see so many of our Sheppard students signing up to trial for our mixed Volleyball and Touch teams.

All of the junior English classes have selected a debating team and these teams will compete against each other during lunchtimes in the final week of this term and continue into Term 4. The final House competition for the year will be the Junior Quiz which will be held in week two of Term 4.



We are very proud of all of the students in Sheppard House - we have had a very positive term both academically and on the sports' field and we are sure this will continue through to the end of the school year.

Scholarship Season

Many of our Year 13 students have applied for the many and varied scholarships available to assist them with their tertiary study. Three of our students have secured very valuable financial boosts:

Thomas Zahner – Victoria University Excellence Scholarship to study Architecture.

Nick Deerson – First Foundation Scholarship to study Commerce. This is a new scholarship offered to RHS and sponsored by Foodstuffs.

Amanda Clinton – Alex Murray Scholarship offered by Rangiora Rotary.

Congratulations to both these boys and we look forward to receiving more good news from others who are awaiting “envelopes in the mail”.

CPIT Tu Mai Rakatahi Awards

This term 124 nominations were made from schools throughout Canterbury for the six areas of achievement – te reo Maori, tikanga, academic, sport, cultural performance, and vocational studies.

Astrid Harrison (Kai Tahu) won the award for Year 13 students in Te Iti Kahuraki – Academic Achievement, and the overall Year 13 Poutama Award.

Astrid is a top student who has gained Level 1 and 2 with Excellence and Merit endorsements respectively. At Level 1 she gained 152 credits of which 80 were at Excellence. Astrid is currently studying Calculus, Chemistry, English, French, and Physics.

She will study at Canterbury University in 2012 but is unsure which of her many strengths to pursue.

Health and Well-being Research

A recently published survey ‘The Health and Well-being of Secondary School Students in New Zealand’ provides some interesting information that will interest parents. The report is available online at www.youth2000.ac.nz. A comparison is made with data from previous research carried out in 2000.

Concern is often expressed about increasing violence among young people, and especially the increase in violence among young females. **It is interesting to note that the majority of students feel safe at school most or all of the time.** In fact 78.1% in 2001 increased to 83.5% in 2007. There was also an increase as students got older.

Bullying is a common experience for young people, and we should feel concern if this is a regular occurrence because of the potential negative impact on health and wellbeing. We know that in the more extreme cases being bullied is associated with higher levels of depressive symptoms and suicide attempts. In the 2007 survey 6.1% of students reported being bullied at school one or more times a week. Of these 7.1% were male and 5% female.

Among students who have not been bullied, or bullied infrequently 5.8% of males and 12.8% of females showed significant depressive symptoms. Among students who had been bullied at school weekly or more often these figures were over four times higher: 21.4% of males and 51.8% of females.

At our school **BULLYING IS NOT OK**, and we want all students and their parents to know that counsellors, Heads of House, Deans and form teachers are here to offer help and support in these situations. Students, please fill in the Moodle questionnaire. Parents and caregivers, please come to the Safer Schools’ Parent Evening at 7.00pm on 31 October.

Ms E Moonen
Guidance Counsellor

Safer Schools’ Parent Evening

Do you have concerns about violence at school?

Are you concerned about bullying?

Parents, we need your help – we need to hear your concerns, your comments, and your ideas.

On Monday 31 October there will be a Parents’ Evening at Rangiora High School from 7.00pm to 8.15pm.

This evening will be run by Sharleen Stirling, Co-ordinator for the Safer Schools’ Project at Well-being North Canterbury.

Safer Schools is about the emotional wellbeing of the whole school community.

We want you to be part of this review of where Rangiora High School is at in terms of safety for all who are part of the school – staff, parents and students. This is a vital part of our Reduce Bullying Campaign to be initiated at the start of 2012.

A working party has been meeting since mid-year 2011, and we are well on our way with our Phase 1 Key Task – collecting data to inform our planning.

Our students and staff are completing Moodle surveys on our school website, and we believe it is vital we have parent input to add to this.

Sharleen is very experienced at organising workshops of this kind, and knows well how significant parent input is, and the importance of shared discussion in generating positive changes.

If you are unable to attend but would like to answer the questions and comment, contact Sharleen via email at saferschools@wellbeingnc.org.nz

Mrs J Patterson
Head of Guidance

Equestrian

The Inter-school One Day Event finally happened on 3 September at Mclean's Island after snow postponed the August date. It was a glorious spring day to be out eventing. The parent help and support was fantastic and all the students knew exactly what to do and supported each other well in their teams. The gold team sparkled as they entered the dressage arenas and produced the top team score. They all carried on to jump clear cross country, but as our Olympic riders will tell us, nothing is certain in eventing and three dropped rails in the show jumping, putting the team in second place behind St Andrew's College.



This was still a top result from Nicole Chapman, Zoe McVicar, Courtney Davis and Olivia Robertson with Zoe producing the best individual dressage score of the day. Kyra Jamie and Kerryn O'Sullivan led the way with good scores for the green and blue teams which finished 11th and 13th overall.

Waireka Polo School and Blue Springs are offering polo lessons to school students in terms four and one. The South Island SUPA group have organised three summer interschool polo tournaments which will take place at Roddy Wood's Waireka Polo field on Lower Sefton Road.

Interested students should contact the sports office for details. The dates are Sunday 27 November, Sunday 4 March and Sunday 1 April. Friends and family are welcome to come along and sit under the trees and picnic and watch students having fun playing polo.

CantaMaths

The annual Cantamaths competition was held on 24 August at the CBS arena in Christchurch. This year approximately 1250 individual, group or class entries from schools around Canterbury were received. Rangiora High School had two teams from Year 9 and Year 10 compete, as well as an individual project entry. Around 60 teams from all over Canterbury were competing at each level.

Year 9 Results:

Team 1: 8th equal

Alex Johnston, Theolyn Padayachee, Dylan Benny, Sam Westwood and Liam Brandso (all 9MRH)

Team 2:

Chelsea Brown, Sam Fraser, Fergus Eglesfield, Callum Dunlop and Mead Robertson (all 9MRH)

Year 10 Results:

Team 1: 6th equal

Ben Oliver (10LPM), Logan Ritchie (10RMM), James Marsh and Angus Hawkins (10RMM)

Team 2:

Nohah Forde (10RMM), Eleanor Loader (10MSI) Gina Thardomrong (10MSI), Sam Power (10RMM)

Zac Todd achieved an Excellence Award for his project on Dartmatics (see photo above). Well done!

Many thanks to Mr Rollo, Mr Palmer and Mrs West for their efforts and support, and congratulations to Ms Nutley for her support of Zac. Many thanks also to the parents that attended the event and especially to Kay Robertson for co-ordinating the transport to Christchurch.

Ms H Schiedermeier

Assistant to the HOD, Mathematics



Year 10 Camps

The Year 10 camps for 2011 concluded in September. Originally timetabled for February the camps were postponed and rescheduled to Term 3 due to the disruption caused by the 22 February earthquake.

Despite it being winter, the camps were still deemed a success. The weather was a little colder some days but this did not deter students getting involved in all whole range of the activities, including the infamous mud run!

The students stayed at the Boyle River Outdoor Education Centre and were treated to the culinary delights whipped up by an able team of parent volunteers. We are most appreciative of the parents' assistance with the catering.

Student numbers attending during the winter camps were down this year, but the students who did attend had very worthwhile and rewarding experiences. Many of the activities promote communication skills and assist with developing self-confidence. Traditional challenging activities like hiking, tree and high pole climbing were well received by the students.

Staff who attended the camps were impressed with the high levels of student participation and involvement.

The camps planned for next year will likely be a similar programme and will take place in the usual slot in late February and early March. Parents are invited to make enquiries about setting up a payment plan, as the camp fee can be an additional cost at the beginning of the school year. Please contact our Office Manager, Mrs Stanley, on 03 3118888 (extension 2100) to arrange to set up an automatic payment.

Ms K Knight

Year 10 Camps Co-ordinator



Reader/Writer Volunteers

Can you help?

The Learning Centre supports the students of Rangiora High School in a number of ways. One of our important roles is to supply adults to sit alongside students and act as Reader/Writers. Students are only eligible for this support when they have a diagnosis for Dyslexia or other SLD conditions. This condition prevents them from achieving at a level that their intellectual assessment shows they can reach.

I would like to hear from anyone willing to be on a volunteers' list for Reader/Writers. Skills required are patience, tolerance and reasonable Literacy skills. You will be working with Year 9 and 10 students. You do not need any particular subject knowledge, just a desire to help teenagers to reach their potential.

It is not a regular commitment – you might only be contacted 3 times a term. If you can help, please phone and leave a message or email me.

Winsome Brown

Telephone: 03 311 8888, extension 4704

Email: winsome.brown@rangiorahigh.school.nz

Mrs W Brown

Acting Head of Teaching and Learning

Careers

Students intending to go to university next year have been starting their course planning with the liaison teams from Canterbury and Lincoln. Otago University will be here in the first week of next term. Pre-enrolment closes on 10 December and students are encouraged to complete the process after their NCEA exams are over.

Polytechnic courses are also working to a closing date of 1 October, although there are variations. Students need verified copies of their NCEA Record of Learning (from the NZQA website) and their ID (birth certificate or passport). Students can bring their original documents and the copy to Mrs Burrows to verify them.

Youth Guarantee courses are available for 16 and 17 year olds who wish to start trade training at North Canterbury Community College, CPIT, Avonmore or other tertiary providers. The government pays the students' fees as they want to see students gain work skills before they start looking for a job or an apprenticeship.

Students are welcome to come to J2 (the Careers Room) during any interval or lunchtime to ask for information and advice about their future career and tertiary training plans.

Arts On

The school's wearable art competition 'Arts On' will be held in the first week of Term 4. Students are encouraged to get creative over the break. The wearable art event will be held in the School Hall on the evening of Wednesday 26 October. The event involves the staging of wearable art creations. Students can enter as individuals or in teams of up to four people. There is usually a staggering array of creative pieces. Some of the categories this year will be inspired by events of the year – with a twist of course... expect to see some amazing fascinators as well as some elaborate wedding gowns made from newspaper. There will also be some futuristic All Black costumes. Some of the traditional categories such as bizarre bras and recycled remnants will be sure to amaze us. There will also be some dancing and singing to entertain you. See you there.

Ms K Knight

Textiles Teacher

Sports' Update

Congratulations to two of our outstanding young sportspeople who have been selected as finalists in the Zonta Sports' Awards:

- **Jaye Atkin** has been nominated as best all round young sportswoman who has achieved in more than one sporting code.
- **Jake Lewis** has been nominated as most outstanding individual achievement by a young sportsman.

Congratulations to **Riley Block** who was selected in the New Zealand Under 17 Boys' Koru team who went to Australia in January.

Congratulations to **Sarah Hayman** and her sister **Elizabeth Hayman** (ex-RHS) who have both been named in the National Emerging Talent Accelerant Squad for the 2011/2012 Netball season. They are the only South Islanders to be named in this squad.

The Lighthouse Showcase

DON'T MISS THIS! We need your generous support. "The Lighthouse Showcase" is a charity concert for the whole family, to raise the university fees for our Mongolian World Vision students, Bruno, Bato and Ulzii.

WEDNESDAY 5 OCTOBER, 7.00pm
Baptist Church, East Belt, Rangiora

A wide variety of musical talent from both local High Schools and Canterbury guest stars. Tickets are \$20 adult and \$10 student. Door sales. Cash or cheque only. See you there!