



HEATON
NORMAL INTERMEDIATE
SCHOOL

www.heaton.school.nz

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Heaton Normal Intermediate School *Newsletter 9 February 2012*

We are very pleased that we are able to provide you with easy access to our daily notices via our website. Our students are reading these at home and getting organized for when they need to attend meetings etc. It is very important that students are encouraged to be independent. The purpose of making the daily notices so easily accessible is to ensure parents are aware of what is happening at school but also to help students with their organization.

An important goal for each of our students is that they are developing the skills of being independent learners, can manage their time and meet deadlines. We know that students who can successfully manage their learning and the expectations do very well at secondary school and beyond. To achieve this, it is very helpful if parents and teachers provide minimal prompting and reminders. The best thing they can do is to encourage students to check the daily notices on the website and to use their student diary to record requirements for each day at school.

Some parents are contacting students during the day on their cell phones to remind them about meetings etc or leaving messages with the office. Cell phones should be turned off and it is very important that our students have the opportunity to learn the skills of being independent. Your support with this is much appreciated.

I have enclosed our Guidelines for Homework in this newsletter. I hope this is helpful. Please talk to your child's teacher if you have concerns about homework.

I thoroughly enjoyed meeting many Year 7 students and parents at the picnic yesterday evening. It was great to see so many made the effort to attend this informal get together.

Andrea Knight
Principal

Board of Trustees Casual Vacancy, *John Osborne, Chairperson*

Due to a member resignation, the Board has decided to fill this vacant position by a Board appointment and invites anyone interested in applying to send a short resume expressing their interest to the Board Chair by Friday, 2 March. This can be sent care of the school office. If you have any questions, please contact me (john.osborne@paradise.net.nz). For further information on the Board Role the following website contains useful information: www.nzsta.org.nz

External Competitions 2012, *Lynne Topham*

Information about external competitions has been sent home with students and can be viewed on our website.

Extension Maths, *Rachel Bates*

At Heaton we operate an extension maths class at the Year 7 and Year 8 levels. The aim of these classes is to ensure that our able students are being challenged and working to their potential. These classes have a particular emphasis on problem solving.

This year's students have just been selected, and lessons have begun this week. Every student in the school was given an initial screening test, and from this the top students were withdrawn for further assessment. As well as additional tests, many of the students were observed in small groups while they faced problem solving challenges.

Congratulations to all of those who have made this year's classes, and also to those who just missed out. The selection process revealed some outstanding mathematicians, and showed a great depth of talent. Our able students who did not make the extension maths classes will be catered for through grouping and/or interchanges in their home classes.

Lost Property

Please ensure your child's property is **clearly named** to enable your child to easily find and retrieve a lost item. Lost Property is displayed in the foyer outside the school canteen **all day on Tuesdays and Thursdays** for students to claim their lost items. Parents are welcome to come and view lost property during these times.

Parent Teacher Association, John Drummond, PTA Chairperson

The next PTA meeting is on Monday, 20 February at 7.00 p.m. in the staffroom. The PTA would like to invite all new and current parents and caregivers along to this social evening. Our AGM is scheduled for Monday, 19 March at 7.00 p.m. in the staffroom. If you have any queries about the PTA, you are welcome to contact me (thefamily@clear.net.nz).

Education Outside The Classroom (EOTC), Jodi Bisley (bisleyj@heaton.school.nz)

EOTC is curriculum-based teaching and learning that extends the four walls of the classroom. It is an important component of education at Heaton Intermediate and it supports the values and key competencies of the curriculum.

This year, both year groups will be participating in camps. The Year 7s will be camping at Blue Skies, Kaiapoi and the Year 8s will spend their time at Raincliff in South Canterbury. Other EOTC activities will take place during the year and, to help with the organisation of events, parents are asked to sign a blanket consent form. This consent form covers low risk activities such as sports at Hagley Park, museum visits, or a day trip in our local area.

Parents will receive notification of any event that is occurring for low risk events but will not need to sign a permission form. **Blanket permission forms need to be returned to school by Tuesday, 14 February.** These have been distributed to students, but can also be viewed on our website.

Newsletters

Our newsletter link is sent out to families by email and the newsletter posted on our website. Our database is able to send out our newsletter link to the **primary caregiver** of our students to share with extended members of the family. If you are the primary caregiver and are not receiving the newsletter link by email, please contact the office to check your details.

On the day of publication the newsletter is posted on our website for those of you who wish to access the newsletter and do not receive the link by email. We will also have paper copies available at the office for students/families to collect a copy if needed.

Text Alerts for the Heaton Normal Intermediate School Community

Messages you receive will be urgent messages only

Sorry, not currently available on 2 degrees.

What to do

1. Text Follow HeatonInt to the number 8987 on your cellphone.
2. You will receive a message asking if you want to tweet but at the moment we will not be using this feature.
3. From here you will receive messages from HeatonInt on your phone.

To stop texts

Send OFF@HeatonInt to 8987

Laser Vision Eye Clinic, Papanui Road

Laser Vision have contacted us to request that parents/caregivers refrain from using the Laser Vision driveway/carpark area on Papanui Road as a turning bay or drop off area before and after school.

Community Notices

The School for Young Writers offer professional creative writing tuition on Saturday mornings 10.00 to 12.00 based at Hagley Community College. Suitable for Year 4 -- Year 8. Saturday fees are \$150 per term (eight 2-hour sessions). Also available: after school classes and a correspondence study option. Fees for these options may vary. Enrol online at **www.schoolforyoungwriters.org** To discuss further, contact Dr Glyn Strange, phone 355-3588 or email **young.writers@xtra.co.nz**

Music Tuition, Mervyn Blanchard, M. Ed., High.Dip.Tchg, LTCL, (Performer's) ATCL, (Teacher's) AIRMTNZ (Registered Music Teacher) Teacher of Piano and Theory. Vacancies now phone 352 6466

Welcome to your local M*A*S*H After School Programme. M*A*S*H (My After School Headquarters) is an out of school programme provider for children aged 5 to 14 and we pride ourselves on delivering an enjoyable, exciting, safe and stimulating environment for your children between the hours of 3:00pm and 6:00pm during term time and all day during the school holidays. M*A*S*H is managed and run by a registered teacher Craig Fortune, who is also a local parent. The Merivale M*A*S*H unit is predominantly for Elmwood and Heaton children and is based at the Elmwood Bowling Club in Heaton St. Please visit our website (www.mashkids.co.nz) for more information or

contact us on 0800 420 520 or mashchch@gmail.com, we look forward to hearing from you. To enrol your child go to the 'How to Enrol' tab on the website or pop on over for a visit and pick up an enrolment form.

Coming Events

February

Thursday, 9	Year 8 picnic, 5.00 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.
Monday, 13	Parent/student/teacher interviews School finishes at 2.00 p.m.
Tuesday, 14	Hagley summer sport begins Parent/student/teacher interviews School finishes at 2.00 p.m.
Wednesday, 15	Rhodes House to Raincliff Camp
Monday, 20	Elmwood House to Raincliff Camp PTA meeting, 7.00 p.m., staffroom (wine and cheese evening to welcome new members)
Wednesday, 22	Otahuna House to Raincliff Camp
Thursday, 23	International/ESOL parent/student/teacher interviews
Monday, 27	Lansdowne House to Blue Skies

March

Wednesday, 7	International Parent meeting, 10.00 – 11.30 a.m., staffroom
Thursday, 8	Board of Trustees meeting, 5.00 p.m., staffroom
Monday, 12	Purau House to Blue Skies
Thursday, 15	School photos
Monday, 19	Tikao House to Blue Skies PTA AGM, 7.00 p.m., staffroom
Wednesday, 21	Inter-Intermediate triathlon, Pegasus, 12.30 p.m.

April

Tuesday, 3	Inter-Intermediate swimming, 9.00 a.m. Wharenui pool
Thursday, 5	End of Term 1, 3.00 p.m. finish

Term Dates for 2012

Term 1	Monday, 30 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, 14 December

Additional Holidays

Anzac Day	Wednesday, 25 April
Queen's Birthday	Monday, 4 June
Labour Day	Monday, 22 October
Anniversary Day	Friday, 16 November