

Timaru Christian School - Honouring God in all we do



Term 4, Week 5

12th November 2015

Dear Parents/Caregivers/Whanau
Last weekend the Board of Trustees meet for the day to discuss the vision we have for TCS into the future. We talked about what the school community had said through surveys and parent meetings, we spoke about what we are currently doing and what we hope for our children as we move forward. As a result, we have developed a new, exciting vision statement, values and strategic aims. Over the next few weeks we will be considering what they will look like in our school and the Board looks forward to sharing our new focus at the end of year prizegiving assembly. We will start implementing them from the start of next year. A huge 'thanks' to the Board members for giving up a large chunk of their weekend to work on this. May God's peace and grace be strongly evident to each of us in the coming week.

Ma te Atua e manaaki

God bless

Bethany Rentoul

Congratulations

Well done to the following students who received certificates this week:

Rebekah Purcell, Varshaa Kalpana, Ayla Grumball and **Rangi Siaoosi** – great effort in writing.

Anuscka Zwiegelaar – super work on information notes about India.

Heidi Uys – super work on reading activities.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Noodles and Sausages

On Wednesdays the sausages will no longer be available, but noodles will continue at \$1.50 each. Please do support this fundraiser.

Prayer Meetings

We have a weekly prayer meeting on Thursday at 9 am in the staffroom. If you have any prayer items or requests, please let us know and we can write them into the book.

Basketball Draw 17th November

4:00 pm TCS Boys v Waimataitai Warriors Court 3

4:35 pm TCS Boys Duty Team

5.10 pm TCS Girls v St Josephs Cardinals Court 2

Learning Languages Curriculum Review Findings

Our curriculum review for Learning Languages last term found the following:

- Most students believe they work hard and try their best often or all of the time.
- Most students have an appreciation for the variety of cultures we have in New Zealand.
- Most children believe the work they do in class is at about the right level.
- They know it is okay to make mistakes and ask questions and enjoy doing a variety of activities in class.
- Students listed a wide range of languages they would like to learn including Spanish, French, Chinese, Afrikaans, German, Maori, NZ Sign, Japanese, Samoan, Indonesian and Tongan.
- We need to use more outside experts in our teaching of Te Reo.
- Our Christian Character could be integrated more regularly into our teaching of languages.
- Teachers believe they incorporate a wide range of learning activities into their programmes.
- Most parents are happy with the level of Te Reo that is taught at the school.
- Many parents believe it is important to learn another language at primary school. Reasons included the fact that students can pick up languages more easily at a younger age and that they can use it when they travel.
- By creating a limited but interesting programme for each language which is repeated each term, we may get more students interested in learning languages. This is something to consider when planning for next year.

Written Language Curriculum Review Findings

Our curriculum review for Written Language last term found the following:

- Students are most confident in their understanding of Written Language in The Mid-Senior school.
- Students believe they are doing lots of different activities in class to ensure they understand what they are learning about.
- Many students would like to do more 'free writing'.
- We have started to do moderation with another Christian school re: Written Language samples. This has been great for ensuring we are on a similar page to other schools.

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- Students' wide learning needs are catered for within each home class.
- A Christian Worldview and Scripture is often incorporated into Written Language programmes.
- ICT is also often incorporated into teaching and learning programmes.
- Some students who are struggling in this area have been given additional support this term through teacher aide assistance. They will continue to be monitored.

Term Four Calendar

17th Nov – SC Cricket Tournament

19th Nov – Swimming

20th Nov – Pet Day

26th Nov – Swimming

26th Nov – PTA meeting, 7.30

1st Dec – SC Athletics (pp 8th Dec)

3rd Dec – Swimming

3rd Dec – BOT Meeting

10th Dec – Swimming

10th Dec – Prize-giving, 6.30 pm

11th Dec – End of Term 4

31st Jan 2016 – 2-4 pm School 20th Anniversary Celebrations

1st Feb 2016 – Start of Term 1

9th May 2016 – Teacher only day

Photos: Rural Sports Athletics Day, 6th November



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COMMUNITY NOTICES

YMCA Holiday Programmes

Looking for something for your young people to do in the summer holidays? Then contact the YMCA today about their fully funded holiday programmes for 11-17 year olds in December 2015 and January 2016. Phone: (03) 6883682. Full programme details coming soon.