

FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER 19TH MAY 2017

Gore High School

"Learning, to make a difference"

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From the Rector's Desk

Greetings everyone Kia ora e hoa mä

Thanks to the Principals' Digest, Volume 23 Number 12 for the following article, which I hope you find interesting.

Learning Myths

We all want for our students to have optimal learning experiences and, for ourselves, to stay competitive with lifelong learning. But how well do you think you understand what good learning looks like? Teachers often suffer from the 'Been there, done that' problem. People went to school, so they know what good teaching looks like.

A survey of more than 3,000 Americans to test their beliefs about common learning myths aimed to document the gap between public perception and good practice. The results showed public opinion diverges from reality.

Close to 90% of respondents agreed that students should receive information in their own learning style. But the idea that individuals have different learning styles, such as auditory or kinaesthetic, is a pernicious myth. There is virtually no evidence for the idea.

Almost 90% of respondents agreed that simply re-reading material is highly effective for learning. Research suggests the opposite.

71% of respondents indicated that teachers should motivate students by praising them for being smart. A large body of research suggests that this kind of praise is counter-effective. Praising effort, rather than ability, is far more likely to motivate students to work hard and improve.

On the topic of growth mindset, more than one-quarter of respondents believed intelligence is fixed at birth. Neuroscience says otherwise.

Nearly 60% thought that quizzes are not an effective way to gain new skills and knowledge. In fact, quizzing yourself on something you've just read is a great example of active learning, one of the best ways to learn.

More than 40% of respondents believed that teachers don't need to know a subject area such as maths or science, as long as they have good instructional skills. In fact, research shows that deep subject matter expertise is a key element in helping teachers excel.

And finally, despite their overall poor showing, more than 75% considered themselves above average in their ability to judge the work that teachers do.

This last finding, which could be called the confidence gap, really matters for the education kids are getting.

Perhaps this helps explain why teaching has been so devalued for a long time.

Teaching is a real craft. A lot of science goes into it. If the public doesn't understand what active learning looks like or why growth mindset is important, then schools may be pushed in the wrong direction.

Acknowledgement: Ulrich Boser, author of "Learn Better Mastering the Skills for Success in Life, Business, and School, Or, How to Become an Expert in Just About Anything".

Warm regards, Nga mihi John McKinlay







STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Kane Hardy

Kane Hardy helped guide and track a Red Stag with a client from Leithen Valley Trophy Hunts New Zealand as part of his Gateway placement. Kane has been honing his guiding and scoring stag skills as well as learning how to communicate effectively. Kane has stated that he will definitely be pursuing this career pathway. Well done Kane and thank you to Leithen Valley Trophy Hunts, New Zealand.



Jake Pannett-Miller

In April I was lucky enough to travel to Gore's sister city Tamworth, New South Wales to attend their ANZAC ceremony as an ambassador for the Gore District. The ambassador is chosen from Gore schools and applicants were interviewed by the Gore District Council about our knowledge of the Battle of Passchendaele and the Gore District. I am very interested in history and this trip really appealed to me as my great-great grandad fought in the Battle of Passchendaele, so I applied.

I was billeted with a local family and attended the Dawn Parade at 5am with them before taking part in the town ANZAC parade. I had to lead the parade, carrying the NZ flag, down the main street which was lined by Tamworth's residents and students of Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School.

After the parade I attended speeches and wreath laying in the Town Hall. I sat with the Mayor of Tamworth and together we laid a wreath in honour of our fallen ANZAC soldiers. From there I went, with the Mayor, to a lunch with officials and gave a speech about strengthening the ties between Tamworth and Gore.

Being the Gore Ambassador was a great opportunity. I met a lot of people from the Tamworth community and it was great to take part in Gores sister city's ANZAC Day celebrations. I would like to thank the Gore District Council for giving me this amazing opportunity.

University of Otago College of Education

There is an information evening being held on **Wednesday 28 June at 7.00pm** at the University of Otago, College of Education, Southland Campus, 100 Nelson Street, Invercargill. All interested students are welcome to attend.

Residential Colleges at Otago - Fees

Fees for Residential Colleges vary, are set annually and are subject to change. For 2016 accommodation in the University Managed Colleges the fee was \$13,452. When you receive an offer of accommodation in October you will also be required to pay a confirmation of place payment within 14 days. In 2015 the confirmation of place payment was \$671.50 in a University Managed College. The majority of students are required to make an up-front payment due on the 1st February. For accommodation in 2016 the up-front payment was \$7494.00 and is not covered by Studylink.

Further information:

Student Accommodation Centre Tel 64 3 479 5100 Fax 64 3 479 8249 Email accommodation@otago.ac.nz

http://www.otago.ac.nz/about/accommodation/otago034914.html#q15

SOUTHLAND CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS



Over 16 Girls prizewinners, Kate Johnson GHS on right

A group of 12 keen runners travelled to Te Anau on Wednesday to represent Gore High School in the Southland Cross Country. The rain stayed away and the course was hard and fast. All our runners enjoyed their racing and a special mention to Kate Johnson who finished 3rd in the Girls over 16 4000m. Thanks to those parents who supported the racers and to Mr Cooke for organising the team and travelling with them on the day.

Team:

Summer Hadley, Natalia Hamilton, Oliver Stark, Finn Hurley, Ben McCall, Liam Robertson, Rory Robertson, Hayden Michaels, Cameron Millar, Hamish Waddell, Kate Johnson and Sean Rowe

Results can be viewed via the following link:

 $\underline{\text{http://www.southlandschoolsport.org.nz/asset/downloadasset?id=8370ef18-4c18-47aa-92f9-9b330607fd55}$

Edge Parent/Caregiver Portal

The school would like to announce to parents and caregivers that you can now access the following information online:-

Reports: (past and present school reports from 2017 onward)

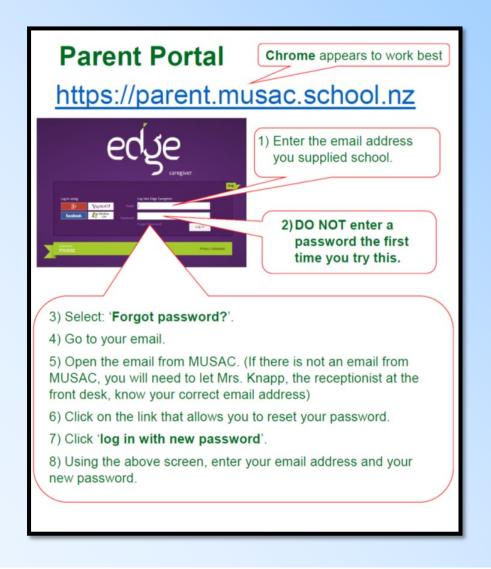
Timetable: (your child's school timetable)

Attendance data: (period by period attendance or a summary)

NCEA credits: (up to date information on the number of credits your child has attempted)
Caregivers details: (contact address, phone numbers and medical conditions for your child)

School payments: (schools fees balance)

Please follow the instructions below for further information:



Careers

Students urged to consider careers in engineering

New Zealand needs more engineers, and in response the Government has set a goal of increasing engineering graduates by 500 per annum. In particular we need to almost double the number of graduates with a New Zealand Diploma in Engineering (Level 6) or a Bachelor of Engineering Technology (Level 7).

Engineering Education-to-Employment's public awareness campaign, <u>Make the World</u>, aims to show how accessible engineering is as a career option for all young people. Contrary to public beliefs and stereotypes, engineering is a vibrant and creative profession. It is no longer male dominated and all about hard hats, but includes a diverse mix of people from all walks of life.

Make the World illustrates the wide range of choices available within the engineering industry, and features engineers who have studied a Bachelor of Engineering Technology or a New Zealand Diploma in Engineering. A highlight of the campaign is civil engineer, Sapoa Rimoni of Tongan and Samoan descent, telling her story of breaking stereotypes and feeling empowered to make a difference to the world.

STAR Beauty Therapy class on offer

Are any students interested in this course? It will be the last chance for students to take this class in 2017 so if anyone is interested please see Mrs O'Neill or Mrs McDonald in the Careers Department.

Health Alert

We have been notified by a parent that their child, and possibly other students are suffering from school sores. Symptoms are blisters on exposed parts of the body such as hands, legs and face which burst and turn into a sore with a yellow crust and gets bigger each day and these are easily spread.

If you notice any symptoms, please take your child to the doctor as the condition needs to be treated and keep home until the sores have healed as they are highly contagious.

Student Accounts

All student accounts have now been sent out about 3 times via email. We are still having some minor hiccups with our new student programme, so if you have provided the school with a caregiver's email address but not yet received an account, could you please notify Maree Barclay on 208 9130 extension 851. The system says all accounts are being sent successfully, but this does not appear to be the case with all students.

Ski Week Camps 2017:

The Southland Ski Club run Ski Week Camps in the July school holidays staying at our Lodge at Coronet Peak, Queenstown. Camp package includes a 5 day lift pass, lessons twice a day (Mon-Fri), accommodation & meals, suitable for ages 10 - 18 yrs. Choose to ski or snow board - awesome opportunity to learn or upskill.

Week 1: Sun 9th - Sat 15th Week 2: Sun 16th - Fri 21st

Applications are taken on a first in first served basis so apply now to avoid disappointment - applications close 31st May. Please go to our website to submit your application - www.southlandskiclub.org.nz if you have any further queries contact Vicki Murphy 027 275 0665



Student Information Sheet

Last term, students were given a Student Information Sheet to bring home for their parents/caregivers to check and return. A number of students have not yet returned these forms.

We shall be grateful if parents/caregivers could please ask their daughter/son to check as to the whereabouts of this form if they have not seen it yet.

In the event that your daughter/son does not have this form any longer, a replacement is available from the Student Reception. It is essential that student/parent/ caregiver details are correct on our database.

If you have any queries, please contact the school on 03 208 9130.