



Melville High News

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Issue 2

March 2010

Featuring

Principal's Message – acknowledging our outgoing Board of Trustees. . . *more on page 2*

Staff Changes – farewelling and welcoming staff. . . *more on page 5*

Athletics Day – records broken. . . *more on page 10*

OPC Great Barrier Island – a fantastic week . . . *more on page 12*

ABSENCE LINE

Phone 843 5212

Text 027 287 2428

Please phone or text the above numbers if your child is absent from school for any reason. No note is required on return to school if you phone or text.

DISTINCTION IN MUSIC



Year 11 student, **Shay**, (pictured) gained the top mark in New Zealand for his Trinity Guildhall Rock Guitar Examination which he sat at the end of 2009.

Shay gained a distinction pass with his 93% result.

Shay is studying Level 1 Music at school and showing great promise. He is already an experienced professional musician.

Congratulations, Shay, a wonderful achievement!

Parent Report Evening

Tuesday 23 March
Glenice Gallagher Library
4.00 pm-7.00 pm

All parents/caregivers are invited to meet with their child's teachers to discuss their progress. An Interim Report is enclosed with this new sletter. Please make the most of this opportunity.

PPTA

PAID UNION MEETING
Thursday 25 March
School finishes at 1.00 pm

Bus students and students who require supervision will be supervised by non-union members and will be involved in sports activities during this period and the school library will be open.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Tena koutou katoa

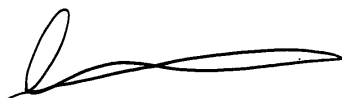
The first term is all but complete and we are holding our Parent Teacher Interviews this Tuesday evening to share with you some feedback about student progress. I encourage you all to take up this opportunity and to meet with our team of teachers to discuss your child's achievement.

Next week also sees the last meeting of the current Board of Trustees. With the ballot for the new members currently underway, I urge you all to exercise your right to vote. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the contribution that the current Board has made to the school. I congratulate them all for their energy, perseverance and contribution made over the last three years. There has been a host of achievements and some challenges which the Board has had to face and overcome. These achievements have laid a positive foundation for the incoming Board. Of particular note have been; the return of the school to the normal ERO reporting cycle; significant roll increase; the opening of the magnificent Glenice Gallagher Library; improvements in student achievement and, in particular, Maori student success and a reduction in suspensions and exclusions to mention but a few.

I would like to thank each member and former member of the Board for their contribution and wish those who are ending their association with the Board all the very best for the future. In particular, I would like to acknowledge the contribution of veteran Board member, Murray Pratt. I thank him for the time, expertise and assistance he has provided the school over the last 10 years and particularly the last six years as a Board member.

Finally, I remind parents and members of the community that we welcome your enquiries and concerns. It is only through engaging with you in a positive manner that we will be able to take advantage of new opportunities and suggestions, and resolve outstanding matters.

Kia Ora



Mr Clive Hamill, Principal

BUSES

I would like to extend my appreciation to the parents of our students who travel to school on our school bus runs. With the increase in the roll, in particular those coming from Temple View, we faced some challenges in ensuring that the buses were running at appropriate times and had sufficient capacity for the eligible students.

While we informed the contractor (the company that manages school transport on behalf of the Ministry of Education) and the Ministry itself late last year of the impending increase in eligible students, change was slow. Indeed, it took some persuading in February to effect the change.

I thank parents for their patience and understanding in this matter. Parents are reminded that passage on school buses is supervised by our school Bus Controller, Mr John Robinson, who is currently on sick leave. In the interim, it is supervised by Whaea Louanna Hori.

Mr Hamill

NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES

I would like to remind parents that there is currently underway a postal ballot for the new Board of Trustees. The school hosted an excellent 'Meet the Candidates' evening on Wednesday 17 March to which all seven candidates attended. They each addressed the small group of parents in attendance and answered questions.

I was impressed with the quality of the Board of Trustees nominees and I thank them all for putting their name forward. The five successful candidates will be known when the results are announced on Thursday 1 April.

I urge all parents to cast their vote (via the postal ballot) and ensure that our returning officer, Mrs Jos Caughley, is in receipt of the voting envelope **by 12.00 noon on Friday 26 March**. The five elected members will join the successful staff representative, Mr Bill Russell (elected unopposed), the student representative, Anna Strong, and myself as Principal in comprising the makeup of the new Board. The student representative elections are held annually in September.

The first meeting of the new Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday 20 April at 6.00 pm. These meetings are held in the Konica Minolta room, by the main office. They are open to the public, and parents and caregivers are most welcome to attend them.

Mr Hamill

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS – TUESDAY 23 MARCH 4.00–7.30 PM

In order to provide an opportunity for parents to discuss their child's progress with teachers, Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held on Tuesday 23 March. The Interim Report is included with this newsletter. We cordially invite you to attend and hope that you will take the opportunity to meet the teachers. Deans, Senior Leadership staff and Board members will also be available during this time. **An appointment system will operate**, so please return the appointment sheet which was distributed to students last Wednesday so that teachers can see as many parents as possible within the five-minute intervals. (You can also download a copy from our website).

You will also be invited to record your names on the contact sheet for the Melville High School Support Group (PTA) which will be holding its first formal activity on Tuesday 27 April (Week Two of Term Two) from 6.00 pm-8.30 pm. This is a barbecue dinner followed by a staff presentation about ***How ICT Supports Learning at Melville High School***. The presentation will include hands-on activities in the Glenice Gallagher Library.

Parents are reminded that we welcome the opportunity to talk to you about the progress of your child at any time, not just during formal report evenings. Appointments can be made through the school office.

Mr Hamill

**Absence Line - phone 843 5212
or text 027 287 2428**

Please phone or text the above numbers if your child is absent from school for any reason. No note is required on return to school if you phone or text in.

Deans

Deans are available regarding any subject or behaviour concerns you may have about your child. Phone messages will be responded to at their earliest convenience.

Student Services Centre

- Notification of change of details
- First aid
- Student sign-in late procedures
- Student sign out/in for appointments
- Lost property
- Absence letters
- Fees payments

Stationery/Uniform Shop

Opening hours

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
11.00 am-11.30 am

Guidance Counsellors

Students and families are invited to make appointments with Ron and Kathy Cronin-Lampe during tutor time each day or by phone (843 4529 ext 939/940).

Careers Adviser

Students and parents are welcome to make appointments with Mrs Searancke for advice on courses and careers.

International Students

HOD, Mrs Clapham, is available to advise all international students and homestay families regarding any issues on 843 4529 ext 930.

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS FOR NCEA
ASSESSMENTS**

Students who have disabilities which could affect their performance in internal and external exams can apply for special assistance. This could take the form of extra time in exams, enlarged text for sight impaired students, a reader and/or writer, a laptop, seating away from other students, etc. We need to make applications soon. Please contact Mrs Black if you think your child might qualify for this extra support. Independent test results as well as learning support during high school are the minimum requirement.

KIWI KIDS LEARN

A new educational magazine has been launched for parents and caregivers to support their children to be all they can be. Kiwi Kids Learn is a fantastic resource and full of useful information to use with school age or preschool children. Kiwi Kids Learn also includes two sections specifically for kids. There is a dedicated 8-page lift-out for the kids with activities and games. There is also a section within the magazine for students to 'showcase' their work to the rest of New Zealand. To find out more or to order a copy, go to www.kiwikidslearn.yolasite.com.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL HOCKEY SERIES

NZ Women's Blacksticks vs Argentina

Wednesday 31 March 2010

Gallagher Hockey Centre, Hamilton, 7.30 pm

Curtain Raisers 5.25 pm

\$15 Adult, \$5 School Child, Pre-school Free,

Family Pass \$35.

Bring your whole family and see these top ranked women's teams in action and pick up some new skills for your 2010 hockey season.

See www.waikatohockey.org.nz

STAFF CHANGES

We bid farewell at the end of term to the following staff who have served us well:

Mrs Anne Burgess

Anne has taught at Melville High School in the technology department for over 13 years. She has specialised in food and fabric, having a particular interest in the childcare area.

Ms Shannon Johnson

Shannon leaves us after three and a half years teaching English and Drama. Shannon had developed strong and positive relationships with her students and her colleagues.

Mid term, we also farewelled **Sam Wilmer-Provan**, our IT Technician.

We wish you all well in your new endeavours.

Ms Justine Macnamara

Justine is taking Maternity Leave for 12 months and we know that she and husband, Dave are looking forward to this new arrival as first time parents. We wish them both the very best.

We welcome to the school the following staff.

Ms Renee Paki

Renee is the new acting HoD Maori. Renee replaces Whaea Te Mana Rollo who has 32 weeks study leave to undertake work on her PhD. Renee was formerly HoD Maori at Hamilton Girls' High School and already is well-known to students.

Mr Peter Revell

We are currently utilising the services of Peter Revell from **Consult-IT** to complement the technical support we receive from IT company, **Totali**. Peter is in school on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

ROLL INCREASES

The school roll, including Foreign Fee-paying and Alternative Education students, has shown a further increase to 641 students. This is up 7% on the 2009 roll figure and the increase has largely been in the senior school. Each year the school is required to file a Roll Return to the Ministry of Education on 1 March and this determines staffing and funding for the school.

Mr Hamill

2010 TERM 1 CALENDAR

MARCH

Week 8

Mon 22	Board Meeting, 6 pm
Tues 23	Parent Report Evening
Wed 24	Waikato Secondary Schools Swimming Sport
Thurs 25	Raft Race PPTA Stop Work Meeting School closes at 1.30 pm
Fri 26	Voting closes for BoT Elections at 12 noon

MARCH/APRIL

Week 9

Tues 30	Year 10 Vision Testing
Thurs 1	Results declared for BOT Elections
	Last day of Term 1
Fri 2	Good Friday

TERM 2

APRIL

Week 1

Tues 20	Year 10 Vision Testing catch-up First Board Meeting for new Board of Trustees, 6 pm
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APRIL/MAY

Week 2

Tues 27	PTA BBQ and Staff Presentation, 6 pm-8.30 pm
Sat 1	Pasifika by Nature School Festival

Week 3

Thurs 6	NCEA Excellence Dinner
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Week 4

Mon 10-Tues 11	Stage Challenge
Sat 15	Smokefree rockquest heats

JUNE

Week 8

Mon 7	Queen's Birthday
Sat 12	Smokefree rockquest finals

Week 9

Mon 14	Waikato Careers Expo
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Week 11

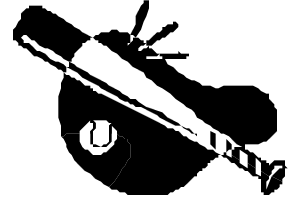
Fri 2	New sletter posted Reports posted
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2010 TERM DATES

Term 2	19 April – 2 July
Term 3	19 July – 24 September
Term 4	11 October – 8 December



Sports@MLV



Cricket

The 1st XI cricket team has had their most successful term to date and showed that we have a strong base to build on for the future. The highlight to date was their win in the 2-day game against Te Awamutu by 8 runs. This was the first time most of the boys had played a 2-day game and it was a valuable experience.

The Gillette Cup Twenty20 games were played at Te Awamutu. In a very close first game, Melville lost to Te Awamutu, who went on to win the round. We then played Piopio, winning the game convincingly. Batting highlights: **James D** 138 v St Peters 2nd XI and **Jordan** 72 no v Piopio. Bowling highlights: **Jordan** 5/37 v Te Awamutu and **James D** 4/16 v Morrinsville.

We have a keen group of players in the 2nd XI team with 16 boys regularly at practice. While they haven't had any success in their games, they are gaining valuable experience. A few new players to cricket are showing real potential.

Mr Wilson

Winter Sports

We are looking to have our busiest winter sports season this century! We will have six basketball teams, six football teams and five netball teams. We also have over 30 boys training with College Old Boys' Rugby League Club in the various age groups. Some of these boys will also make up a Junior Rugby team. Along with hockey, badminton and multi-sports, there will be many students actively involved in sport this winter.

There will be at least seven teams from various sports competing in tournament week at the beginning of September. There are large costs involved in our participation in this event so we will be undertaking a number of fundraising activities to ensure students can participate. We are always interested in new fundraising ideas or sponsorship. Please contact our Sports Co-ordinator, Russell Wilson, at school.

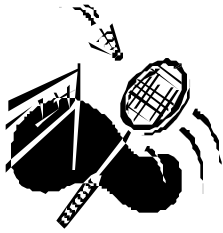
Mr Wilson

Aikido

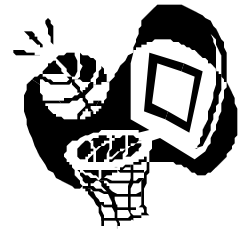
Congratulations to **Jessie** and **Robyn** who obtained their 6th kyu/yellow belts at the end of 2009. The grading panel was impressed with the standard of these students and we know that they have taken their first step on their Aikido journey.

Aikido training will continue this year and I am looking for more students to build on the small group we formed last year. The training is gentle but complex and involves using weapons and some weapon disarms. I am happy to take on new students for Term One. No further students will be accepted from Term Two onwards so if you are interested and committed to training, come and see me.

Mr Suter, Aikido Sensei



Sports@MLV



2010 Zone 2 Athletics

The Waikato Secondary Schools Zone Athletics was held at Porritt Stadium on Tuesday 22 February. Melville High was well represented with over 50 students participating and the following results fittingly show the calibre of athletes within our school.

First Placings

Senior Girls' Shot	Christina Witana
Junior Girls' Javelin	Corbyn Heu
Junior Girls' Discus	Sinead MacFarlane

Second Placings

Intermediate Girls' Discus	Sarah Schuster-Barton
Junior Girls' Javelin	Sinead MacFarlane
Junior Girls' Shot Putt	Astina Wiperi
Junior Boys' Discus	Joshua Iosefa-Scott

Third Placings

Senior Boys' Long Jump	Charles Cammock
Senior Boys' Triple Jump	Charles Cammock
Intermediate Girls' Discus	Louise Milicich
Intermediate Boys' Long Jump	David Coffey
Junior Boys' 800 m	Hamish Anderson

2010 Waikato/BOP Secondary Schools Athletics Championships

The Waikato/Bay of Plenty Secondary Schools Athletics Championships was held at the Tauranga Domain on Saturday 13 March. Team members included **David Coffey**, **Charles Cammock**, **Corbyn Heu**, **Astina Wiperi** and **Sarah Schuster-Barton** who represented Melville High admirably both on and off the track.

Congratulations to **Corbyn** who was placed 4th in the Junior Girls' Javelin and has made it into the Provincial team to compete in Wellington on 20 March.

Special thanks to Mr Ken Coffey who provided transport and acted as team manager.

Nakita and Tiani join Under 17 Tainui Waka Netball Rep Team

Nakita and **Tiani** have been chosen to represent the Under 17 Tainui Waka Netball Association Representative Team at the 2010 National Maori Women Netball Tournament to be held in New Plymouth from Friday 2-Sunday 4 April. **Congratulations to you both!**

Ms Karen Newport, U 17 Rep Team Manager, Tainui Waka Netball Assoc

HILLARY CHALLENGE QUALIFICATION WEEKEND

Once again, Melville High School entered a team of eight Year 12 and 13 students in the Hillary Challenge preliminary qualification weekend, during the second week of this term, run by Outdoor Pursuits Centre Tongariro. This was an event attended by 23 other secondary schools from throughout the North Island. Students had to complete an environmental project in the lead-up to the event as part of the entry requirements that counted towards the overall team score. Students spent many hours cleaning up a DOC reserve at Lake Ruatuna that included: removing privet, ragwort, blackberry and gorse; clearing weed from the lake; repairing the jetty; and improving access around the campsite. Our thanks are extended to Melville Intermediate School Principal, Mr Cooke, for allowing us the access to carry out this project.

Saturday's programme consisted of 5 one-hour challenges based in and around the Tongariro OPC centre. This tested students' decision-making, physical capabilities, mental strength, communication and team strategy through activities such as: water-based activity problem-solving, mountain biking, high ropes, kayaking and blindfolded camping/cooking. On the Sunday, students went head-to-head with all the other teams in a three-hour rogaine based around rugged farmland north of Taupo.

Our overall score for the weekend was lower than expected but it is important to note that none of the team members had any experience of this event going into the weekend. This has given everyone a taste of what the competition is like and already students are looking ahead to participating in next year's event.

I would like to thank **Tommo's Bakery** for the trays of food donated to the team.

We are also appreciative of the new mountain bikes that **Rocket Bikes Hamilton** has provided the school with to compete in events such as this.

Special mention must be made for the support and guidance throughout the weekend that former student, **Steven Pratt**, provided the team with from all his knowledge in competing in previous years.

congratulations to the following students for their commitment and effort: **Sam, Erin, Te Waanahi, Gina, Harry, Robbie, Andrew and James W** pictured right with Mr Edwards.



Mr Edwards, Teacher in Charge Hillary Challenge

PATHWAYS @ MHS Gateway, Careers, STAR

Congratulations to all the students who have started a programme through Pathways @ MHS. We have students in Gateway placements for Barista, Hospitality with McDonalds, Childcare, Banking, Mechanics, Radio Station, Nursing, Graphic Design, Joinery, Farming and Electrician.



**Richard enjoying his placement
at Community Radio Hamilton 106.7 FM**

The Careers period on Wednesdays is helping our senior students to prepare for life after school. They will achieve credits by completing career-focussed Unit Standards, have the

time to explore the Careers website, listen to speakers from a range of universities and polytechnics, and have time to watch DVDs which show different careers in action.

Students are starting to experience *Short Introductory Courses* through Wintec for one or two days a week. There is a range of courses available which are designed to give 'a taste' of a career. There is a list in the Pathways office which students can add their name to - they will then be called for an interview which will help to decide on a career focus.

Year 13 students, **Jacob** and **Richard**, have enrolled at the University of Waikato to study a Computer Science paper through STAR. We wish them both the very best over the first semester. **Ben** and **Jessie**, also Year 13 students, competed in the Army fitness test recently and both excelled. We are waiting to hear if they have been accepted for the Army Recruitment course being held in the first week of the holidays.

Mrs Searancke, Director of Careers / Mrs Cutler, Gateway Co-ordinator

MELVILLE HIGH SCHOOL SUPPORT GROUP – PTA

How ICT supports learning at Melville High

Tuesday 27 April

6.00 pm-8.30 pm

Glenice Gallagher Library

This will be a hands-on opportunity for parents and community members to see how we use technology to support student and teacher learning at school. Parents will be able to use the computers, i-books, access KnowledgeNet and on-line learning resources, view Video Conferencing and a host of other resources.

There will be a Barbecue dinner provided by the Melville High School Support Group [PTA.] before the meeting.

Please RSVP to Jos Caughley if you will be attending: Phone 843 4529 Ext. 803 or email icaughley@melville-high.school.nz

EXCELLING AT ATHLETICS!



Tirohanga well supported!



Tight finish in the House relay



A great effort in the high jump

This year we had a fantastic turnout for the school's athletics day held on the school fields on Tuesday 2 March. There were 272 individual competitors which made for an exciting day of events. Chanting and support around the grounds was amazing along with the great sea of colour floating from the spectators representing the Houses.

The morning programme consisted of students participating in the track and field events - scoring points for their House and attempting to break school records.

Sinead set a new record for the Junior Girls' Javelin with a 22.18 m throw.

Elijah set new records in the Junior Boys' 200 m (26.43 seconds) and 300 m (45.80 seconds).

The afternoon session involved inter-tutor and inter-house relays.

Champion House Wharaurora

Championship Titles

Junior Girls	Aria
Junior Boys	Elijah
Intermediate Girls	Amy
Intermediate Boys	Ben
Senior Girls	Erin
Senior Boys	John

Congratulations to all our students for their excellent participation and successes!

Acknowledging Our Sponsors

A very special thanks to our proud and loyal supporters, **MAD BUTCHER CHARTWELL** who donated 400 sausages, and **NEW WORLD GLENVIEW** who donated two crates of bread to help feed our athletes and spectators on Athletics Day. These two businesses have frequently donated items at school functions and the school community acknowledges their wonderful support of our students.

SWIMMING SPORTS A SPLASH!

On Wednesday 17 February, the School's Annual Swimming Sports were held at Hamilton's Municipal Pools. The competitive events were held in the morning, with the rest of the school joining in the afternoon for the highly popular Aqua Sports. Some students had entered all the available events for their age group and were exhausted by the end of the championship events. However, their loyalty to their House kept them going for the afternoon's Aqua Sports. The Aqua Sports consisted of events such as the House Lemming Length, Rugby Jersey Swim Relay, Walk the Plank, Treasure Hunt and Staff versus Students Relay.

Placings after all events of the competitive section:

Girls 14 and under

First Morgan
Second Merran
Third Megan

Boys 14 and under

First Ezrym
Second Maui
Third Chris

Girls 15 and 16

First Nakita
Second Te Ana
Third Christina

Boys 15 and 16

First Izael
Second Jonny
Third Elijah

Girls 17 and over

First Alana
Second Kaela
Third Shariann

Boys 17 and over

First Bertrand
Second Charles
Third Karni



House points up for grabs!



Now the fun begins!



Collecting items in the Treasure Hunt

Championship Points

Ruapane 1204
Wharauoa 1113½
Tirohanga 895½
Mahaukura 496

Aqua Sports

Tirohanga 418
Mahaukura 383
Wharauoa 365
Ruapane 314

OPC GREAT BARRIER ISLAND ADVENTURE CHALLENGE WEEK

Ten lucky senior students spent week five of this term at Great Barrier Island, taking part in an adventure challenge programme. Flying directly to the northern part of the island where the Outdoor Pursuits Centre is based was a real thrill, taking in the surrounds from the sky that we would be exploring for the week. Throughout the course of the week, students challenged their abilities in learning and developing a wide range of outdoor skills that included: adventure based learning, surf kayaking, sea kayaking, coastering, sailing, rock climbing, traversing, abseiling, snorkelling with sting rays and overnight camping. We had six sunny days which enabled the group to get the most out of the activities on offer. All students completed their assessments which required a balance of practical and theory work throughout the day and late into the evenings. I was impressed with the way everyone stepped up to the challenges faced and made the most of the opportunities given. The whole week was a tremendous highlight that we will look back on with great satisfaction for some time to come.

Special thanks to Mr Russell Wilson (Melville High's Sports Co-ordinator) for assisting with transporting the group to and from Auckland Airport and again to pick us up when we returned from the island. I would also like to acknowledge all the parents of the students involved in the trip for supporting their children in providing them with a unique opportunity to step outside comfort zones and test their capabilities. It was an awesome week and I look forward to exposing more students to this experience in 2011.

Mr Edwards, HOD Physical Education



Mr Edwards (at right) with OPC staff and the Melville High students



Ready for Kayaking



Floating downstream