



# Fiordland College Newsletter

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Thursday 14 November 2019

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## From the Principal's Desk



On Tuesday, the Government announced its reform of 1989's Tomorrow's Schools legislation. The report recommends changes to education and the Government is committing to take action. It is good to have the final review decisions.

A couple of key things going forward are that we will see the formation of a new entity known as the Education Service Agency (ESA) as part of a redesigned Ministry of Education. This Agency will provide support where support is needed. For example, moving property matters to the new ESA will let boards focus on governance, which is great.

There are positive shifts for principals as well. The Teaching Council will provide a Leadership Centre, with advisors, professional development and support for school leaders. That is most welcome.

I am also very pleased to see the implementation of a nationally based curriculum centre. Schools have been asking for this for some time. Of course, the quality of the implementation and teachers' voice in this will be crucial. But the vision is sound: A world class inclusive public education. I certainly support that.

If you are interested you can access the full report through the following link: <https://conversation.education.govt.nz/assets/TSR/November-2019/TSR-Government-Response-WEB.pdf>

E haere rā  
Lynlee Smith

## From the PTA

### Lost Property Day



ALL the lost property that has been left at school will be on display, all day, **Friday 29 November 2019**. There are a lot of un-named items that would love to go back to their correct home. Parents or students come and see if some of it belongs at your place!

### Plate for Prizegiving



Just a reminder from the PTA that parents are asked to bring a plate to Prizegiving for supper.

Thank you.

## Quote of the Week



"A little consideration, a little thought for others, makes all the difference." - Eeyore, Winnie the Pooh

## Southland Sports Awards

The Southland Secondary Schools' Sports Awards are the premier awards recognising our best sports-people and those who contribute in some way. It was a fantastic accolade for Georgia Mullally to receive the Contribution to Sport awards last Thursday. Georgia not only competed in a huge range of sports including netball and swimming, but she has also coached, organised and supported a heap of younger participants at school and in the community. It is also the second year that Tim Willans has been named as a future tennis champion. That is a remarkable effort.



**Georgia Mullally**

Contribution to Sport

**Timothy (Tim) Willans**

Future Champion - Tennis



The students below were finalists at the awards but didn't take out the top spot... this year.

**Jake Tither** - Participation in Sport

**Lucy Holmes-Crombie** - Participation in Sport

**Jack Light** - Junior Sports Person

## Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

Next year we are expecting that all students will have access at school to their own devices (either laptop or Chromebook). We only have a limited number of computers in one room, set up for specialist areas such as digital technologies and graphics.



A basic guideline we are suggesting is that a Chromebook is ideal for Junior Students (Year 7-10) who would use it for word processing, research, and other online work. Chromebooks have a reasonable size screen, keyboard, start-up instantly, are linked to our school Google accounts, and are relatively inexpensive, making them ideal.

Juniors taking specialist technology subjects (Art, Photography, Graphics, Digital Tech) should be aware that a laptop would be better than a Chromebook and Apple is often the device of choice for design. It is important to consider your child's subjects at Year 9/10 before buying a device at Year 7/8, so this time of the year is perfect for decision making, as students work through their options for 2020.

Senior students will need to invest in a laptop which enables offline work and external programs to be loaded onto it.



Tablets, such as iPads, have great functionality, including a camera and, when combined with a keyboard, can be used for word processing. However, the cost of these can be prohibitive.

Both our local suppliers (100% Fiordland Electrical and ShepCom) can help with brand choices, model ideas and pricing. There are also extremely good deals elsewhere with pre-Xmas sales. If you are unable to invest in a device for your child or children, please see us at school about the possibility of a lease to buy option.

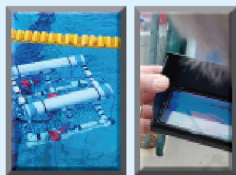
Students, whose device is damaged, has a flat battery or is not usable for other reasons, will be able to borrow a Chromebook for the day from the school office in a similar way to how they receive a uniform pass currently. A note from home in the diary explaining this would be expected if a device needs to be borrowed for more than one day.

**Reminder - Diaries to be signed and handed to form teachers on FRIDAY!**

**PTO**

## Science

This year's Fiordland College STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Team has just successfully tested its underwater rover in the pool.



The rover was designed and constructed by students who had to conduct research, make the purchases and solve a number of construction and technology issues. This has taken almost a year of

recreation periods.

Now that we know that the motors, electronic circuits and control panel are working smoothly, and that the camera is transmitting live footage of the dive, we will be venturing out into Lake Te Anau.



Mr Zink, Levi Temple, Irsyaad Rijwan, Jeb Nicholson

## New Signs

A group of Year 7 students spent a term researching and designing signs to go with our weta box, tracking tunnel, seed tray, trap box and lizard lounge. Here are the students with the new signs, which are ready to be installed.



Left to Right: Jorja White, Talia Brown, Gabrielle Soper, Josh Parkinson, AJ Magness, Connor MacRae, Ryan Lane, Jasper Carter, Bohdi Trevor-Smith.

## 2020 Opening Dates

Year 7	Thu 23 to Fri 24 Jan	Year 7 Interviews (Appointment times sent at the end of school year)
	Tue 28 Jan	9.00 am to 12.00 noon Homeroom 12.00 noon - 1.30 pm Welcome BBQ (Parents Welcome) 1.30 pm - 3.00 pm Peer Support Starts
Year 8	Wed 29 Jan	Full Day
Year 9	Wed 29 Jan	Full Day
Year 10	Wed 29 Jan	Full Day
Year 11	Wed 29 Jan	Full Day
Year 12	Wed 29 Jan	Full Day
Year 13	Tue 28 Jan	Full Day all Yr 13
All Students	Wed 29 Jan	Full Day 8.50am to 3.10pm

## Prizegiving



### Prizegiving 2019



Wednesday 04 December at 7.00pm  
Fiordland Community Events Centre

Attendance is compulsory and uniform is to be worn by all students (Years 7-12)

## 2020 Term Dates

Term	Start	Finish	Holidays At A Glance
Term 1	Tue 28 January	Thu 09 April	Fri 10 April to Mon 27 April
Term 2	Tue 28 April	Fri 03 July	Sat 04 July to Sun 19 July
Term 3	Mon 20 July	Fri 25 September	Sat 26 September to Sun 11 October
Term 4	Mon 12 October	Wed 09 December	Thu 10 December

## 2020 Co-Curricular Weeks

Summer Co-Curricular Week	Whole School 17 - 21 February
Winter Co-Curricular Week	Year 13: 04 - 07 August Years 7-12: 10-14 August

## Upcoming Events

Tues	26 Nov	Junior Sports Day - Gore
Wed	27 Nov	Rec Skills trip - Qtn BoT Meeting - 7.30pm Boardroom
Thu/Fri	28-29 Nov	Peer Support Training
Mon	02 Dec	Year 6 Visit Day Year 13 Leavers' Dinner
Tue	03 Dec	End of Block 4
Wed	04 Dec	Prizegiving - 7.00pm

