

# The Dunstan Prospector

Issue 8

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## SENIOR REPORT INTERVIEWS

**Wednesday 24 June 3 – 7 pm**

Along with our new system for booking interviews on-line we have extended the time for the interviews. They will now begin at 3 pm – but still go through to 7 pm. This should give parents a good range of times to come in to talk with the teachers of their sons/daughters.

School will finish at 1 pm on Interview Evening with students being released at the end of period 4 after a shortened lunch break.

Please note that buses will run at the normal time. Should your son/daughter require supervision please contact the office by 12 noon, Tuesday 23 June so staffing can be arranged.

**Website address: [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz)**

## PANDEMIC PLANNING 2009

While not wanting to be alarmist about the swine flu currently causing concern in NZ and around the world, it is important that as a school:

- 1 We are prepared
- 2 We work to prevent a serious health crisis in our school community

Like other schools we are working closely with our Public Health Nurses, in particular our school nurse, Sue Philip, to keep students, staff and families updated with information so we stay well.

We will include information about the swine flu and pandemic protocols in our newsletters over the winter, but also pass on relevant information by email.

We do not want to reach a stage where the school closes or large numbers of students are sent home. Hopefully this can be avoided if everyone takes particular care.

The attached information has been put out by the Health Department. Please read it carefully, share it with your family and plan to stay healthy over the winter.

As part of our DHS plan, we need to update **emergency contacts** for students who become unwell during the school day and **need to go home**. Students with flu symptoms will not be able to stay at school. It is important that each family updates this information as soon as possible. Each family must have someone who can be contacted and who will collect your child if he/she is ill.

**Please update or add any further details to the enclosed DHS Pupil Profile Sheet. Only forms with changes need to be returned to the office as soon as possible please.**

Also, please inform us if your son/daughter is away because they have the flu or are experiencing flu symptoms rather than just saying they are unwell – phone 4488595 or email [absences@dunstan.school.nz](mailto:absences@dunstan.school.nz)

## WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH INFLUENZA A H1N1 (SWINE FLU)?

**Information for families – updated 8 January**

This new influenza virus was first recognized in April 2009 and presents a risk to people in all communities because no-one has any immunity to it. At least 20,000 people in over 66 countries have now been infected. It looks as though there is community spread in Australia especially in Victoria where a number of schools have closed in an effort to reduce spread. However, because New Zealand has close ties with Australia it is likely to be only a matter of time before communities in New Zealand are affected.

Most people who have contracted this virus have fully recovered but, as with any type of influenza there can be a range of severity of illness from mild to severe. It appears to be highly contagious.

Symptoms of influenza include sudden onset of respiratory illness with fever, cough, runny nose, aching muscles and fatigue. People are infectious for approximately one day before getting ill for up to a week after they show symptoms.

For most people the usual treatment includes paracetamol for fever control, plenty of fluids and rest. Antibiotics are not needed unless there are complications. If you need to see your doctor please phone ahead to discuss your illness.

Best ways of minimizing the chance of infection from influenza are:

- Frequent and thorough hand washing and drying
- Cover any coughs and dispose of tissues properly when used
- Stay home if you are sick
- Where possible avoid close contact with sick people – keep at least a metre away
- Keep frequently used surfaces clean (benches, door handles, phones, computer keyboards)  
Please refer to the chart included if you are unsure if you have flu or a common cold
- If you are travelling overseas please be aware of travel advice [www.safetravel.govt.nz](http://www.safetravel.govt.nz) – if you have flu symptoms on your return, check with a health professional before returning to school or work.

Public Health Nurses can be contacted if needed.

Useful websites for further information:

[www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

[www.moh.govt.nz](http://www.moh.govt.nz)

Phone advice:

Freephone: **Healthline 0800611 116** or your family doctor

## IN CASE OF EMERGENCY eg Snow/Flooding/Ice

**Remember to tune your Radio to MoreFM 90.3 for information about buses, school opening, closure, etc. (See Student Diary/Handbook – page 6).**

## 2009 PLATINUM PARTNERSHIP

Supporting the roles of the Sports and Arts Coordinators in the school:

**Fulton Hogan Central, Breen Construction Co Ltd, Central Motorways Coaches, Paper Plus, Peter Lyon Shearing Contractors, PlaceMakers Alexandra and Tony Botting, London**

### 2009 NZQA EXAM FEES and FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

**NZQA Exam Fees** for 2009 are payable to Dunstan High School by 28 August 2009. A fee of \$75 has automatically been put on your son/daughter's account as this is the amount most students will be paying.

An information sheet relating to the amount to be paid and **Financial Assistance** available is enclosed with your son/daughter's report. The \$75 charged will be changed as soon as financial assistance has been approved by NZQA. Please get your applications in as soon as possible. Our school deadline is the 28 August to enable us to get approval for your Financial Assistance application before the money has to be paid to NZQA.

### TERM DATES AND HOLIDAYS

Just a reminder:

**Term 2 finishes Friday 3 July**

**Term 3 begins Monday 21 July**

For more details please check the student diary, page 2.

**NEXT PTA MEETING  
MONDAY 20 JULY 2009  
7.30 pm  
Library Block  
All Welcome**

### KEA CONSERVATION SURVEY

The Kea Conservation Trust, a charitable organisation dedicated to the conservation and best practice management of wild and captive kea in New Zealand is running an annual Winter Survey of kea during the weekends throughout July as part of their population research on the species.

This study relies on a large volunteer pool of observers to make the survey a success. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer please see Ms Hitchman or

<http://www.keaconservation.co.nz/kearesearchprojects/wintersurveys> for more information and photos of last year's survey.

### LET'S HELP KIDS WITH KIDNEY PROBLEMS

Lions Clubs throughout NZ are helping children with kidney problems by collecting aluminium can tabs and wine bottle screw tops.

Dunstan High School would like to participate in these collections.

We have two cans available to put your tabs or tops in - one outside the main office and one at the canteen. Please send your tabs or tops in with your son or daughter for this worthwhile cause.

### NUTRITION GROUP

Congratulations to the DHS Nutrition Group who recently received a \$7,500 donation from HEHA (Healthy Eating Healthy Action) to purchase equipment for healthy eating.

### RECYCLING HAS STARTED AT DUNSTAN HIGH SCHOOL

Last week a group of students from the Planeteers changed all the bins around in A, B and C blocks to start the recycling initiative at the school. This also coincided with World Environment Day; we were proud to play our small part in a world-wide event. The Planeteers sprayed the tops of the bins to represent what type of rubbish should be put in each bin and put up signs above them.

Yellow is for plastic (bottles, bags), Green is for paper and Red is for other (chip wrappers, food scraps, glad wrap). We would encourage all students and staff to use the recycling system. We would like to express our thanks to Wastebusters for donating boxes for paper recycling in the classrooms.

We are always looking for more students to join the Planeteers as we have more recycling initiatives later this year.



## DUNSTAN SCHOLARS FIND THEIR NICHE AT OTAGO UNIVERSITY

*"More is in you."*

Former Dunstan High School Dux, **Lewis Williamson**, who is a winner of a \$5800 Alumni Annual Appeal Scholarship, applies some of the positive attitudes he learned while on an Outward Bound course last year to the new challenges he faces at University.

"I believe you've got to make the most of your time," says the 18-year-old Science major. "This is an exciting and pretty amazing environment to be a part of. There are heaps of opportunities through the University's Clubs and Societies, and heaps of room for experimenting and finding out who you are."



Lewis Williamson

So far, Lewis has joined the Tramping Club, Ultimate Frisbee and the Kayaking Club – the latter a natural for Lewis, a one-time third-place finisher in the national kayaking championships.

If only he could find the time to squeeze it all in.

"The workload has been a lot more than I had expected," he concedes, but adds that students who do feel overwhelmed aren't locked in – courses can be changed or dropped or even picked up later.

This term, Lewis is taking Chemistry, Cells, Human Body Systems and Physics. "The best thing for me is finding the lectures all so interesting. I haven't found it boring at all!"

He's joined at Otago by former Head Girl, **Clara Pau**, who won a \$10,000 Maori and Pacific Island Entrance Scholarship. She describes Otago this way: "It's buzzing. It's new. It's rewarding."

But it hasn't always been so easy for Clara, who suffered real bouts of homesickness when she first arrived: "People put it down to a lack of Vitamin D because we're from sunny Central," she jokes.

Fortunately, Carrington College, the "homey" residence where both she and Lewis now live, has house tutors on every floor, senior students whose job it is to look out for the first-years and help them adjust.

"If you feel down, they just sort of know, and come talk to you; everyone is in the same boat when they first arrive," she says.

Also helping Clara feel at home is the University's Pacific Island Centre, managed by Tofilau Nina Kirifi-Alai. The Centre, Clara says, has been very welcoming to her, inviting her to a local church and to a special fono.

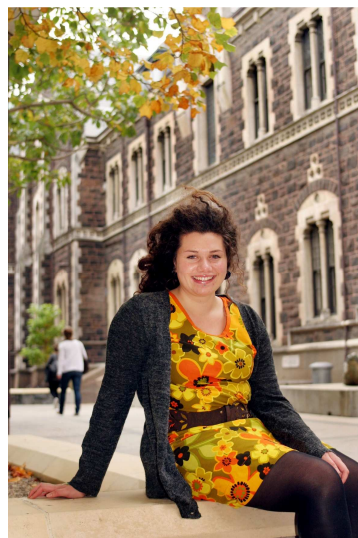
But the best thing for Clara, who is Samoan on her father's side, ("I have the hair, the nose and the blood...I think I was the only PI in Alex!"), is how the Centre has made her feel about her own culture: "It's inspired me to get in touch with my Pacific Island heritage."

The one-time Blossom Festival Princess is pursuing an unusual double major: English and Chemistry, a true balance between the Arts and the Sciences. On the one hand, she's delving into Chaucer and Shakespeare's Sonnets, and on the other, the mysteries of chemical kinetics and the internal mechanisms of cells.

The flexibility of course choice and degree programme is one of the hallmarks of an Otago education, one that both students clearly appreciate.

"It's really easy to get apprehensive but it's easy to change if it doesn't feel right – that's an advantage of Otago – you can change your courses, you can change your friends, you can change where you live. And there's always someone willing to help."

Lewis agrees: "That's a good thing about coming to Dunedin, you're not restricted to fitting certain images. Here, you don't have to maintain the status quo; you can adjust your personality and lifestyle until you find a niche that suits you."



Clara Pau

Both scholars acknowledge the support and encouragement they received while at Dunstan High School: "We both really appreciate DHS for the awesome transition into Uni," says Clara. "I know we both really owe it to Dunstan!"

To find out more about scholarships and awards Otago University, check out its website at:

[http://www.otago.ac.nz/study/scholarships/undergraduate\\_scholarships.html](http://www.otago.ac.nz/study/scholarships/undergraduate_scholarships.html) or speak to your school's Careers Advisor.

## SPORTS

### CLAY TARGET

Seven, mainly inexperienced shooters, travelled to Balfour to compete in the Inter-Collegiate Shoot on Sunday 7 June. Shooting conditions were ideal after the fog lifted at the conclusion of the first match. All gradually gained confidence as the shoot progressed.

Results:

**Glenn Duncan** 17/20 in Single Rise and 18/20 for 52 in the Points Score Match

**Sharmaine Love** shot 15/20 in Single Rise

**Brandon Bell** 16/20 for 43 in Points Score

**Lee Kinnaid** 15/20 for 42 in Points Score

**Sam Everett** 14/20 for 41 in Points Score and 8/10 in Single Barrel

**Russell Moloney** 14/20 for 40 in Points Score

**Jake White** 13/20 in 2 Matches

The experience gained by these young people will be invaluable for the next shoot in Dunedin on 21 June.

Parent support and encouragement as always is excellent and a learning curve for them.

### NETBALL

#### Diary of DHS 9A netball team at OSS...

Excitement!! Anticipation!!!

Going to Dunedin for the Otago Secondary School (OSS) Netball Tournament. We're staying at Forrester Lodge. Where is that??? Somewhere in South Dunedin... With the Senior A's and the 10A's. Who is rooming with who?? Can we choose?? We want to choose!!

Forrester Lodge is very cosy and warm. Sunday morning - arriving at stadium. Yay we get COURT 1! That's the flash one that the international games are played on and we've got it for all three games today!!! Pretty cool!

First game St Kevin's – we went in really determined. We needed to get the first few goals. Our defence was great right through the court. We won 27-16. Excellent!!!

Next game Taieri College B. They took it to us and it was a hard but fair game. Touché - same score 27-16!!!

Last game should have been the easiest but all credit to Bayfield, they fought hard and didn't give up. Again our win 24-14.

Day 2 - We're in the top 8 of 16 Yay!!!!!! Pressure starting to mount. First up Columba College. No wooden floor this time. Green turf surface but we never even noticed it once we got going. 88% shooting average. We were capitalizing on those turnovers. Final score 28-19

In the TOP FOUR now - Wow! Who's next? Taieri College B again because they beat their A team!!!! Can we do it again? Yes! 21-18 – it got kind of close in the last quarter but we learnt to value our possession and it paid off.

THE FINAL - Dunstan vs St Hildas. This is the BIG TIME. A good hard fair game. Never, never, never give up, and we didn't. St Hilda's won 26-18.

9A rocks!!!

## DHS 10A

On Sunday 7 and Monday 8 June 2009 the Dunedin Edgar Centre hosted the Otago Secondary Schools Netball Tournament. As well as two other Dunstan teams, the 10As attended. We were in the intermediate grade along with 15 other teams from the Otago region. On Sunday, we played three games - St Kevin's College, Kavanagh College and Blue Mountain College. With convincing wins in all three games, it put us at the top of our pool. On Monday, our first game was a quarter final against Columba College, which we won. This put us through to the semi finals against Taieri College, which was very close as we went into five minutes over-time to win 21-19. Our last game was the final against St Hilda's Collegiate, which we lost 21-14, but even though the result didn't come out as we had hoped, the team played exceptionally well and put up a good fight. Thank you to the coaches, managers, umpires and parents that helped on tournament for making it possible for us to be there

## Results

DHS 9A – second overall out of 16 teams (lost 26-18 to St Hilda's in the final)

DHS 10A – second overall out of 16 teams (lost 21 – 14 to St Hilda's in the final)

DHS Senior A – seventh overall out of 14 teams

## RUGBY

### ➤ Time on Carisbrook....

Our very own **Will Meehan** and **Sam Galletly** (Yr 9) are the envy of many boys throughout the country having been selected to be balls boys for the All Black vs France Game at Carisbrook last weekend. Sam's youngest sister stayed up well past her bedtime to get a glimpse of her brother on TV ... trying to explain to a three year old that Sam wasn't actually playing the game and that he was the ball boy was a little hard for her to comprehend!!!

Will and Sam earned the honour of being ball boys for the All Black Test due to their prior performances and commitment as ball boys for the Highlanders Home Games during the 2009 Super 14 Competition. Standing on halfway between the All Blacks and The French whilst the nation anthems were sung would no doubt be something they will remember and talk about for many years to come.

- **Congratulations to Matt Te Tana and Jayden Spence** who have been selected to attend the South Island Under 18 Development Clinic at St Bede's College in Christchurch during the first week of the July School Holidays. The boys are 2 of 50 South Island Secondary School Players selected for the training camp, with the potential to be named in the 2009 South Island Team.

## SWIMMING

**Kristen Fraser** competed in a number of disciplines at the Neptune Queen's Birthday Swim Meet 30 May to 31 May 2009 at the Moana Pool in Dunedin.

## WINTER SPORTS EXCHANGE

Good luck to the Senior School's Sports Teams travelling to Winton this Sunday for their annual Winter Sports Exchange against Central Southland College. Competitions on Sunday (late afternoon/evening) include Badminton, Sing-star, Dodge ball, Squash and Girls Basketball. Hockey, Golf, Soccer, Chess, Netball, Boys Basketball, Girls Rugby and Debating titles will be competed for on Monday 22 June before returning home to Alexandra.

*Greta Mason, Sports Coordinator*  
[sportscoord@dunstan.school.nz](mailto:sportscoord@dunstan.school.nz)

## RESULTS FROM THE GARDEN CITY TAPPERS COMPETITIONS – QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND – CHRISTCHURCH

### Congratulations Olivia van den Yssel:

**Ballet:** First Championship, Second Classical, Third National,  
**Tap:** Third Demi, Second Speed, Third Slow, Third Song and Dance.

This Ballet result is quite significant for Olivia as it is not her greatest strength and this competition could be classed as a South Island Competition with over 300 competitors taking part.

Well done!



## LOST PROPERTY

There are many items of lost property in the office including polar fleeces, jerseys, sports shoes, mufti clothing, jackets, etc. Could you please check and/or collect these items when in for interviews or by the end of the term.

## 2009 PARTNERSHIP PLAN

**GOLD** - Allied Press, Alexandra Rotary Club, Budes Central Pharmacy and Bookshop, Central Betta Electrical, Checketts McKay Law Ltd, Cooneys Clothing and Footwear, Criterion Club Hotel, Downer EDI Works Limited, Feron Motor Court Ltd, Gas & Engineering Supplies Ltd, L J Hooker, Magnum Mac Dunedin, MWH NZ Ltd, Omakau Commercial Hotel, Otago Daily Times Print, Phil Morris Electrical, SBS Bank, Stadium Bar and Grill Alexandra, Stu McLeod - Courier Post, Tarbert St Dental Surgery, Terrace Distributors (1985) Ltd, The Community Trust of Otago, Tony Botting – London.

**SILVER** - Alexandra Avenue Motel, Alexandra Physiotherapy, Brian Luff Automotive, McIntyre and Associates, Currie Motors, Davis Auto Electrical Ltd, McLellan's Plumbing and Heating, Tyreland-Treadwell, Wedgerwood Joinery.

**BRONZE** - ANZ, Alexandra Night 'N Day, Alexandra Inspiration, Bell's Shoes Unlimited, Geoff Weller Surveying Consultant, Grant Ward Nissan, House of Travel Alexandra, The National Bank of New Zealand, Stems Florist, The Warehouse.

