



MENZIES COLLEGE

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14 March 2014

From the Principal's Desk

A big thank you to the parents/caregivers who met with teachers last evening. The purpose of this meeting was to provide an early indicator on your child's progress and to discuss how well they have settled in to the new school year. As I have previously mentioned, any opportunity to come together like this has to be good for the learning of our students. Relationships formed, assist in the best outcomes being worked on. The staff were very pleased with the good number who attended last night and I encourage parents/caregivers to remain in touch with teachers when concerns about learning need to be discussed.

Last week at assembly I spoke to the students on the meaning of 'Integrity'. It was a speech that has been delivered in part before and has also been included annually in this newsletter. It does remain important though, as it is the single word attached to our school crest and is representative of what we stand for. The word itself comes from the Latin word for 'Integer' meaning whole or complete. It refers to having an inner sense of wholeness with qualities such as honesty and consistency of character. This means, that your behaviour reflects those values that you say you believe in. One of the most difficult issues our students face around integrity is the loyalty to their peers when things don't go as planned. Four questions were presented to the students to consider and these could also be raised at home as a number of students were keen to discuss their thoughts afterwards.

- what are you not prepared to do?
- what are you not prepared to do if you were to lose friends over it?
- what are you prepared to do if it is the right thing to do?
- what are you prepared to do if it is the right thing to do but it will cost you your best friends?

All the best to our team of athletes at the Otago/Southland championships on Saturday. I also wish head boy Jeffrey Robinson an enjoyable ten days at sea on the Spirit of Adventure.

Like last year, we will be having an English student attend our school for six months on a rugby scholarship. Jack Fellowes-Pryne will be arriving in mid April. Jack toured here two years ago with his school, Bishop Stortford. We may also have a student from Tonga arrive shortly. He is intending to be here for the duration of the school year and is looking to achieve University Entrance while in New Zealand. If you are interested in either student being hosted by your family for all or some part of their stay, please contact me at school.

*Gerry Ward
Principal*



Mathematics Department

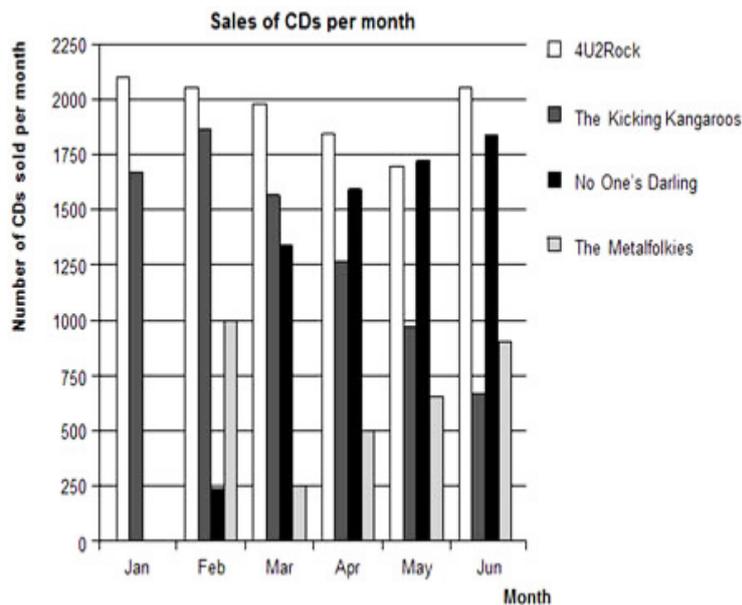
Things are moving along well in maths classes from Year 7 to Year 13. We have completed all our testing in the junior school – this standardised testing is done to provide us with some baseline data about where students currently sit in terms of their curriculum level. During the year we assess at the end of each unit and at the end of the year, students will again sit standardised tests. We combine all this information to allow us to make accurate judgements about student progress over the year. We use this data to track our students while at Menzies and to adapt our teaching to best target individual student needs. Assessing students is a difficult task which often requires hours of work for each teacher. If you have any questions about where your child is at, please do not hesitate to approach their teacher.

There are two maths competitions coming up and we are excited about the level of participation in both of them. There are 20% more participants this year in the Problem Solving Challenge (Year 7/8) and a 50% increase in participation for the Junior Maths Competition (Year 9, 10 & 11). Those students entered will receive a letter home in the coming days and will need to get payment in to the office.

Every 3 years, the OECD administers a survey with 15 year old students which aims to evaluate worldwide educational systems. In comparison to other countries, New Zealand does not tend to do that well in mathematics. We thought it would be interesting to see how you go at some sample questions that are available. There are 6 questions which get harder each time – here is the first one. The correct answer will be in the next newsletter.

Question 1:

In January, the new CDs of the bands 4U2Rock and The Kicking Kangaroos were released. In February, the CDs of the bands No One's Darling and The Metalfolkies followed. The following graph shows the sales of the bands' CDs from January to June.



In which month did the band No One's Darling sell more CDs than the band The Kicking Kangaroos for the first time?

- A. No Month
- B. March
- C. April
- D. May

Brendon Wallace
Head of Department - Mathematics

Science Department

Year 10 Rural Studies - Pumpkin Time

The Year 10 Rural Studies class cut up pumpkin ready for use in the canteen and Mrs Durry made some delicious pumpkin muffins to sell. The photo below shows Rebekah Kingdon busy cutting up a pumpkin, grown here at school, to make pumpkin soup. The students have also taken a large pumpkin down to the Wyndham Rest Home.



Mrs Toni Halliday
Teacher

L to R: Bobbi Nicholson, Courtney Poole & Rebekah Kingdon

Super Seniors

Term One, Week Six – Already?

The term is flying by and our senior students have been incredibly busy, organised and motivated.

Firstly, congratulations to all of those who achieved their academic goals last year. We are as proud of those who gained Subject and Course Endorsements as we are those students who worked to gain the required number of credits. All of you deserve congratulations for a job well done. Also, mention should be made of those Year 13 students who are choosing to 'sacrifice' study periods in favour of taking on a sixth subject (in the short-term). This is a wise decision for those involved – not only are they extending their personal knowledge they are also working towards achieving academic goals in a mature and diligent manner.

For our Year 12 and 13 students, 2014 began with a bang as they prepared for Hope Arm and Edenview Camps. As always, Hope Arm remains perhaps the most memorable camp for Menzies College students and this year was no exception. We were really impressed with the way our Year 12 students 'stepped up' and took part in all activities. It was a huge learning experience for all involved. The Year 13 cohort ventured to Edenview and participated in a Leadership Retreat. Invited guests spoke to the group with subjects ranging from career advice, to agricultural success to the basics of good dressing. The location may not have been as exhilarating as the Hope Arm Camp, but the students all commented on how much they had bonded as a group and could all discuss and identify areas in which their knowledge had improved.

We moved swiftly on and into the athletics day. It was wonderful to observe the House Leaders prepare their Houses prior to the event and to witness the good humour and sportsmanship that our seniors demonstrated on the day. Congratulations to all those involved and especially to those who then went on to represent our school at the Southland Athletics which were held last Friday. They included: Shinea Braithwaite, David Hansen, Lilly McKenzie, Jordan Stuart, Sean Wallis, Megan Ward, Caleb Young and Connor Millane. A huge thanks to Mr Landreth for organising this. Mr Landreth has also been supporting our Adventure Race team consisting of Holly Smith, Victoria Clark, Summer Smith and Sophie Shaw. These girls were placed third in an arduous competition which was held in Cromwell.

Carrie Ann McEwan is continuing her role on the Southland District Council and is being assisted by Caleb Young. Abigail Visser is our Year 13 member of the Gore District Youth Council. She will be joined by Tyron Belt (who is the junior representative) and one of our Year 12 students. These are exciting leadership opportunities for our senior students as they are required to make comment and discuss issues arising for youth in our district. We wish them all the best of luck.

Our Year 12 students have recently completed a First Aid Course organised by Mrs Williams and once again the tutor commented on the maturity and responsibility our students have shown. We know our students are fabulous – but it's always nice hearing it from an outside provider ... so well done Year 12!

We also wish Jeffrey Robinson well as he travels to Auckland in order to start his Spirit of Adventure Voyage this weekend.

There are a number of opportunities available for our seniors including the Lions Southern Outdoor Experience Youth Leadership Course (April 2014). If you are a Year 12 student and interested in attending this, please see Mrs McKelvie.

If you have any questions or concerns about students in Years 11-13, please don't hesitate to contact us at school.

Mrs Lucy McKelvie & Carl Lambert
Senior Deans

Vision Screening - Year 7 Students

This will take place on Thursday, 20 March.

- Vision screening for all Year 7's (Please Note: Your child will not be screened if he/she is under the care of a specialist and /or optometrist)
- Colour Vision for Year 7 male students
- Parents/caregivers will be notified if further assessment is required by an Optometrist
- If you do not wish your child to be screened, please notify the School

Important Dates

March	18	Lincoln University visit - 11.30am
	20	Year 7 Students Vision Testing
	24-27	8VW & 8KH camp at Pounaweia
	27-30	8BY & 8CL camp at Pounaweia
	27	Board of Trustees meeting 7pm in Transition Room
	26	SIT visit 2.30pm
April	31	Literacy Week
	1	HPV Vaccination - No. 1
	11	Shear Excellence
	14-17	Year 12 & 13 Outdoor Experience Wanaka Camp
	17	ANZAC Day ceremony Last day of Term 1
May	5	First day back Term 2

Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC)

Blanket Consent Form

Education Outside The Classroom (EOTC) is the name given to all events/activities that occur outside the classroom, both on and off the school site. This includes sport.

- Our school believes in using a range of environments and experiences to enhance our students' learning.
- We have ready access to various speciality learning environments in our community and a variety of natural environments. Our students need to learn how to be safe in different environments.

Our school also values the concept of providing students with a range of opportunities. Thus, some of the learning for students occurs beyond the school site and this document is seeking your consent for your child/ren to participate in such learning. Activities covered by this are on the school grounds and also off-site short visits in the local community within school hours (horticulture, adventure based learning, measuring in maths, museum, art gallery, sports events, cross-country training). All EOTC activity categories require the principal and staff to undertake an analysis of the risks, and identify the management strategies required to eliminate, isolate and minimise the risks. Extensive emergency procedures are also in place. Please complete the blanket consent form inserted in this newsletter (school newsletters only) and return to the school office.

If you have any queries please contact Alice Cade, EOTC Co-ordinator on (03) 2064979 or alice.cade@menzies.school.nz
Important: For safety reasons, students will not be able to participate in events covered by this blanket consent form if it is not completed and returned to the school office.

Careers

Dates for Liaison Visits

Lincoln University: Tuesday 18 March 11.20am

Southern Institute of Technology: Wednesday 26 March 2.30pm

CPIT (Canterbury Polytechnic): Thursday 3 April 11.30am - 12.15pm

Otago University: Tuesday 27 May 1pm

- * Year 12 and 13 students need to write their name on the 'signup' sheets outside Room 5 indicating the speakers they want to listen to. Thank you to the students who have done this It is advised that the students write dates in their diaries or set alarms on their cell phones to remind them of their appointments. It is courtesy to let your teachers know in advance that you will be out of class.

'Breakout' Workshop

Year 13 students interested in finding out how to log on to the 'Breakout' website to find out about scholarships available to them, are invited to a workshop in the Careers room at Menzies College next Thursday, 20 March at 1.20 p.m.

The careers room will be open at lunch times every Tuesday and Thursday if you would like to carry out career research or seek some guidance. Mr Clark will be available to assist you. Please take advantage of this.

Please check out the school Careers Page at <https://www.facebook.com/menziescollegecareers> for updates on University Liaison visits, Scholarships, STAR Courses, Work Experience, Gateway and Hokonui Tertiary High School.

*Miss Katie Hall
Careers Advisor*

New Zealand Defence Force Bus



On 10 March most classes throughout the school attended the New Zealand Defence Force Careers Bus. I found it quite interesting. Everything that the Navy, Army and Air Force go through is helping not only New Zealanders, but a lot of other countries like Pacific Islands, Australia, Antarctica etc. A lot of careers could be done through the NZDF where you get paid to train and do the course required. I want to be an excavator driver and I was very interested to learn I could do my training through NZDF, get my training paid for and be paid while doing it.



Kaitlen Yorke 8KH

Special Needs Easter Raffle

It's coming up to Easter again which means it is time for the Special Needs Easter Raffle. Last year we raised a lot of money for our students and with the support of the community, we hope to accomplish the same this year. Tickets are available at the Menzies College office and cost \$1 each. We will also have the Special Needs students out in the community selling them so please don't hesitate to buy a ticket. The draw will take place on Tuesday 15 April with prizes for first, second and third. Thank you in advance for your support and good luck to you all.



*Mrs Toni Halliday
Teacher in Charge - Special Needs*

Menzies College Netball

Netball Club Meeting

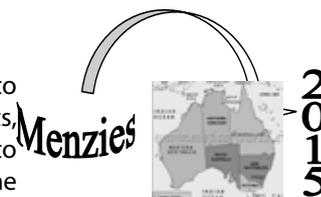
The first meeting of the season will be on Tuesday 18 March at 6pm in the Menzies College staffroom. The club relies on parents/caregivers to run this sport so please come along and be part of it.

*Mrs Kath Luoni
Teacher in Charge - Netball*

Menzies College Sports Trip 2015

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 19 March in the school library at 7:30pm. We have to make a decision about dates and at this stage, for those looking to book world cup cricket tickets, we may be travelling in the middle of the holidays and returning early Term 2 in order to be able to compete in the Sunshine Coast Tournament. This is a slight change to the original plan. Also some fundraising decisions need to be made. Be there and have your say. Also, a friendly reminder that all accounts should have a balance of \$800 or more now, including the \$300 non-refundable deposit (which can not be covered by fundraising credits). This includes all adults travelling with the group.



Carole Bee

Menzies College Rugby

Subs for 2014

Year 7 & 8, U14, U16 - \$30 and after 31 May - \$45

First XV - \$150 and after 31 May - \$175 (includes jersey and socks)

Next Meeting

This is on Wednesday 19 March at 7.30pm in the Menzies College staffroom.

Highlanders First XV Parents/Caregivers Meeting

A meeting will be held on Thursday, 20 March at 5pm in the Menzies College staff room for all parents/caregivers of players who are interested in playing in the Highlanders First XV competition this year. It is essential all parents/caregivers attend to discuss the upcoming season. Please contact Chris Allison on (03) 2066624, Tojo Hapuku (03) 2468540 or Peter Bee (03) 2064863 if you have any queries prior to the meeting.

*Peter Bee
President*

Sports Notices

Otago Southland Athletics

All the best to our athletes who have qualified for this event. Good luck to David Hansen, Jordan Stuart, Summer Smith, Jade Maxwell and Carrie Anne McEwan who will be representing us this Saturday at Surrey Park, Invercargill.

Southland Primary School Athletics

A reminder, that all athletes who qualified for this or indicated they would be attending the Southland Champs, this event will be held on Saturday 22 March. A letter and the final programme for the day, will be sent home early next week.

Eastern Southland Basketball

A reminder to those who wish to trial for the Eastern Southland team, that trials will be held at the following times:

- U17 boys - Sunday 16 March, 11am, Archer Stadium, Avon street, Gore.
- U 17 Girls - Monday 17 March 6.30-7:30pm, Archer Stadium, Avon Street, Gore.

Archery

Archery is currently running Wednesdays after school from 3.20- 4:30pm approximately. New members and parents/caregivers are most welcome to come along and have a go too. If you would like to donate any wool fadges to the club that are in good order for target use, or have any old fertiliser sacks/packing plastic that can be used as target fillers, please get in contact with me by email at tim.landreth@menzies.school.nz Thank you.

*Tim Landreth
Sports Co-ordinator*

Rotary International Youth Exchange Programme

The Rotary Youth Exchange Programme is an international exchange programme for high school students between the ages of 15 and 18. As a participant the student will spend twelve months in an overseas country, attending school while living with one or more host families. As well as learning a new language and culture you will learn a new way of living and a great deal about yourself. For further information contact your local Rotary Club or John Faul at johnfaul@xtra.co.nz phone (03) 2175438 or 027 4332686. Applications close 30 April, 2014.

Explanation writing—A special place in the community.

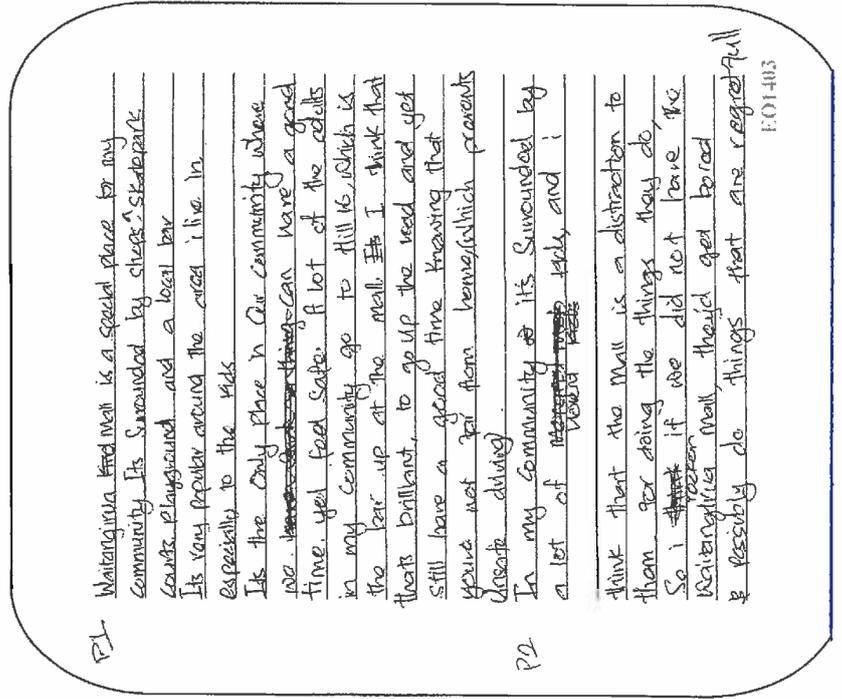
In this task, students were asked to think of a special place in the community. They had to write to explain to the reader why the place they had chosen was special.

Important structural features for explanation writing include an orientation (introduction), body and ending (conclusion) with a closing statement. Specific language features include using present tense, verbs that express action, an objective tone and justifications.

The rubric category refers to the marking schedule used by staff to assess student work. This is a national marking schedule. The total rubric category score converts to an overall grade.

Overall, this piece of writing sits at 4B. This means that the student's writing is at the beginning of Level 4 of the curriculum (Level 4 Beginning).

Compare this piece of writing with that of your child's. How do you think it compares? What improvements do you think need to be made?



ELEMENT	RUBRIC RANGE	RUBRIC CATEGORY	COMMENTS	ED1.403
Ideas	R1-R6	R4	Ideas are relevant and begin to show some complexity, through reference to the wider world and general principles (e.g., prevention of unsafe driving).	
Structure and language	R1-R6	R4	Introduction and body are developed. Includes appropriate language features: present tense, conjunctions expressing causal relationships (<i>If we did not have the Waitanguru Mall...</i>). The tone is reasoned, although rather informal (e.g., <i>reckon/kids</i>).	
Organisation	R1-R7	R4	High R4. Intended paragraphs are difficult to distinguish, due to layout (new paragraphs not indented). Text is coherent.	
Vocabulary	R1-R6	R4	A variety of precise, academic words appropriate to the topic (<i>surrounded, distraction</i>), with everyday words and phrases (<i>kids, brilliant, have a good time</i>). Some error in word form, caused by over-generalisation (<i>regretfull</i>).	
Sentence structure	R1-R6	R4	Most sentences are correct. Sentence structures are varied but not consistently controlled. Errors include noun-pronoun referencing (e.g., <i>In my community it's surrounded</i> – unclear what <i>it's</i> refers to) and incorrect prepositions (e.g., <i>a distraction to [for] them</i>).	
Punctuation	R1-R7	R5	Sentence punctuation is correct. Other correct punctuation includes commas (for clauses, lists and phrasing) and parentheses. Inconsistencies and errors in contractions (<i>its, your'e, thats</i>).	
Spelling	R1-R6	R5	High R5. High-frequency words are spelt correctly. Some difficult words are spelt correctly (<i>distraction, especially, surrounded</i>). Text does not have the range of difficult words needed for a category R6.	

Marking Criteria — Punctuation

Writing is assessed on many criteria. The criteria below relate to 'Punctuation'. The particular skill focus relates to the accurate use of sentence punctuation markers and the range and accuracy of other punctuation. The role of punctuation is to aid the reader's ability to understand the text and to enhance its meaning. Using the e-asTTle criteria, if a piece of writing achieves an R7, the work sits at Level 6 or 6 of the New Zealand curriculum. If a piece of writing achieves an R1 or R2, the work sits at Level 1 of the New Zealand curriculum.

Category	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	
Descriptor	Little, no or random punctuation	Experimentation with sentence punctuation	Some correct use of sentence punctuation	Correct punctuation of most sentences – beginning and end – AND some correct use of other punctuation OR Correct punctuation of ALL sentences – beginning and end – with no other punctuation used	Correct sentence punctuation AND correct use of other punctuation (contractions, commas in lists) with experimentation in complex punctuation (e.g., direct speech, commas for phrases and clauses)	Punctuation assists meaning Sentence punctuation is correct, AND a wider range of other punctuation is used correctly, including capital letters	Control of punctuation to enhance meaning Few or no errors in punctuation	
Notes	FULL STOPS May be one full stop at end of writing CAPITAL LETTERS Letter formation may make it hard to distinguish whether capitals are intended for sentence beginnings or proper nouns	FULL STOPS Used separately to meaning of text (e.g., random, end of line or end of page). May be one instance of correct use CAPITAL LETTERS Letter formation may make it hard to distinguish whether capitals are intended for sentence beginnings or proper nouns OTHER PUNCTUATION May experiment with contractions or commas (may be some correct use)	FULL STOPS Some sentences may be joined by commas CAPITAL LETTERS Letter formation may make it hard to distinguish whether capitals are intended for sentence beginnings or proper nouns OTHER PUNCTUATION May experiment with contractions, commas or other punctuation (may be some correct use)	FULL STOPS Sentence endings are marked by full stops, exclamation marks or question marks CAPITAL LETTERS Used to begin sentences May be used randomly (incorrect use, where handwriting style overrides function) OTHER PUNCTUATION May use one or two other types correctly	FULL STOPS and CAPITAL LETTERS May have some minimal incorrect use	FULL STOPS and CAPITAL LETTERS May be some minor error in sentence punctuation	FULL STOPS and CAPITAL LETTERS May be some minor error in sentence punctuation	OTHER PUNCTUATION May have minor error in complex punctuation, e.g., in direct speech or commas for phrases and clauses

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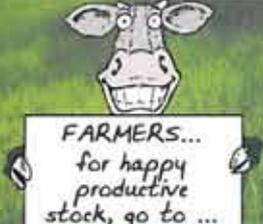
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