

The Dunstan Prospector

Issue 18

4 December 2008

Website: www.dunstan.school.nz Email: office@dunstan.school.nz Phone: 03 4488595 Fax: 03 4488567

JUNIOR PRIZE GIVING

**Tuesday 16 December 2008
10.00 am
in the School Hall**

All families and friends are welcome.

Students will be released at the end of the Prize Giving and will need to take all their belongings home if they haven't done so during the week.

The School Office will be closed from noon on this day.

JUNIOR COURSE CLEARANCE

will be on Friday 12 December. Students must have all their books and accounts paid by this date to get a school magazine.

LOST PROPERTY needs to be collected from the office by Friday 12 December also.

ERO REVIEW

We have just received our preliminary report from the ERO team who were here in week one of this term.

It is a very positive report, finding that our classrooms are purposeful and focused on learning and achievement. They found good quality teaching programmes and engaged students. The report identifies areas of very good performance and areas for improvement over the next three years. The confirmed report will be published by the end of December. We have two weeks to respond to the preliminary report findings before it is finalized.

It's very pleasing to have the external audit support our own perspective that students in Dunstan High School are receiving a quality education.

VANDALISM

We have been the target of four spates of vandalism and graffiti in this last term. This is not a usual occurrence and replacing windows is a costly exercise.

The damage has occurred in the late hours of either a Friday or Saturday night and seems to be the work of only one or possibly two teens after consuming alcohol. They are letting everyone down and need to be held to account.

If anyone has noticed injuries or glass on a young person in the last fortnight, please let us know so that we can put a quick stop to this behaviour and get the perpetrators back on track.

Thanks – M Wilyams

LIBRARY BOOKS

There has been a slow return of books this year from **all students** so students are being invoiced for the cost of books not returned. It is not too late to return books though and these may be left at the school office foyer. Your account will then be cleared of the library book charge.

Watch out for CODC and QLDC Combined Library Website – **it is going live on 8 December 2008.**

AMNESTY

The Music Department is missing a number of acoustic guitars. We need them back.

If a guitar has mysteriously turned up at your house and you are unsure of its origins it is probably one of ours.

No questions will be asked - we would just like our guitars back.

HOLIDAY PROJECT – try making a Wearable Art garment to be entered in Central Otago A & P Show at Omakau – 14 February 2009. Sections: Open, High School, and Primary School. Prizes for all sections. Enter on the day.

2008 PARTNERSHIP PLAN

GOLD - Allied Press, Alexandra Rotary Club, Budes Central Pharmacy and Bookshop, Central Beta Electrical, Checketts McKay, 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, Peter Lyon Shearing Contractors, Phil Morris Electrical, Southland Building Society, 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, Brian Luff Automotive, Business & Accounting Solutions Ltd, Currie Motors, Davis Auto Electrical Ltd, McLellan's Plumbing and Heating, Tyreland-Treadwell, Wedgerwood Joinery.

BRONZE - ANZ, Alexandra Night 'N Day, Alexandra Inspiration, Alexandra Physiotherapy, 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.

FROM THE SPORTS COORDINATOR

CYCLING

A seven-strong team of experienced cyclists competed recently in the NZ Secondary Schools Cycling Championships in Levin supported by coach, **Hamish Morton** and manager, **Alan Hamilton**, parents **Liz Williamson**, **Ian McDonald** and **Craig Wight**. The Senior Boys team of **Patrick Williamson**, **Gus Kerr**, **Josh Wight** and **Jeremy Nesbitt** competed in the 40th Anniversary Bernard Fergusson Team Time Trial. Unfortunately, early on, Jeremy dropped his chain and significant time was lost, which the boys did a good job of reducing on the return leg, but were unable to improve on last year's fifth placing.

Following this, was the 30th Anniversary of the Mansfield Points Race and **Sophie Williamson** was in good form despite racing in the tough four-stage Manuwatu Novice Tour the previous day placing fourth overall and where she won the sprint race category beating girls two years her senior. She sprinted to the gold medal in the Points Race and her NZ representative brother, Patrick, raced intelligently to cement the bronze medal in the U20 Boys Race in a sizeable field with the support of team mates **Jeremy Nesbitt** and **Gus Kerr**. Unfortunately **Josh Wight's** chances were lost when a crash in front of him caused him to lose the bunch early on. NZ representative **Georgia Wight** placed fourth in the U17 Girls Points Race.

MOUNTAIN BIKING

Two days later **Kate McDonald** and **Josh** joined fellow school mates **Cam McHardy**, **Cam Johnson**, **Troy Stewart** and **Glenn Duncan** to compete in the South Island Secondary Schools Mountain Bike Championships being hosted away from Alexandra for the first time. The Blenheim event was run smoothly and in fine conditions. Kate won the Intermediate Girls overall title, first in each discipline and first girl overall in the Downhill. Josh finished fifth Senior Boy in a tough field containing Junior Worlds' representatives. **Cam McHardy** was eighth Intermediate Boy. Our Downhill-focused crew mustered by **Mark Johnson** and **Mrs Stewart** also competed well with **Cam Johnson** winning the Senior Boy title with third fastest overall time of the day. **Troy Stewart** took out the Junior Boys with 13th fastest overall time.

This event returns to Alexandra again next year and is re-scheduled to run in the second week of the 2009 October holidays.

To cap off a demanding week of racing, **Kate McDonald** completed a trifecta of events by coming second U17 Girl in the testing three day Yunca Junior Tour of Southland by the narrowest of margins - one second! She joined club mate **Georgia Wight** and was leading for much of the race having blitzed the whole women's field with the fastest time trial time despite having travelled through the night from Blenheim to make the start line! **Sophie Williamson** won the U15 Girls placing third in the mixed U15 Girls and Boys field and **Gus Kerr** and **Patrick Williamson** competed in the tough 260km U19 Boys race with Patrick placing fifth overall.

Patrick and Sophie went on to compete in the CNZ National Road Cycling Championships in Wanganui over Labour weekend where Sophie had double success in the U15 Girls Road Race and Time Trial taking home National titles in both. Patrick had excellent results in a world-class field of Junior Men with a fifth and sixth placing in the Road Race and Time Trial events respectively. He has another year to go in this age group while Sophie moves up into the U17 category next year.

With summer just around the corner, many of these riders will go on to compete in the up coming Track carnivals and Mountain Bike Island Cup races as the local road race season gets underway too.

Special thanks from all the riders for the support they have received from the school and from their coaches, managers and parents throughout the year and this particularly busy holiday period.

SOCCER

Congratulations to **Ryan MacKay** for being selected to the U14 Soccer South Team. Ryan will represent the Soccer South Region in a National Tournament in Napier 2009.

TENNIS

Dunstan sent two teams to the recent Otago Secondary Schools Tournament in Dunedin.

This was played over two days, against a variety of schools from within Otago.

The boys team, which was made up of **Ryan MacKay**, **Nathan Garry**, **Matt Whitaker** and **Jake Lucas** managed to fight it out to take one win in a tough competition of very experienced players.

Our girls side of **Lucy Anderson**, **Harriet White**, **Sophie Williamson** and **Abbie Lucas** faced very strong competition and have also gained some valuable experience to take with them for over the summer season. Lucy ended up playing the top girl in Otago and managed to give her a good run for her money!

TOUCH RUGBY

Currently we are running Interhouse Touch at lunch times for Year 10s and will have the Year 9 competition next week.

We have hosted games against Cromwell College on Wednesday and are heading over there next Wednesday after school for a re-match.

We are still looking for a couple of cars for transport so if your child is involved and you can help, please ring me as soon as possible at the school or email; sreid@dunstan.school.nz

BLUES, BARS AND INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Nominations for these closed on 1 November. If you have any last minute achievements you now have until 8 December to submit them. If you have represented the school in a top team for two or more years or have achieved a commendable result in sport outside of school you may be eligible for one of these junior awards. Please contact me to find out.

Nominations are also available by email. sreid@dunstan.school.nz

ARTERATI

A Taste of the Arts

On 11 December Year 10 Students will be participating in an all day programme aimed at creating new experiences and raising the profile of the arts.

Activities on offer are Oamaru Stone Carving, Creating a Musical Composition with GarageBand Software, the Maori Arts of Flax Weaving and Design and Bone Carving, and Theatre Sport. Others will have the opportunity to complete unfinished projects in Tech Design and the current Year 10 Drama Class will be working on its contribution towards the Junior Prize Giving.

A Celebration of Success



Libby Hamilton



Michelle Willyams

Former pupil, **Libby Hamilton** has graduated from Otago University with First Class Honours in Music. Libby studied Contemporary Music for the first three years and took up the challenge of honours in her fourth year. This talented young woman's course culminated in her producing her own eight track album which entailed writing, arranging, recording, sound mixing and, of course, singing. In her first, second and honours years she was the top music student and was awarded the *Charles Begg Scholarship* in recognition of this. During this time, Libby also found time to play in a band at the weekend. If you would like to access some of Libby's music you can listen to six of her eight tracks at

www.myspace.com/libbyahamilton

Libby intends to go to Training College next year.

Michelle Willyams has just completed the second year of her Honours Degree in Music and has been awarded the *Charles Begg Scholarship* for the top second year honours student. Michelle's interest in music leans towards the operatic and she really enjoys singing Baroque Arias.

The success of these two young women should be celebrated. We should be proud of them and support them in their chosen fields. While our young people work hard for their degrees, success in the arts is hard to achieve. There is limited scope in New Zealand to find work and what work there is, is often poorly paid and not consistent.

An interesting fact that I have noticed is that art students in the main, are very humble people (and so *are their parents*) who find it hard to push themselves forward into the limelight. Recently, I have been asking people to put themselves forward for individual achievements awards at school, but very few do. If your son or daughter does have success in the arts outside of school, please leave a note at the office for the Arts Coordinator, so that I can publish the results in the newsletter.

Alexandra has and is still producing a wealth of talent of a very high standard. When our young people perform we need to support them. They are presenting quality entertainment. With your support we can make them **World Famous in Alexandra** which is a step in the right direction.

Claire Goudie
ARTS COORDINATOR

People to Look out for in the Future



Ross
Calverley



Matt van den
Yssel



Dayna
Dodd

These three young people leave Dunstan this year with the hope of pursuing careers in the Arts.

Ross Calverley will study towards a double degree in Music and Commerce. He has successfully auditioned and has been granted entry into the prestigious Performance Voice option at Otago University. Others from Dunstan that have previously been granted entry have been Brendon Shanks, Jenny Banks, Neil Williamson and Michelle Willyams.

Matt van den Yssel and **Dayna Dodd** successfully auditioned for NASDA (The National Academy of Singing and Dramatic Art) based in Christchurch. They will be beginning their studies towards a Bachelor of Performing Arts in 2009. Simon Goudie completed this course in 2005 and Shane Forrest and Jamie McKenzie are studying towards their degrees at the moment. This course covers all aspects of performance — voice, singing, acting and dance.

An adventure experience not to be missed!!

Stewart Island

Upcoming School Holidays

Live on board a 14 metre yacht
Sail – Snorkel – Kayak - Trek
- EXPERIENCE -

Five day adventure of discovery
at Stewart Island.

'Live in', tailor-made adventure,
school holiday experience.

14-18 yr. olds

18-22 December 2008

11 to 13 yr. olds

18-22 January 2009

Only 10 bunks available
on each voyage and these are filling
up fast!

Call NOW to register!

Ph: 027 2768817

Email: elwing@clear.net.nz

Website: www.southernlights.co.nz/elwing



SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

19 - 23 JANUARY 2009

Morning sessions in Cromwell

Afternoon sessions in Alexandra

Improve your English and Maths and
discover that learning is rewarding and
fun.

To find out more, call Esther on
03 4429616

www.kipmcgrath.co.nz

Merry Christmas to you all ☺

FOUND

- PE shirts
- Numerous DHS Jerseys
- 2 pair black sandals
- Glassons bag containing clothing
- Sox
- Red/Black backpack containing 'Quik Silver' hoodie – not same bag as below
- White folder – 'David G'
- Blue folder – 'Matt Te Tana'
- Pink/Grey 'Columbia' jacket
- Light coloured 'G Unit' zip front hoodie
- Black 'Saint John's' hoodie
- Black/Grey striped zip front hoodie
- Black cap 'NY'
- Pink zip-up hoodie left in Library after exam
- Bright pink 'Supre' bag containing text books

Please call at office before **Friday 12 December 2008** and collect your gear.

LOST

School Bag – a Red and Black 'Quik Silver' bag has gone missing – has this turned up at your place by mistake? Please contact the office if you have information.

GOLF 2009

Next year we are fortunate to have Golf coaching available for students who wish to try the game or become more proficient. Mr John Roche, an ex member of the NZPGA has made his time available for tuition. Times and days to be advised. If you are interested please see Mr Adamson for further details.

CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK

Sunday 21 December

7.00 pm

Pioneer Park

*A presentation by
Alexandra Combined Churches*

Entrance FREE
Fun for all the family (especially children)
Community Carol Singing
Local talent – Drama and Song
Prizes
Christmas Tree
Lolly Scramble
Candles
Santa

"Let us entertain you!"
Bring a rug or low seat to sit on
Dress festively if you wish.
Voluntary Gold Coin Donation for
Salvation Army Food Bank