

FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER 06 JUNE 2019

Gore High School

"Learning, to make a difference"

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From the Rector

Greetings everyone Kia ora e hoa mä

Prof. Pasi Sahlberg, Finland

Last week I attended the New Zealand Secondary Schools Principals' Conference in Wellington.





One of the many highlights was to hear a presentation by Pasi Sahlberg. Pasi has worked as schoolteacher, teacher educator, researcher, and policy advisor in Finland and has studied education systems, analysed education policies, and advised education reforms around the world.

Here is a summary of just three of the things he spoke about:

1. GERM – the Global Education Reform Movement. This is a term that Pasi termed to summarise the educational initiatives promoted mostly in the United States since the 1980's and which has spread to many countries around the work from there. These reforms include:

Competition Standardisation Privatisation Accountability, and Testing

Pasi's view is that these initiatives have led to no improvement, as evidenced by the state of the US Education system. He believes that this is the WRONG pathway to follow, and that it is indeed quite harmful.

Finland has done pretty much the opposite of this, and Finland is seen as a top, if not THE top performing country in terms of Educational achievement. In Finland there are no private schools, there is collaboration – not competition, there is less testing, and teacher quality is achieved through asking 'what can we do to help', rather than focusing on what the system needs to do to hold everyone to account.

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 2. Students need REST and GOOD FOOD. Sounds simplistic, I know, but Pasi will assure you that it is not. Students need free time, play breaks and rest throughout the day. Students generally get a 15 minute break after each hour of lessons. And the play breaks are mostly outside Pasi jokes that in Finland they have a regulation which states that if the outside air temperature is less than -15 degrees Celsius, then the children should be inside! There is some basis for this statement. Every student gets a healthy meal every day at school. It is provided by the government.
- 3. SCREEN TIME. Pasi will readily admit that the research is not conclusive with regard to the 'screen time is bad for you' debate. However, he is going with his intuition on this one. Adolescents need balance in their lives. For example, they need 9½ hours sleep per day. When smart-phone use interferes with sleep, social time, exercise, mealtime regimes and learning opportunities, then it can't be good for you. Should be ban smart phones NO. It is always best to learn how to self-control. Teachers and parents are not police officers they are educators.

There are more things he talked about of course. You can read his ideas for yourself at pasisahlberg.com

The School Ball

Finally, in this newsletter, my best wishes to the senior students for the School Ball this Saturday evening. They have certainly put a lot of thought into the event and have had to cope with some challenges along the way. When the District Council needed the James Cumming Wing back to re-house the Library, our students had to change their event planning at short notice. Just one of life's curve balls, I know, but I was impressed with the way they handled the disappointment.

I trust they have a truly enjoyable evening.

Warm regards, Nga mihi, John McKinlay









Southland Cross Country

Recently, nine students attended the Southland Cross Country in Te Anau. All students enjoyed the fine weather, the course, and competitiveness of the competition. They represented the school well.



GHS 2nd XV U17

Congratulations to the 2nd XV U17 Rugby team on their win against SBHS U17 Red last month. Well deserved.

PTA Easter Raffle

Gore High School PTA would like to thank the parents and students who supported the Easter Raffle. It was a very successful fundraiser. The monies will go towards the end of year prize giving prizes and other classroom consumables for all the students to use. The house class winner was HHY (Mrs Harvey's House class). The house points were as follows:

Hunter: 1st McNab: 2nd Anderson: 3rd Cargill: 4th

GHS Football

Last month Gore High School played St. Peter's in the round robin competition winning 4-2, pictured below are some of the players in action.



COACHING

Sprint Coaching Clinic







Saturday 15th, 22nd, 29th June Time: 3:30pm - 4:15pm tion: Invercargill Hockey Turfs







Dress a Girl Around the World-NZ

Mrs Hicks and her students lovingly made some beautiful dresses for the Soroptimist International organisation to send around the world (Sri Lanka, Papua New Guinea, Fiji and Solomon Islands.) Well done to all involved in taking part in a project that benefits others.

GHS Netball Club

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected to play for Eastern U14 and U15 Netball teams:

U14

Ella Cowley Rubi Edwards-Whangapirita **U15**

Georgia Bedwell Gabby Harrex Grace Michaels Anikah Moody Gabby Winkel



Freeze Ya Bits off Busking Competition

With the Gold Guitars been and gone for another year here are a couple of photos of students who competed in the annual Freeze Ya Bits Off Busking Competition. Ella Cupit and Hamish Waddell performed outside B&B Sports (left) while Ollie Ghoorah was in front of H&J Smith (right).





Bookings are limited

Phone or text for dates and times:

Gail 021 714 893



Health Incubator

High and St. Peter's College students recently participated in the Year 12 Health Incubator trip to Kew Hospital. Students undertook a number of activities including eye testing, using hoist equipment to assist with elderly rehabilitation and serving meals. With an emphasis on privacy and professionalism within the workplace, students were able to hear from numerous speakers, including ex-pupil, Matthew McDonald. This is a fantastic programme and as a school, we would like acknowledge Jan Tait (the programme co-coordinator featured in the orange scarf below) for all of the hard work and passion she puts into organizing this; Kia ora rawa atu Jan, many thanks.

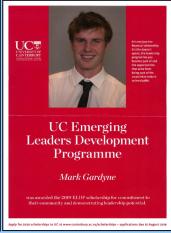


12 ORC Low Ropes

Last Thursday 12 ORC spent the day in Invercargill doing the Low Ropes course as part of their Physical Recreation course.







Venture Southland Employer Talk

Honey tastings (and wonderful aroma) were on the programme during an employer talk at Gore High School last Thursday. It was an opportunity for Year 10 students to find out about the huge range of jobs available in dairying, beekeeping, hospitality, retail, meat processing, graphic design, and hairdressing, from a range of employers who manage or own businesses in the Eastern Southland area.



MPA, SIT Campus Gore

Gore High boys (top left; Trent Vincent, right middle; Josh Miller) working hard on their entry for the South Island Grass Kart Challenge later this year, while the girls (bottom left; Shauna Sinclair and Hayley Gerken) share a laugh mid-facial.



















Key dates - Term 2

8th June: School Ball
17th June: SOHS Exchange
26th-27th June: School Production

4th July: Open Night

5th July: Student Reports issued

5th July: Last Day Term 2

Ski Week Camps July School Holidays 2019

The Southland Ski Club run Ski Week Camps during the July school holidays staying at our Lodge at Coronet Peak, Queenstown. Choose either a 5 day or 4 day Camp. Package includes either a 5 or 4 day lift pass, lessons twice a day, accommodation and meals suitable for ages 10 – 18 yrs.

Week 1: Sun 7th – 12th July Week 2: Sun 14th – 18th July

Applications are taken on a first in first served basis. To register your expression of interest (or for more details), please email: southlandskiclub@gmail.com with your details. You will be contacted when it is time to register. More details can be found on our website - www.southlandskiclub.org.nz. however, please bare in mind our website is undergoing a reconstruction.

Nau te rourou, Naku te rourou, Ka Ora te iwi Nau mai, Haere mai kite hui Powhiri for Gifting of a new Gore High School Haka

Ā te rahina te 10 o Piriria ā te Kotahi karaka (1.00 pm) hei tū tētahi hi kit e Rūma Huihuinga o Te kura Tuarua o Hokonui; kit e pōwhiritia he taonga tuku iho I mauria mai nei a Matua Matu Coleman Clarke. Nā Matu Coleman Clarke, he tauira tawhito o tēnei kura. Nāna nei I tio tēnei taonga, ara te Haka hōu, mot e hauora o teneri kura. No reira ki a koutou katoa, nga Mātua, ngā kaitiaki ō tēnei kura.

On 10th June at 1.00 pm in our school hall we will have a Powhiri to receive the gift or taonga (treasure) of our new school haka created by our ex-pupil Mr Matu Coleman Clarke. All parents and caregivers are invited to attend this ceremony. After the ceremony, you are invited for light refreshments in the staff room.

Ball Walk-In

The Gore High School Netball Club will be hosting the Ball 'Walk-in' prior to the Ball as a Fundraiser. It will start at 6.00 pm at the School Hall costing \$2.00 for students and \$5.00 for adults.

Autism Assessment in Invercargill

Are you seeking professional help with an autism spectrum condition? Either a full diagnostic assessment, or a follow-up appointment for further advice, strategies etc? I am in the process of re-scheduling my one-off visit to Invercargill. Unlike my previous visits in 2016 and 2017, Autism NZ is no longer in a position to fund this visit, so appointment fees will apply.

As the timing of my visit will depend on how much need there is, anyone interested should email me urgently at avaruth.baker@xtra.co.nz about what your need is, and for further information including an estimate of cost (which will vary according to what you're seeking and the likely time involved).

