



HCS WEEKLY NEWS

The Official Newsletter of Hamilton Christian School
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Term 1, Week 7
18 March 2010

Dear Parents and Supporters, greetings in His Name

We are looking forward to meeting parents at the Parent-teacher interviews coming up on Monday and Tuesday. Interim reports will be going home on Friday. Entertainment Books will also be going out this Friday and the money raised will be used to contribute to the Y13 Prayer Garden project as well as the junior play area shade-sail fund.

Our planning for the Samoa trip is going ahead. Mrs van Woerden has put in a lot of work and we have started fundraising in earnest. We were very appreciative of the generous donation towards the costs of sending an adult to support Mrs van Woerden, and to look after our team while they are in Samoa.

We are blessed to have a short-list of four good candidates for the Year 7/8 teaching position (replacing Mrs Cunliffe) and we are holding interviews this Saturday. We would appreciate your prayers that we may discern the Lord's will in this matter.

We are having a mufti-day on the last day of this term (Thursday 1 April) and we will, as usual, be asking for a gold coin donation from each child who dresses in mufti, which goes to support our World Vision sponsor children. Mufti days are a great opportunity to display how different HCS is through individual students showing modest and God-honouring standards in their choice of attire.

Term 2 starts officially on Monday 19 April but we are planning a Teacher-only Day on the Monday and normal classes will resume on **Tuesday 20 April**.

We are now inviting student contributions for a visually appealing design for capturing the essence of our values statement. The 'Micah Mandate' (Micah 6:8) nicely encapsulates a rich set of values and principles that will give shape and direction to our work with students. "He has told you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God." Students are invited to submit entries for this competition. The winner's design will be used as the base for a poster to be used around the school to remind students and staff of the values HCS stands for. There is a separate textbox containing details on the competition. A \$50 book voucher will be awarded to the winning entry.

Our thanks go to those who supported our recent working bees with their time and effort, or with food or in other ways. It was great to have most of the administration building repainted in the new colour scheme. Thanks also go to those who supported our athletes who competed in the Waikato/BOP inter-school competition held last Saturday – it was a long day and the students involved were a great witness.

Yours in Him

Martin Keast, Principal

Text of the Week Matthew 6:19-21

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Upcoming Events

MARCH

- 19 Interim reports going out.
- 22-23 Parent Teacher Interviews
- 23 Y10 Vision resits
- 24-26 Y12 History trip
- 25 Board meeting
- 26 Y1-8 Book Character Day
- Y9 History trip to Howick
- 30 Y4-8 EWCS swimming

APRIL

- 1 Last day term 1/mufti-day and barbecue
- 2 – 5 Easter weekend
- 12 Public Lecture by P. Richard Flinn MA, MDiv. (Board member of Manukau Christian School) on 'Education and the Rise of a Second Christendom', 7:00pm at Tamaki Campus, University of Auckland.
- 19 Teacher-only Day Y1-13
- 20 Term 3 starts for students

UNIFORM

Winter items may now be purchased and ordered at the Uniform Shop. *Important:* If you think your daughter may fall either side of the sizes 61cms to 87cms for a winter pinafore (Y1–6) or skirt (Y 7 and up), please call the office for an appointment for your daughter to be fitted.

Orders can now be placed for **WINTER SCHOOL JACKETS** at the Uniform Shop. Jackets are non-compulsory but if a jacket is to be worn, it must be our school uniform jacket. As they are quite expensive, please note that all orders placed **must be honoured**. Students without a parent accompanying them should have a written request to order from their parent/guardian.

Either winter **or** summer uniform can be worn for the first 2 weeks of term, but not a combination of both.



EBBETT

MARQUE OF EXCELLENCE

PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS Monday 22 March
3:40 to 8:30pm for Y1-13.

Tuesday 23 March 3:40 to 6:00pm for Y9-13 only.

Appointments for Parent - Teacher interviews should already have been made.

Y1-8 if you have not yet made an appointment, please contact the office. Confirmation of times will be included with reports on Friday.

Y9-13 to be done on-line—refer to last week's newsletter.

Samoa Mission Trip fundraiser
Sausage Sizzle Friday March 19

This is NOT a mufti day.

Juniors (YO-8) Please hand money and your order form in to the office in a named envelope!
Secondary line up as usual.

BOOK CHARACTER DAY

When? Friday 26 March— come dressed up and the **GRAND PARADE** will be held on the hard courts.

Who? All Juniors and Intermediates and some Seniors

What? Children can dress up as a character from a favourite **fiction** book they have read (one that was a book before it was made into a film).

How? We are encouraging the students to really know the character they are portraying and each one is to prepare a short Character Description which they will present to their class in the morning.

The best one from each class will go on to be presented at **The GRAND PARADE**.

The children are encouraged to get creative and make their own costumes rather than hiring them if at all possible. (Please, no Harry Potter, Goosebumps, toilet humour or anything of that ilk).

We have a guest judge, Ms. Jo Roberts from NiE (Waikato Times), coming to help us and she is going to try to bring along a photographer.

It's going to be **FUN!**

FIELD HOCKEY

Mrs Valarie Thompson will be putting teams together again, for Y3-13. IF you are interested in playing, can you please let her know **as soon as possible**.

Ph 843 5457 or email thompson11@xtra.co.nz

Information required will be child's name, your contact details, and child's school year.

She also requires people who are interested in coaching, umpiring, and managing.

Prayer points

- For Mrs Cunliffe and the baby she carries.
- For wisdom as we consider the applicants for the vacancy at Yr 7/8 to replace Mrs Cunliffe.
- For Mrs Stevenson to recover from the problem in her back and for Mrs Swanson to be able to return to full duties once more.
- For Mr Eddy Kroese as he recovers from a broken collarbone.
- That the Lord would move Christian parents to use HCS for their children.
- For a growing sense of community and harmony amongst us all.
- For Australian Christian schools and others standing up for the religious freedom to teach children the truths of Scripture.
- For all the planning and fundraising associated with the Samoa trip.

HCS Parents' Weekly Prayer Meeting each Tuesday morning from 8:45-9:30am in C1. Come each week or even just occasionally — just drop in on the day.
If you have any questions call Linda Dowling 853-7662 or Jackie Hemmes 855-0684.

Receptionist (job share)

This is (presently) a two-day position (probably Wednesday and Thursday), during school-term time (8:15am to 3:45pm), with some opportunity for extra work.

The job offers plenty of variety, and we seek a committed Christian who can efficiently "multi-task". Familiarity with Microsoft Office 2007 software is required.

Expressions of interest should be emailed to gavinb@hamiltonchristian.school.nz (those who have already expressed interest are encouraged to confirm this by email, so we can be sure to include you).

Next term a **Dental Caravan** will be on-site at the school. If you wish your secondary school child to take part in this (Private) service, you must complete the form that is being sent home today, and return it to the office before Mon. 29 March.

Netball trials

Will take place next week Thurs 25 and Fri 26 March.

Year 6-8 during lunch

Year 9-12 after school

Year 4-5 during lunch on Mon and Tues 29-30 March

All girls interested in playing netball should bring their gear and be ready to play.

Miss Cornelia Pretorius is the teacher organizing netball this year. (corneliap@hamiltonchristian.school.nz)



Sponsors to:
**HAMILTON CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL**

SIR GEORGE SEYMOUR
NATIONAL COLLEGE OF
AIRLINE, TRAVEL & TOURISM



NATIONAL STANDARDS

More about "National Standards" that are not in essence National Standards.

Having had some of our staff members attend the first of at least four School Support Services cluster meetings that will be held over the course of the year, it is becoming clear that National Standards is probably a media coined phrase that has made the whole issue very emotive.

The presenters at the course put huge emphasis on the fact that the standards are actually The New Zealand Curriculum Standards and their primary purpose is to inform and structure the teaching of the curriculum. The understanding that children are all different in terms of their academic abilities remain unchanged. Children will be monitored in terms of the progress they make in accordance with their abilities, but obviously the teachers will always be keeping in mind the standard to which they hope to bring each child. As a private school have the freedom to make our decisions as to how we administer, record and report with regards to whichever standards we decide to adopt and we will continue to work these issues through over the course of the year.

In summary, "National Standards" are intended for analytical and statistical purposes, rather than wholesale public consumption.

The following students were noted for their outstanding participation at **Athletic Sports**. Emily Duckett, Jesse Duckett, CD Blom, Dylan Kimpton, Jonathan McDonald, Shannon Whitelock, and Lisa Hemmes.

Aaron Preest, Ezekiel Crawford, Karen Lock, Amberley Kamphuis, and Briar van Woerden also did well, and went on to the Waikato/BOP Secondary School Athletics last Saturday. They all did an outstanding job representing the school with Briar achieving a 6th placing in 400m finals.

A good day was had by all.

Peter Shields (Sports Coordinator)

EASTER CONVENTION 2—3 April

Deep workers in a Shallow World. Expositions in 2 Corinthians 2:12—7:4. Presented by Rev. Simon Manchester (Snr. minister at St Thomas' Anglican Church, North Sydney, NSW).

The conference will address: Triumph and Trouble, We do not lose heart; Resurrection and Reconciliation; A Deep Worker in a Shallow World; and Behind the Scenes.

Please see the notice on the office window for more details, or call Pieter van der Wel on 853 3144.

A Parents Inc. Toolbox course for parents of 6 to 12 year olds is starting on Monday 26 April at 7.15pm. This is a six week course full of helpful strategies to make parenting easier. To book a place phone Fiona on 855-1241 or email hamiltontbx@parentsinc.org.nz

PILATES - @ Horsham Downs Community Church

Come and join our enthusiastic group on a 10-week programme of Pilates commencing MONDAY 19 APRIL 2010, 9.30-10.30am Hall. Light refreshments served at conclusion.

Cost: \$100/pp/10 week course (or \$12 casual). Payment is required up-front. Classes not run on public holidays.

Let us know if you require child care.

Phone and register with Barbara, Ph 854 5123

or (027) 666 6360

Attend a "Family Promise" appointment with the **PUBLIC TRUST** before 7 May, and you will go in the draw to win a \$5000 Education Trust. See www.publictrust.co.nz/family-promise for details.

Attention Farmers: PGG Wrightson are offering a fundraising bonus on your purchases of Ballance fertiliser. For every tonne of Ballance fertiliser sold, they will donate \$2 to the school, and your nominated school will also have an entry into a draw to win one of four HP computers.



10th Birthday Celebration. Past pupils, family & friends, and everyone from the community are all invited on 25th March at 3 p.m.

21 College Drive, Gordonton Phone : 824 3188.

Australian Christian schools in creationism row

Many are calling this the thin edge of the wedge for Christians everywhere...

{ taken from <http://creation.com/australian-christian-schools-in-creationism-row> }

Disturbing news for Christians has arisen across the Tasman. I would recommend you take the time to read the original full article as we can anticipate similar moves occurring in New Zealand in the future.

The issue was started by a policy release by the South Australian Non-Government Schools Registration Board which many Christians believe is an attempt "to effectively ban the teaching of creationism."

The policy stated that the Board required "teaching of science as an empirical discipline, focusing on inquiry, hypothesis, investigation, experimentation, observation and evidential analysis". So far, so good. But it also said that it "does not accept as satisfactory a science curriculum in a non-government school which is based on, espouses or reflects the literal interpretation of a religious text in its treatment of either creationism or intelligent design."

If a Christian school has its registration withdrawn, it means that parents who continue to send their children to that school would be in breach of truancy laws. In effect, it would shut down the school.

The Farmhouse holiday camp (Rotorua).

The dates for our next camp are 12 – 16 April 2010

Camp starts at 10am and finishes at 3pm.

To book your child into one of our camps you can either download a registration form on our website www.thefarmhouse.co.nz or ring us (07) 332-3771 and we will post you out a form.

Approved parents can get funding from WINZ to help pay for camp fees. Don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

TENNIS HOLIDAY PROGRAMME and
DEVELOPMENT CLINIC
St Peters Tennis Club, Palmerston Street

6 – 9 April (Week One)
½ day AM Holiday Programme Session
½ day PM Development Clinic for advanced/int. students
12 April – 16 April (Week Two)
½ day AM Holiday Programme Session OR
Full Day Holiday Tennis Programme
<http://www.southernpacifictennis>
(Due to the V8's, we won't be at HSTC these holidays)

**Term 2 Tennis Coaching Commences 19th April.
Let us know if you would like to join us.**

Kelly Sports has got two exciting holiday programmes running in the up and coming April School Holidays! They will be running at Southwell School and Hamilton Girls High School. The holiday programmes are suitable for 5 – 13 year olds. Both programmes will run from 8am to 6pm. Oscar subsidies are available at both venues.

Kelly Sports will also be running a Rugby and Netball Clinic. They will run on the 6th, 7th & 8th of April. Both clinics are for children aged 5 – 13. Get in quick as spaces are limited!!

The Rugby clinic will include the opportunity to be coached and trained by Waikato's All Blacks and a Stadium Visit where the children will watch the Chiefs in action at a training session!

The Netball clinic will cover skills, techniques, speed, and agility! Children will get the chance to be coached by two of our talented Silver Ferns and get to go and watch the Magic Team train!

For more information contact us at waikato@kellysports.co.nz or 0800 898 444!

Check out our website – www.kellysports.co.nz

**Samoa Fundraiser: Firewood for sale**

\$100 a trailer load, delivery negotiable.

Please see Stefan van Woerden to order

or e-mail: nicav@hamiltonchristian.school.nz

HOLIDAY PROGRAMME AT HAMILTON ELIM CHURCH

12 - 16 April (Week 2 of the holidays). Age: 5 - 13 years of age

From: 7.30am - 5.30pm Cost: \$120.00

OSCAR approved and WINZ subsidies are available if applicable.

Easy payment options: Internet banking and eftpos facilities.

Elim Church, 21 Maui St, Te Rapa

More info and registration forms in the office.

Private Tutor Available Maths, French English and Computing.

I have a degree in Maths and French, and 25 years' experience in the computer industry. I can help to understand specific parts of the subject, or help to build a greater knowledge of the subject overall. \$20 per hour.

Phone Simon, 07 855 0052 or 027 500 1900.

**Women's International Hockey Series-Hamilton
NZ Women's Blacksticks vs. Argentina, Wed. 31
March**

Gallagher Hockey Centre, 7.30pm,

Curtain Raisers 5.25pm

\$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