



Phoenix

February
2008

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Nga mihi ki te whanau nui o te Kura o te Pou Hoia.

Greetings to all of you associated with Freyberg High School and I hope 2008 is a wonderful year for you.

I ask for your continued support in giving your son/daughter the best opportunities to succeed in his/her education. I believe the best approach from a parent is to emphasise the rewards of learning and to check regularly that learning is occurring (and homework/assignments are being done).

People learn what they want to learn and other things are soon forgotten. Your child may act as if they care about learning something but will disregard it unless it is something they want to learn.

We learn best when we are committed to taking charge of our own learning so I encourage you to encourage your child to give of his/her best in academic pursuits this year. In the end it is up to the students.

If, at any stage you feel your child is not working satisfactorily on his/her school work, please let us know and we also will inform you. This regular communication will benefit your child.

NCEA Results:

Overall I was satisfied with our NCEA results last year. 72% of eligible Year 13 students gained University Entrance. By the end of Year 12, 86.8% of the students had gained Level 1 NCEA. Last year there was a big improvement with 62.9% of our students gaining Achieved or better in NCEA external assessments. I was especially pleased with the successful focus on Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy. 78% gained Literacy and 96% gained Numeracy.

You may be aware that NCEA now has endorsements. If your child gains 50 credits at merit or higher, they gain a level "with Merit" and 50 credits at excellence gains a level "with Excellence". I want to promote this strongly with our top academics, as there is real prestige for your child if their NCEA is endorsed.

We will again focus on students doing well in NCEA and if they fail any assessment we will offer opportunities for reassessment on Wednesdays and Fridays. Saturday mornings will also be available. Mrs Scrimgeour and I will be visiting classes, seeing individuals, speaking at Assemblies and contacting you if your child is not succeeding. Staff are also expected to contact you if they have any concerns.

I again ask for your support with the appearance of your child. Please ensure your child conforms to the uniform code. Students need boundaries and this is another area where there will be negative consequences if your child does not show the appropriate pride in his/her appearance.

We have had an increase to our roll and prior to school starting we had turned away 50 students from out of our zone who wished to enrol at our school.

We are spending a lot of time improving our website and hopefully this will be a better means of communicating with you. We will also be contacting you by email and we're investigating contact by text if your child is absent from school without your knowledge more on that later.

If you want to find out how your child is going...

- A Academic Concerns:
 - Attend Parent/Teacher evenings.
 - Contact the subject teacher if one subject.
 - Contact Patricia Scrimgeour (Y11-13) or Wendy Jochem (Y9-10) if more than one subject.
- B Pastoral Concerns: - contact the whanau teacher or Heads of School
 - the Guidance Centre also has a counselling/careers service.
- C Financial Concerns: - contact Atholl Leask.
- D Sporting Concerns: - contact Rosemary Barsanti.
 - contact George McConachy for Sports Academy.
- E Cultural/Arts Concerns: - contact Roger Buchanan

How do you contact the school? ... see over page >>>

*We learn best
when we are
committed to
taking charge of
our own learning*

How to contact us...

Principal	Michael McMenamin mcmenamim@freyberg.ac.nz	- Extension 703	
Associate Principal	Peter Brooks brooksp@freyberg.ac.nz	- Extension 706	
Deputy Principal	Patricia Scrimgeour scrimgeourp@freyberg.ac.nz	- Extension 707	(responsible for Years 11 - 13)
Assistant Principal	Wendy Jochem jochemw@freyberg.ac.nz	- Extension 710	(responsible for Years 9 and 10)
Heads of School	Kahui Watling watlingk@freyberg.ac.nz	(Kapiti)	Extension 746
	David Lochhead lochheadd@freyberg.ac.nz	(Manawatu)	Extension 744
	Tangi Utikere utikeret@freyberg.ac.nz	(Ruahine)	Extension 743
	Linda Smith smithl@freyberg.ac.nz	(Taranua)	Extension 745
Guidance Centre	Extension 755		
Board Chair	Gerrit Bahlman	- can be contacted by writing to the school.	
Executive Manager	Atholl Leask	Extension 708	leaska@freyberg.ac.nz
Student Centre	Philippa Dravitski	Extension 709	dravitskip@freyberg.ac.nz
Sports Co-ordinator	Rosemary Barsanti	Extension 735	sport@freyberg.ac.nz
Sports Academy	George McConachy	Extension 836	mconachyg@freyberg.ac.nz
Arts Academy	Roger Buchanan	Extension 720	music@freyberg.ac.nz

Michael McMenamin, PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL DONATIONS/ACTIVITY FEES

Thank you to the many parents who have already paid or arranged to pay their School Donation and Activity fees. Despite what you may read in the media, many schools are finding it increasingly difficult to budget within the existing Operations Grants allocated.

The school Operations Grant must cover all school operations, including support staff salaries, priority maintenance, caretaking and cleaning wages, curriculum delivery, extension programmes and consumables associated with curriculum, administration, property, technology, etc.

The payment of your School Donations and Activity Fees enables us to provide the best in resources and equipment to support our teaching and learning programmes. On a comparative basis nationwide, our School Donation is very reasonable. The donation/fees may be paid in instalments if you wish or by automatic payment to:

Freyberg High School ASB Palmerston North Account Number 123143: 0067863:00 (Please ensure the pupil's first name and surname are shown in the detail column).

We thank you for your support.

Michael McMenamin, PRINCIPAL

MUSIC NOTES

MUSIC TUITION: Enrolments are now being taken for instrumental and voice musical tuition. Tuition is available to any student at school in most instruments. Lessons are free for Year 9 students, and costs only \$200 per year for Years 10-13. Information about obtaining an instrument is available from the Music Department – these can be rented at affordable rates from several suppliers. See the Music Administrator, Mrs Hewetson, or your classroom Music teacher.

Lessons are available in the following instruments:

STRINGS	WOODWIND	BRASS	OTHER
violin	clarinet	trumpet	singing
viola	oboe	trombone	acoustic guitar
cello	bassoon	tuba	bass guitar
double bass	saxophone	French horn	drum kit
			percussion

Keyboard tuition is also available through the school's Technics Music Academy which offers lessons in school time, after school, evenings and weekends.

A test on over 5000 students in 75 US schools revealed that kids who were learning a musical instrument and playing in the school band received higher marks than their classmates in every single test area. Not only that, but the longer they had been in instrumental programmes, the higher they scored.

We encourage all students to enrol to learn a musical instrument while they have this excellent opportunity. Freyberg High School has one of the largest music programmes in the country – we understand the difference that playing music makes.

TERTIARY DISCOVERY DAY

Massey University and UCOL are holding a joint Expo on
APRIL 15th 11am to 7pm at the Convention Centre.
Students and parents are encouraged to attend after school.

HEAD STUDENTS 2008



Head Boy
James Buchanan



Head Girl
Jodi Curtis



Deputy Head Boy
David Burr



Deputy Head Girl
Ebony Wehipeihana



BOT Student
Representative
Rose Bourke



President
Student Council
Holly Tate



Student Council
Vice-President
Mark Thorn

HOUSE LEADERS



House Captains Kapiti
Jordyn Thomas and Lisa Kennerley



House Captains Manawatu
Paul Anderson and Joshua Olson



House Captains Ruahine
Brendan Murray and Charlotte Smelt



House Captains Tararua
Matt Rennie and Alice Ashwell



MITRE 10 MEGA STORE

When you buy anything from Mitre 10 Mega Store, please say "Freyberg" (Schfre 001 is the account number). Each purchase through this account will provide the school with a 2.5% credit to be used on purchases in store. Every little bit helps and Telecom are no longer doing the points system – thanks.

PTA

All parents are welcome. This is a very good way to have a say in how our school is run. A Ministry of Education requirement is to have Health Education delivered to all students until Year 10. The contents of the sexuality component of this course is to be decided upon after consultation with the local community. To fulfil this requirement the proposed outline will be presented and open for discussion during a later PTA meeting to be held on March 11th at 7.30pm in the staffroom.

ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL'S NOTEBOOK

We begin 2008 with 1400 students; the largest roll that Freyberg has had in its 53 year history.

However, we are well prepared for these numbers with the appointment of twenty new teaching staff, the completion of our hub for administration and pastoral care and the development of the Performing Arts Centre.

The senior student leaders have already represented the school at the Opening with Mr Maharey and at the Powhiri for Year 9 students.

Furthermore, James Buchanan (Head Boy) and Jodi Curtis (Head Girl) spoke to all Year 13 students and set an excellent tone, combining their aspirations with clear guidelines for use of Year 13 privileges.

Term 1 is a very busy term as you can see below:

Feb 15	Swimming Sports (swimmers only)	Mar 21-25	EASTER
Feb 19	Athletic preliminaries (whole school)	Mar 28	Young Leaders - Wellington
Feb 25-29	Year 13 Biology/Geography trip to Mt Ruapehu	Mar 30-Apr 4	National Volleyball Championships
	Year 9 Integrated Studies trips	Apr 8	Whanau class photos
Feb 28	BOT Meeting	Apr 9	Year 12 Geography Trip
Mar 6	Athletics Finals	Apr 11	Ugly Shakeapeare p.m.
Mar 8-9	Relay for Life	Apr 13-16	Year 13 Rock Climbing Trip
Mar 18	Year 11 History Trip	Apr 17	BOT Meeting
Mar 19	Year 12 Biology Trip	Apr 18	Term 1 ends
Mar 20	Year 11 Geography Trip	May 5	Term 2 begins

Peter Brooks, ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL

SPORTS

The Sports Department warmly welcome all new and returning students and their parents to Freyberg High School for 2008.

Summer sport for weekly after-school and weekend sporting activities is due to start in late February and we are looking for lots of enthusiastic students from Year 9 right through to Year 13 to be involved in the following sports teams:

Volleyball, Touch, Golf, Tennis, Water Polo, Girls' and Boys' Cricket, Athletics, Lawn Bowls and Croquet.

Playing sport for your school is a great way to meet new friends, learn a new sporting skill and keep fit. See the Sports Room in C Corridor if you are keen to become involved. Do get in quickly as this is a shorter term. Year 9 students – don't be shy, we really do want you to get involved in Freyberg sports teams.

We are also on the lookout for parents, caregivers or family friends willing to be Coaches or Managers of our sports teams. We can arrange courses to learn coaching skills. Parental input is very important and we do appreciate all that they do to be involved with their children's sporting life. Believe it or not, the majority of students do like their families to be involved in their chosen sport.

We look forward to hearing from parents and caregivers regarding sports teams. You can contact us in the Sports Room on 3584971 Ext 735 and ask for Rosemary or Raewyn or email sports@freyberg.ac.nz. Also, if you or your child has any queries, do contact us.

Rosemary Barsanti, Sports Co-Ordinator

TONGARIRO TRIP



The time is fast approaching when the Yr 13 Students will be departing for the annual pilgrimage to the Tongariro National Park. This trip is a Freyberg institution and is often remembered fondly by the time Leavers' Dinner rolls around at the end of the year.

Students will participate in a number of academically related activities, particularly related to the Biology and Geography courses. However, there is potential for everyone involved to garner some useful material whatever their classes are. Students will walk the world famous Tongariro Crossing, considered one of the world's top ten one-day walks in the world; raft the mighty Tongariro River and complete some fieldwork studies during the week.

This is also an opportunity to learn alongside their classmates, helping one another out to develop their teamwork skills and enjoy the rigour of being involved with a group of 80+ people for five days, which is no mean feat in itself.

All prospective trip participants will have received the information about costs, clothing and equipment by now. It will be important that students ensure that they have what they

need and have submitted their permission forms by Thursday 14th February and organised payment for the trip to the office by Thursday 21st February.

Kieran Collier, HOD Geography

PEDCO
L.M.V.D.

56 Bourke Street, PO Box 4627, Palmerston North
Phone 06-355-4491, Facsimile 06-355-4497

BARSANTI
PLUMBING CO. LTD

FOR ALL YOUR PLUMBING,
GASFITTING AND
DRAINLAYING NEEDS

Telephone/Fax (06) 357-6949
27 Epsom Road, PO Box 5259
Palmerston North
Mobile Phone (0274) 422-960
Email: barsantis@man.quik.co.nz

