

Newsletter



May 2009

Greetings Kia Ora Talofa lava Faka'alofa atu Kia Orana Taloha ni Malo e lelei
Mauri Ming ga la ba An nyong ha se yo



For uninterrupted Intermediate and Secondary Education in a Catholic School

**OPEN EVENING
TUESDAY 19TH MAY
6.30 – 8.00PM**

An opportunity to speak with current students, staff, management and Board

*20 Kenepuru Drive, Porirua Phone 237 5248,
Email: principal@viard.school.nz*

Families who have children starting Intermediate or Secondary education next year are strongly encouraged to come along to our Open Evening on 19th May. This is an opportunity to help children get familiar with the school and meet some of the teachers. It can be a first step in removing some the anxiety that can accompany school transitions for some students. Please tell your relevant friends and relations about the Open Evening and encourage them to come along.

Senior students have begun the process of accumulating standards towards their NCEA qualifications. They should be keeping a clear record of what they have achieved in each subject. This can be an important starting point for discussion between parents and students about their progress. We aim to update their achievements on the NZQA website for the start of each month. Students and parents can use the student login to the NZQA website to check current achievement.

The winter sports season gets under way with the first competition games this week. Thank you to all the parents and friends who are helping with coaching, managing, transporting, supporting and generally looking after our teams. If you wish to help, please make yourself known to our Sports Coordinator, Mr Setefano Mikaio or to the relevant team coach. Our sporting participation can be a great way for our students to develop many aspects of their character, not least of which are fairness, teamwork and consideration, courtesy, self-control, personal fitness, loyalty and commitment. Later in this newsletter you will find some very important advice from John Hornal, Executive Director of College Sport Wellington, for the start of the season.

Cultural activities also play a big part in student life this term. O'Shea shield is scheduled for next weekend, Barbershop quartets and choruses are busy rehearsing for regional competitions, polyclub will be starting to prepare for the Northern Region and Catholic Schools festivals and the junior school is preparing for their end of term musical production, The Wizard of Oz. Again there are wonderful opportunities to develop similar qualities of commitment, teamwork, consideration, self-control and creativity.

We hope all our students derive great enjoyment from developing their talents in their academic, sporting and cultural pursuits.

Mission Statement

*Bishop Viard College is committed to each student's intellectual, spiritual, emotional, physical, cultural and social development.
The whole person is encouraged to grow in Christ, and in the awareness that the possession of knowledge
is a call to serve others in building the kingdom of God*

Acknowledging our Students

Congratulations

- * To **Rachelle Robati** on being selected to travel with Mayor Jenny Brash to Blacktown, Sydney as a Youth Ambassador for Porirua City.
- * To **Paul Bickle** on breaking the Titahi Bay Amateur Athletic Club shot put record for 11 year old boys and for being awarded the Grade 11 sprint, shot put and most improved awards at their recent 2008/09 prizegiving.
- * To **Jody Dorgan and Melissa Azad** on their Anzac Day speech at Titahi Bay.
- * To **Tuli Tulipaolo** on her appointment as National Youth Leader for the PIC Church for the next three years.
- * To **Yr7&8 girls unihoc team** on winning their competition. Also to their student coach, **Matthew Tanuvasa**.
- * To **Yr 7&8 Boys unihoc team** on being runners up in their competition with their close fought final having to go into extra time to achieve a result. Also to their student coach, **Jordan Jansen**.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

From the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees will meet on **Monday 4 May** at 7pm in the school library. The current Board is in the third year of its term and at this time next year we will be electing parent representatives to the Board. If you have ever been curious about the work of the Board you are most welcome to attend for an obligation free look. Board meetings are always open to the public, plan to attend one this year. Contact botchair@viard.school.nz or (04) 232-8331.

Last term a request for donations to The Viard College Educational Trust went out to families, past pupils and to our four parishes to allow the BOT to apply for funds under the CAPS scheme. Thank you to all current families who were able to donate. The response was outstanding particularly from our Past Pupils. A comment accompanying a donation reflects the sentiments expressed

"I have been both very fortunate to benefit from some wonderful schooling during a good part of the mid & late-1970's, and that I am currently in a position to be able to assist the school on this occasion"

As over \$9000 was donated we are in the fortunate position of being able to apply for the maximum funds available from the Catholic Schools Board for refurbishment of classrooms. If the application is not completely successful, surplus funds together with those received after the cut off date will contribute towards a further application next year. We look forward to further progress in this area.

Marian Blackford (Chairperson)

Reports

Thank you to the many parents who attended our first parent – teacher evening of the year in the last week of term. Teachers found the conversations about your children's progress very helpful. If you have not yet collected your child's report you may do so by calling in to the school office.

O'Shea Shield

St Mary's College, Wellington will this year be hosting the O'Shea Shield on **Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th May**. Students involved were required to return their permission slip to Mrs Lewis **by Thursday 30 April**. Parents and Caregivers are welcome to come and support the teams at their performances.

Porirua City Council Youth Advisory Group Scholarships

The Porirua City Council's Youth Advisory Group (YAG) is offering 10 x \$300 grants (\$300ships) to young people aged 12-19 yrs to support their personal development. The \$300ships can be used for things such as school camps, Outward Bound, representative sports costs or any personal hobbies and interests, which may be something involved with your school, iwi or church. Some money will be available for amounts less than \$300 also.

Who is eligible for the \$300ships?

The young person applying needs to meet the following criteria:

- Must live within the Porirua City Council boundaries
- Must be 12-19 years old
- Have demonstrated some form of commitment to their chosen application area
- Have demonstrated they have personally tried to raise funds from their own pocket
- \$300ships must go towards personal development
- No organisation can apply, only individuals
- Cannot be for tertiary fees

Priorities

Priority will be given to young people who need financial support in order to reach their goals. Young people who display talent and commitment in the following areas will be considered: Sports, Music, Art, Culture, Academic, Service to the Community and Leadership. One scholarship will be given out to a young person experiencing financial hardship

For more information or an application please see our Youth Advisory Council Representatives: Jeremy Kelly or Rachelle Robati.

StudyIt Website

Studyit <http://www.studyit.org.nz/> is a free, safe, online, resource for NCEA maths, science, biology, physics, chemistry, and English students. Achievement standards in these subjects have been repackaged specifically for students and include extensive detail and links to relevant revision material <http://www.studyit.org.nz/subjects/>. There are forums where students can post questions and receive responses from our expert teachers seven days a week

including weekends, holidays, and in the evening. Students also support each other on the forums.

<http://www.studyit.org.nz/communicate/index.php>.

Ministry funded research

<http://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/publications/ict/239>

17 shows that Studyit is of value to students of all abilities and that they value the 24/7 availability of Studyit and interaction with peers and teachers. The research also found that Studyit is easy for students to use and this includes those with English as a second language. Introductory PowerPoint available for staff or students.

PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY

Health Issues

Over the next few months there will be a lot of respiratory illnesses circulating including influenza B. The Ministry of Health offer the following advice:

Limit the spread of illness:

- Keep sick children at home. They should not return to school until they have been better for 24 hours.
- Wash and dry hands well after sneezing, wiping or blowing the nose, going to the toilet and before eating and preparing food.
- Keep coughs and sneezes covered with a tissue.

Look after sick children:

- Keep them warm and give them frequent small drinks of clear fluid. (e.g. water or watered down juice)
- Give paracetamol (not aspirin) if irritable, miserable or in pain.
- Check them frequently

If the illness gets worse or you are concerned ring your GP immediately or call the free 24 hour Healthline service on 0800 611 116 and describe the symptoms and your concern.

Personal Safety

With the onset of winter and the increase of student travel to and from sports practices and games your attention is drawn to issues of personal safety, especially when travelling after dark.

- Make sure you know the times and places of your child's practice and games etc.
- Do not allow them to travel alone, especially in the dark.
- Where possible accompany them to their games both to encourage them and for their safety and your peace of mind.
- If you feel uncertain about any arrangements please ring the school to confirm the details.
- Talk with your child about reporting to you and to the school any suspicious persons or events they may encounter.

McDonald's Porirua

McDonald's are our new neighbours as from next Monday. We have negotiated the following procedures with them:

- Students will not be served or permitted in the restaurant between 8.30 and 3.10pm (2.10 on Wednesdays)
- Year 13 students will be permitted to go there during lunch breaks but they will need to have their year 13 badge and their student ID card.

McDonald's have a long history of support for schools and sporting groups and we look forward to working cooperatively with them.

Here at school we will continue to promote the benefits of healthy eating and a balanced diet. Our canteen will continue to supply a good variety of healthy food choices.

Sacramental Programme Urgent Message for Parents

The Sacramental Programme commences at the beginning of next week. If you are considering enrolling your child in the programme or require further information please contact Mrs Gael Thain urgently on 237-5248.

HPV Immunisations

The Public Health nurses will be at school offering the 2nd dose of the HPV Vaccine as follows:

- on **Wednesday 20th May** to all Year 12/13 girls and
- on **Thursday 4th June** to all Year 8 girls.

Health Matters



NCEA Fees 2009

Fees for Domestic Candidates

For any number of National Qualifications Framework standards and up to 3 scholarship subjects:

\$75 per candidate

How do I pay the fees?

Fees are to be paid to the school by the beginning of August. Do not pay NZQA directly. Please budget for this expense now. You are welcome to pay by instalments if that is more convenient. If you have any questions about the payment of fees you should refer it to the school office.

If you do not pay the fees NZQA will not report any results on your child's Record of Learning and they will not get any NCEA credits.

AM I ELIGIBLE FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE?

To apply for financial assistance, the applicant (normally the parent or caregiver of the candidate) must meet AT LEAST ONE of the following criteria:

- Be receiving a Work and Income or Study Link benefit
- Have a joint family income below the amount to receive a Community Service Card
- Have more than one child in the family paying NQF fees in 2009, no matter how much you earn and the total fees to pay are higher than \$200.
- Financial assistance can not be claimed for international fee paying students.

If you think you should get financial assistance you must complete the attached form. Additional copies of this form can be found on the NZQA website, www.nzqa.govt.nz or you can get a copy from the school office.

Uniform

With the cooler weather now fast approaching I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents/guardians and students of our uniform code and encourage all students to wear it well, not just at school but also on the way to and from school.

Girls: Green tartan skirt, white blouse, red jersey or red vest, white knee length socks or black tights with black leather school shoes.

Boys: Grey shorts, grey shirt (short or long sleeve), grey school band socks or black trousers, white long sleeve shirt with tie, red jersey or red vest, and black leather school shoes.

The only jacket to be worn is the green school jacket available from the Uniform Shop. A number of non-uniform jackets have appeared in this week's wet weather. Please ensure your child has the official jacket and wears it.

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Japanese Exchange

Bishop Viard College has been nominated by AFS New Zealand to nominate up to five students to travel to Japan in December on a cultural exchange. The students must be between the ages of 15½ and 16½ and have displayed diligence, service and community spirit. The trip will be paid for by AFS Intercultural Programmes. Interested students have been advised to submit letters of application to Mrs Crawford (Dean Year 11) by the end of this week.

Nominated students will then need to write a 1000 word essay which must include:

- * History and Mission of AFS
- * Explain what your understanding of an intercultural experience is.
- * How you think this scholarship could impact on your future focus.

These essays must be submitted to Mrs Crawford by Wednesday 6 May.

Junior School Homework Club

Every Monday to Thursday from 3.05pm to 4.05pm we have the Library available for junior students to do their homework. The Library offers a quiet working environment for these students to complete homework before they even get home, giving them more time to enjoy after school activities and family time. Extra resources for students to work with have been supplied through the Pasifika School, Community and Parent Liaison Project (PSCPL).

Tara Langford
Assistant Principal Junior School



Year 6 & 7 Athletic Sports Day

On Tuesday the 7th of April the year 12 sports studies students held a sports day for the year 6 students from

our contributing Catholic schools and our year 7 students. Anthony Urwin, the year 7 Dean welcomed the students, teachers and parents and then the games began. All of the



students were mixed together and put into Bishop Viard's house colours and everyone participated to get the most points for their team. The events included Long Jump, High Jump, Sprints, Softball throw and Relays and the year 12

students did a fantastic job in running most of these events without any assistance. The students had a great day and lucky for us the rain held out right up until the last activity. We also had a BBQ lunch to keep our energy levels up and to relax and talk to the year 6 students about how life has been at Bishop Viard College so far this year. A really fun day was had by all.

Points scored on the day: 4th place Yellow= 27, 3rd place Blue= 37, 2nd place Green= 59, 1st place Red= 79

Tara Langford
Assistant Principal, Junior School

Year 13 History trip

This week the year 13 History class travelled by train into Wellington to take part in a historical walking tour around Wellington. We were very lucky to have Steve Watters, a



historian from the Ministry of Culture and Heritage guide us on our tour. We started out at Te Aro Park where 200 years ago there was a Pa site where Maori from the area used to live. We then walked along the 1840 shoreline through town

where many students were surprised to find that the harbour used to reach. Now there are high rise buildings where the sea used to be. Our tour eventually lead us to Bolton St cemetery where many of the first settlers and notable personalities are buried. The trail around here gave us a real glimpse into the life and times of our early European settlement. The headstones told many stories and reflected the growing pains of a colony. We were once again surprised to learn that over 8500 people were buried in the cemetery. Lastly we finished up at Archives NZ where we were able to view the original Treaty of Waitangi and other important historical documents. This trip was really valuable for gathering information for our two upcoming assessments and the students really enjoyed it.

Tara Langford
Year 13 History Teacher

Malaga: The Journey

Ingelese & Jackie Ete have returned to New Zealand and are producing their musical, Malaga, The Journey with senior music students from the Porirua Colleges. They have staged the musical previously in Auckland at the Aotea Centre, at the Christchurch Arts Festival and in Fiji as part of a Pacifica Festival. Students taking part must be able to commit to attending rehearsals as per individual letters sent to parents concerned. This will be a spectacular event on a huge scale, which will be an inspiring experience for all students involved.

Gemma Lorenc
HOD Music & Performing Arts

**We're off to see the Wizard so let's follow the
Yellow Brick Road...**
22nd – 25th June

Rehearsals have commenced for all the Year 7 & 8 students. To ensure that the production is a success 100% attendance and commitment is required from all students. Your support would be appreciated. Attached to this newsletter is the rehearsal calendar and cast schedule. Please note that whole cast on the rehearsal calendar means all year 7 & 8 students are required to attend. If your child is unable to attend any of the practices could you please notify me on 237-5248 as soon as possible.



*Gemma Lorenc
HOD Music & Performing Arts*

ANZAC Day Speech

I would like to congratulate two Level 3 History students



Jody Dorgan and Melissa Azad who delivered a well crafted and heart felt speech at the ANZAC day celebrations at the Whitehouse Rd Cenotaph, here is a section of it:

“Standing here now amongst every hero that is here I feel proud to be a New Zealander. The First World War took 103,000 men to war and a total of 18,500 New Zealanders died in or because of the war. Nearly 50,000 more were wounded. Of the total number who died, over 2,700 died at Gallipoli. These figures are remarkable considering how small our country is and considering that the total population of New Zealand in 1914 was just over one million. Thank you to all the soldiers, past and present for all you have done. Words cannot express our gratitude and no number of speeches, no number of poppies and no number of news reports can ever make up for the sacrifices you have made but we hope that this speech has contributed in some way towards expressing our heartfelt thanks to you all. We salute you today but not just today, everyday.”

Longer Term Homestays Required

We require homestays for two German students who will be joining us in July. They are both female and aged 15 and 16. One intends to stay for two terms and the other for a full year. Their interests include music (cello, harp and singing), card playing, sports, theology, cooking, skiing, dancing, gymnastics. It is preferable for the host family to provide a separate bedroom for the student. Host families will be paid an allowance to cover accommodation and meals.

If you would like more information about hosting one of these students **please contact Mrs Sharon Johnson, Homestay Co-ordinator on phone 237-5248 ext 812 or 027 4208877.**



Short Term Homestays

**Nishio High School Visit to Viard
29th July – 5th August 2009**

Bishop Viard College will once again be hosting 10 students and 1 teacher, from Nishio High School from 29th July – 5th August 2009 on behalf of the Porirua City Sister City Exchange Programme.

If you would like more information about hosting a Japanese student or are willing to host a student for seven days **please contact Mrs Sharon Johnson, Homestay Co-ordinator on phone 237-5248 ext 812 or 027 4208877.**

Host families will be paid an allowance which covers accommodation and meals (3 meals per day) for these students.

Sports

We will be publishing the weekly draw for all our sports teams on our website from next week. You can check there for the times and venues of your child's sports games.

For most of our sports codes winter sports starts this weekend. Due to the cost of entering sports teams as well as equipment, we need to make sure we cover all our expenses. Registration fees have been set at the minimum to cover most of these costs. If you child is playing a winter sport can you please ensure their fees are paid so that their team doesn't have to be defaulted.

Is there is any parent or business organisation within our school community that would like to either sponsor a sports team or the sports page on the college website? For further information please contact Karl McLennan, Sports Club Chairperson on 237-5248.

*Setefano Mikaio
Sports Co-ordinator*

Careers

Victoria University is holding an Information Evening for prospective students and their parents on Thursday, May 7 from 6 - 8.30 p.m.

Year 13 careers interviews are being held in the second week of this term. All students in Year 13 will have a 20-minute interview with a professional careers counsellor. They will have another interview later in the year.

Taiohi Tu, Taiohi Ora is a careers day for senior Maori students. This year it will be held on Tuesday, 5 May at Te Wananga in Porirua. Ten of our senior students will attend.

Twenty students attended STAR courses in the travel industry at Travel Careers and Training in Wellington in the first week of term.

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

**Food & Trade Fair
16th October**

Bishop Viard College will for the first time in a number of years hold a Food & Trade Fair on Friday, 16th October to celebrate the skills and creativity of our students. In

addition there will be food stalls, art & crafts, quality used books. If you would like to be involved in the organising of this fantastic event or have any stall suggestions please contact Rebecca Howe on 237-5248.

Community Notices



GLAD Gifts & Christian Supplies Limited

For all your Catholic Supplies:- books, bibles, clothing, candles, communion and confirmation gifts, rosaries, medals, crucifixes, Mass books and missals, Mass & greeting cards, general gifts, art work, statues plus lots more!

If we don't have what you want in store, we'll gladly order it for you.

Phone: 04 4774492, Fax: 04 4774498

Email: gladgifts@paradise.net.nz

Website: www.gladgifts.co.nz

Prayer for Mother



Lord, I turn to you to give you thanks for my mother. With your own gift of life, she bore me in her womb and gave me life. She tenderly, patiently cared for me and taught me to walk and talk. She read to me and made me laugh. No one delighted in my successes more;

no one could comfort me better in my failures. Bless her, Lord, and comfort her. Help her loving heart to continue to love and give of herself to others. Strengthen her when she is down, give her hope when she is discouraged and bring her joy in her love and relaxation.

Most of all, Lord, on this Mother's Day, give my mother the graces she most needs and desires today. I ask you this, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



I've learned...

no matter how you try to protect your children, they will eventually get hurt and you will hurt in the process.



**Bishop Phillip J Viard SM
was the first Bishop of Wellington 1848 – 1872**

Coming Events

<i>May</i>		
Fri 1 st		Newsletter Posted
1 st – 3 rd		Duke Ed Final Silver Trip
Mon 4 th	7pm	BOT Meeting
4 th , 5 th , 7 th		Yr 13 Careers Interviews
4 th – 8 th		AsTTle Testing Yrs 7-10 STARS Survey
Thurs 7 th		VUW Information Evening
9 th & 10 th		O'Shea Shield
Tues 19 th	6.30pm - 8pm	Open Evening
Wed 20 th		Intermediate 7's Rugby Yr 12/13 HPV Vaccine – Dose 2 Yr 10 Assembly Yr 6 Technology Visit
Thurs 21 st	7.30pm	Yr 12/13 Bio Trip Pacific Parents Meeting Parents & Friends Meeting
Sat 23 rd		Barbershop Regional Comp
25 th – 29 th		INTERRUPTION FREE WEEK
<i>June</i>		
Mon 1 st		Queens Birthday – No classes
Tues 2 nd	7pm	Yr 12 Classics Trip BOT Meeting
Wed 3 rd		Yr 11 – 13 Assembly
3 rd & 4 th		Big Sing Festival
Thurs 4 th		Yr 8 HPV Vaccine – Dose 2
Fri 5 th		Newsletter Posted
Sun 7 th		S/Free Rockquest Heats
Tues 9 th		Yr 9 Parliament Trip
Wed 10 th		Senior Exams
Thurs 11 th		TEACHER ONLY DAY
Fri 12 th		End Semester 1

30 April 2009

H.R. Aitken (*Principal*)

Bishop Viard College

PO Box 50 075

Porirua

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E-Mail: principal@viard.school.nz



Winning Year 7 & 8 Girls' Unihoc Team