



Admin Newsletter Term 4

Issue 8, October 2011

You can find this newsletter and other information,
including a calendar of school events, at:
www.onslow.school.nz

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Caregivers

I hope you have all recovered from the tension around the Rugby World Cup and the relief of the All Blacks winning the tournament and giving the country something to cheer about. I hope we can all bask in the pride of being a New Zealander and continue to realise what a great country we are fortunate to live in.

Now with the World Cup over, it is really important that every student focuses on their studies and strives to finish the year to the best of their ability. It is a very short term, especially for our seniors, and one that will require a lot of self-management and motivation for our students.

In this newsletter are a lot of important dates and I advise you to sit down with your child and set out a diary for the rest of the year. That way, students can plan for their school commitment while also maintaining a balance in their lives. It is important that students accept that this is the term for real hard work and that their social lives need to be put on hold for a while. It requires total commitment to their studies and a belief that they are capable of success, providing they make the effort and use all the resources around them, especially their teachers.

Another important aspect is staying healthy and as parents we can help our children by making sure they eat properly and get enough sleep. Too often students burn themselves out by eating poorly and trying to cram study, rather than planning it out. There need to be breaks in study and some form of exercise is often a good release.

Although our seniors only have about one more week at school before exams, it is important that our Year 9 and 10 students realise they have seven weeks and our expectations for their conduct around school and work routines in class will not change. I would like to see them make the most of this time to finish their year in style. Years 9 and 10 are the preparation years and it is the time to set yourself up for success in the future. Study habits developed in these years will be of benefit in the years ahead. For many students, their subject choices for 2012 and beyond will depend on their performance this year.

I am always impressed with the way our students represent Onslow College and during the holidays I was fortunate to spend a week in Japan with a group of our students. They were a superb group to be away with and I really enjoyed their company and the way they made the most of their experiences. Our day in Hiroshima will remain in all our memories for a long time. I was also impressed with their shopping ability and the way they interacted with the

Japanese hosts. I came home feeling very proud of our students.

Best wishes

Peter Leggat
principal@onslow.school.nz



Staff News

Kerala Heap (Art Teacher) has gone on maternity leave. We wish her all the best with the arrival of her baby girl. Bree Smith will be taking Kerala's classes until the end of the year.

Community Education

Enrol now for Term 4 classes.
Check out our website: www.onslow.school.nz

School Closures

Early Closing – 4 November

The Leavers' Assembly will be held in the Onslow College Hall at 2:15pm on Friday 4 November, followed by afternoon tea. All parents of Year 13 students and any Year 12 students who are leaving the school for the outside world, are invited to attend.

The school will close early. Buses will collect Year 9 & 10 students at 12:20pm.

Teacher Only Day – 14 November

We have chosen Monday 14 November as the day to have our second Teacher Only Day for curriculum alignment.

End of Year Information

Senior Students

Year 13 students will be released on study leave from Thursday 3 November at 3:10pm. Year 13 students who have taken a Level 2 class should continue to attend those classes.

Year 12 students will be released on study leave from Monday 7 November at 12:20pm.

Year 11 students will be released on study leave from Tuesday 8 November 3:10pm.

Tutorials will run from 7-25 November. Students should check the daily notices for details.

Senior students are not expected to return to classes after exams, however they are expected to attend Clearance Day on 1 December.

Clearance – 1 December 2011

A reminder that all students are expected to clear their commitments by the end of the year. This includes paying for involvement in sports and trips, materials charges for practical courses, and returning all text books, library books and sports uniforms. Duplicate invoices are available from the school office if required.

Clearance day is Thursday 1 December.

All non-returned text and resources will be invoiced. If you bring something back after clearance day, please give it to reception, not to your teacher.

A reminder to senior students: clearance is a pre-requisite for next year's course confirmation. Testimonials and Adlib will be available at the office after your child has completed Clearance.

Junior Students

Year 10 students will end the school year at 2:10pm on Thursday 8 December. Year 9 will finish at 3:10pm. Buses will collect students at 3:10pm.

Reports for Year 9 and 10 students are similar to those from mid-year and will be posted on Friday 2 December. As these will arrive close to the end of the school year, there will be little opportunity to discuss them with teachers, many of whom will be attending Year 10 camps in the last week of school. Issues that need to be addressed should be discussed with teachers during course confirmation week at the end of January.

Course Confirmation for 2012 Year 11 Students:

Parents of 2011 Year 10 students will be sent an e-mail and letter outlining course confirmation for 2012. Students must ensure all their books, uniforms etc are returned and that all invoices have been paid. This will ensure confirmation of their 2012 course.

General End of Year Info

The school office will be closed from midday on Friday 9 December although a skeleton staff will be in attendance during the week of 14-18 December. After that please leave any urgent messages on voicemail, or e-mail info@onslow.school.nz. The office will re-open on Monday 30 January 2012.

Student Lockers

All lockers are emptied at the end of the year and reallocated at the beginning of the following year. All padlocks and contents of lockers must be removed before the end of school. Any padlocks that remain will be cut off before Christmas so that they can be claimed at the start of 2012. Students who want a locker in 2012 should bring a padlock to school on their first day (we recommend a substantial key padlock). No lockers will be allocated before 31 January (Year 9 students have first choice). We recommend that students do not place valuable items in lockers as we cannot take responsibility for the security of items placed there.

Student Data on the School Network

We run short of disc space on the school network towards the end of each year so, over the holidays, we remove all data from individual student folders. Students will need to download any data that needs to be kept to a USB storage device before leaving for the holidays. Once the data is removed from the network, it cannot be restored. Please remind your child that this will happen.

End-Of-Year Book Returns – Senior Students

Library and Textbook Room

Students should:

- Know what items are issued to them.
- Return all un-needed items before they go on exam leave.
- Return all remaining loans on CLEARANCE DAY (Thursday, 1 December).

To Check What Items Are Issued to You

- Go to www.onslownet.school.nz – Library/My Library/Borrower Details (OK the security warnings and use your school login).
- Enter your borrower number (your student number).

Any problems? – Contact:

- Barbara.Walker@onslow.school.nz Ph: 478 8189, ext 804
Diana.Molloy@onslow.school.nz Ph: 478 8189, ext 803

Programme for Beginning of 2012

Start of Year Timetable

Wednesday 25 January - Course confirmation for Years 11-13
 Thursday 26 January - Course confirmation call backs
 Peer Support Training

Friday 27 January - Teacher Only Day
Monday 30 January - Teacher Only Day

Tuesday 31 January - Year 9 and other new students:
 powhiri and orientation

Wednesday 1 February - Year 9 and 10 students start school

Thursday 2 February - All year levels: normal timetable

2012 Term Dates

Term 1: Tuesday 31 January to Thursday 5 April

Term 2: Monday 23 April to Friday 29 June

Term 3: Monday 16 July to Friday 28 September

Term 4: Monday 15 October to Friday 7 December

Term 4 Calendar

A live version of the calendar of events can be found at: <http://onslow.school.nz/home/about-onslow/general-info/calendar-of-events/>

October				
	Monday 31	5:30pm	Board of Trustees Meeting	Conference Room
November				
	Wednesday 2	7:30pm	Carmina Burana Music Department Concert	Hall
	Thursday 3	2:15pm	Performance for Year 9 Social Studies	Hall
	Friday 4	3:10pm	Year 13 classes finish for the year	
	Friday 4	12:20pm	School finishes in preparation for Leavers' Assembly	
		2:15pm	Leavers' Assembly and afternoon tea	Hall / Rec Centre
	Sunday 6	10:00am	Arboretum Working Bee	Arboretum
	Monday 7	11:20am	Year 12 Final Assembly	Hall
		7:30pm	PTA Meeting	Library
	Tuesday 8	2:10pm	Year 11 Final Assembly	Hall
	Thursday 10		NCEA & Scholarship Exams Begin	
		7:00pm	Year 9 Dance	Hall
	Monday 14		TEACHER ONLY DAY	
	Monday 28	7:30pm	PTA Meeting	Library
	Tuesday 29 – Wednesday 30	TBA	Year 10 Major Production	Arts Centre
	Wednesday 30		NCEA Exams End	
		6:30pm	Whanau Hui	Room 56
December				
	Friday 2	All day	Peer Support Training Day	Hall
	Sunday 4	10:00am	Arboretum Working Bee	Arboretum
		7:30pm	Leavers' Ball	TBA
	Sunday 4 – Monday 5	2 days	Peer Support Training Camp	Brookfield Camp, Wainuiomata
	Monday 5 – Wednesday 7	3 days	Year 10 Camps	Various
			Year 9 Programme	
	Monday 5	5:30pm	Board of Trustees Meeting	Conference Room
	Thursday 8	1:10pm	Year 10 Final Assembly	Hall
		2:10pm	Year 9 Final Assembly	Hall
	Friday 9		END OF SCHOOL YEAR	