



QUEEN CHARLOTTE COLLEGE

Newsletter to Parents, Caregivers & Friends of the School • 4 June 2009



Notification from the Ministry of Education & Public Health 2 JUNE 2009

URGENT

SWINE FLU EPIDEMIC

At this particular time, all evidence suggests it will be a matter of when, rather than if, the Influenza A (H1N1) Swine Flu virus appears in our community.

There is evidence to suggest that some basic measures will slow down the spread of viruses like influenza. In addition to potential school closure, these include basic but effective initiatives including promoting basic hygiene measures like very regular hand washing (before anyone puts anything their mouths), students and staff covering their coughs and sneezes, and any staff or students with symptoms of possible influenza staying home until they are well.

The Ministry of Health suggests that the families of students who have travelled to countries with considerable spread of Influenza A, should keep them home for a week upon their return, even if they have no symptoms.

Any community spread of the virus in one area, could see all schools and early childhood services in that area closed. The length of closure would depend on circumstances, but it would be initially for at least seven days, which is the time an infected person would be infectious.

If a school or early childhood service was directed to close, it could happen very fast – students would be sent home at the end of the day and told not to return.

At Queen Charlotte College, closure will occur when notified by Ministry of Health and students would be sent home at the regular closing time. (No change to bus timings.)

Parents would be notified in the following ways:

- Those on email (1/3 of the school) will receive electronic notification.
- All students during period 6 will be given a hard copy of instructions.
- For Yrs 7-10 this will also include a 7 day work pack of academic work.
- Local radio stations will carry updates of the closure.
- The school notice board in front of the school on Waikawa Road will also be updated on a regular basis.
- Yr11-13 students will be contacted by their teachers by phone regarding academic assignments. ❖

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Student Achievement

◆ Congratulations to **Ana Mason** and **Jordan Skipper** who made the Marlborough Rep Under 17 Netball Team. Well done.



◆ **Kimberley de Haan** competed in the Marlborough Swimming Club Championships for the 2008/2009 Season. She won in the 100m Backstroke, 200m Freestyle, 200m Breaststroke and placed second in the 100m Breaststroke. Kimberley was the Girls Under 16 Runner Up and Won the Solly's Cup for Perseverance in Training. Well done.

◆ On the 20th May **Ethan Roach** went to Nelson to ride in the Tasman Secondary School Cycling Championships. Ethan placed 3rd in the Time Trial and 3rd in the Road Race. Great effort.

◆ **Daniel Hawkins, Gannon Karena, Joe Vaatuitui, Toby Randall and Joe Stewart** have been selected to play in the Marlborough Under 19 Rugby Squad. Well done.



Tasman Secondary Schools Cross-Country Champs

On Wednesday the 27th May, Queen Charlotte College sent a small contingent of runners to Nelson for the Tasman Secondary Schools Cross Country Champs. With over 30 runners in each field .The Queen Charlotte College Team gave it their all on a reasonably flat course at Saxon Park .**The team consisted of Hamish Baxter-Broad, Amalia McLaren-Brown, Kimberley de Haan, Ryan Wilson, Lee Stuart and Cheyenne Conroy-Mosdell.** The best performers were Ryan Wilson 8th and Cheyenne Conroy -Mosdell 10th.

Careers Expo

June 22nd from 7.30pm - 9.30pm at the Stadium 2000 in Blenheim.

This event is organised annually by Marlborough Boys' College and gives senior students the opportunity to find out more about Universities, Polytechnics, Armed Services and a range of Apprenticeships. It is a great opportunity for you and your child to see what is available and to discuss with the providers their courses. Contact Ann Wood at College if you would like more information.

Wearable Designz A reminder that the Wearable Designz production 'The Power of Patterns' will be held in early August. Entry forms are available in the school office. This is always an amazing experience and a showcase of the artistic talent some of our students display.

Notices

ICAS The details for the ICAS exams to be held later in the year are as follows. Students who wish to enter should let their subject teacher know. Payment for all exams to Mrs Riwaka by: 1 July please.

Mathematics	Wednesday 19 August	\$7.50
English	Tuesday 4 August	\$7.50

See the website: www.eaa.unsw.edu.au for more information and practice questions.

Spectacle Subsidy for Children



Are you aware of the Ministry of Health Enable Subsidy for eye examinations and spectacles? This is for children aged under 15 years old in low income families and/or families with a valid High Health User Card or a Community Services Card. The Enable subsidy is \$281.25 per annum and a further \$50 if an adult size frame is required. If you have any concerns about your child's eyesight please get their eyes tested at an Optometrist who is registered with Enable New Zealand.

Need a Haircut?

On Sunday the 21st June from 9.00am the crew at Beyond the Fringe will be cutting hair with all proceeds (the money not the hair!) going to the Australia Trip. Please wait for your next haircut and support the teams.

Found

Handed in to the Picton Police Station; a watch which was found at the Waitohi Rugby Grounds at the beginning of May. Also, a number of older bicycles. If you think one of these may belong to you please contact Mary Cooper at the Picton Police Station.

For Sale

Girl's School Blazer, size 16, \$100.00. If interested please contact Kay Riwaka at the college office.