



Matthew Tofia

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44 Rutherford Street, Caversham, Dunedin 9012

Newsletter

September 24th

2021

Term 3 No 2

SCHOOL OFFICE

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From the Desk of the Principal

Kia ora Sara Cohen Whanau;

As you will have all heard we remain in Alert Level 2 until Monday 4th October at the earliest. We will continue our Level 2 protocols and enhanced cleaning. I have allowed some of our transition groups to engage more in the community ensuring that they have appropriate PPE and observe the rules of Level 2 within the community. Our students have coped really well with Alert Level 2 here at school. School remains a calm and happy learning environment.

Next week Tuesday and Wednesday we will have our Collaborative Learning Plan Meetings. Teachers will have been in touch with you to arrange times. If this has not happened, then please contact your child's classroom teacher or myself. CLP meetings are an important time when families, education staff and therapists can come together and set goals for your children.

I will be in contact with some parents over the next week with regards to class changes for 2022. I will only be contacting the parents of children who are moving class. I intend to finish these conversations by Wednesday next week.

Next week we have Holly Robinson returning back to work after her successful Paralympic Campaign. On Tuesday we will have a party to celebrate her success. We are asking that all the students wear gold coloured clothing if possible. There will be a demonstration from Holly throwing the javelin and an opportunity for our students to have a go, a celebration with party food and a visit from Mr Whippy. We hope to also have the TV One News crew here to do a follow up story.

Attached is a letter to parents from myself explaining the new way in which we intend to report to parents. Please take the time to read this and we will discuss the letter in the CLP meetings.

On Wednesday 27th October we will have a Teacher Only Day. The Staff will be attending Professional Development with Sally Clendon around Literacy Learning for children with Special Needs. You will need to make arrangements for your child on that day.

Please remember next week is the last week of the Term and that this weekend is the change to day light savings.

Have a fantastic weekend!
Matt

ABSENCES

If your child is going to be absent, please make sure you contact the school to let us know. The absence line number is 03 4558347 extension 1. If we have not heard from you contact will be made to determine the whereabouts of your child. This is a very important safety matter for us all.

TERM DATES 2021

Term 3: Monday 26th July – Friday 1st October
Teacher Only Day – Wednesday 27th October

Term 4: Monday 18th October – Tuesday 14th
December

Board of Trustees Report – Meeting held 30th August 2021

- Ben Sincock spoke about the new Lunch in Schools' initiative
- Government Healthy Lunch initiative to cater for all individual diets and cultural needs
- The reasoning behind the initiative is that is not just socio-economic it is for all students so that no one misses out
- Students will be trying new health foods/meals
- A menu will be sent out to parents at the start of each week
- Reviews will be in the form of feedback from students and parents after each 3-4-week menu cycle
- There will always be extra food at school so no students will go hungry
- The meals are tailored to our students and meet their dietary needs
- Some classes will be involved in the food preparation. Over time more classes will be involved in preparing the meals
- Survey of parents will be conducted around our narratives and reporting will be conducted during the rescheduled CLP meetings.

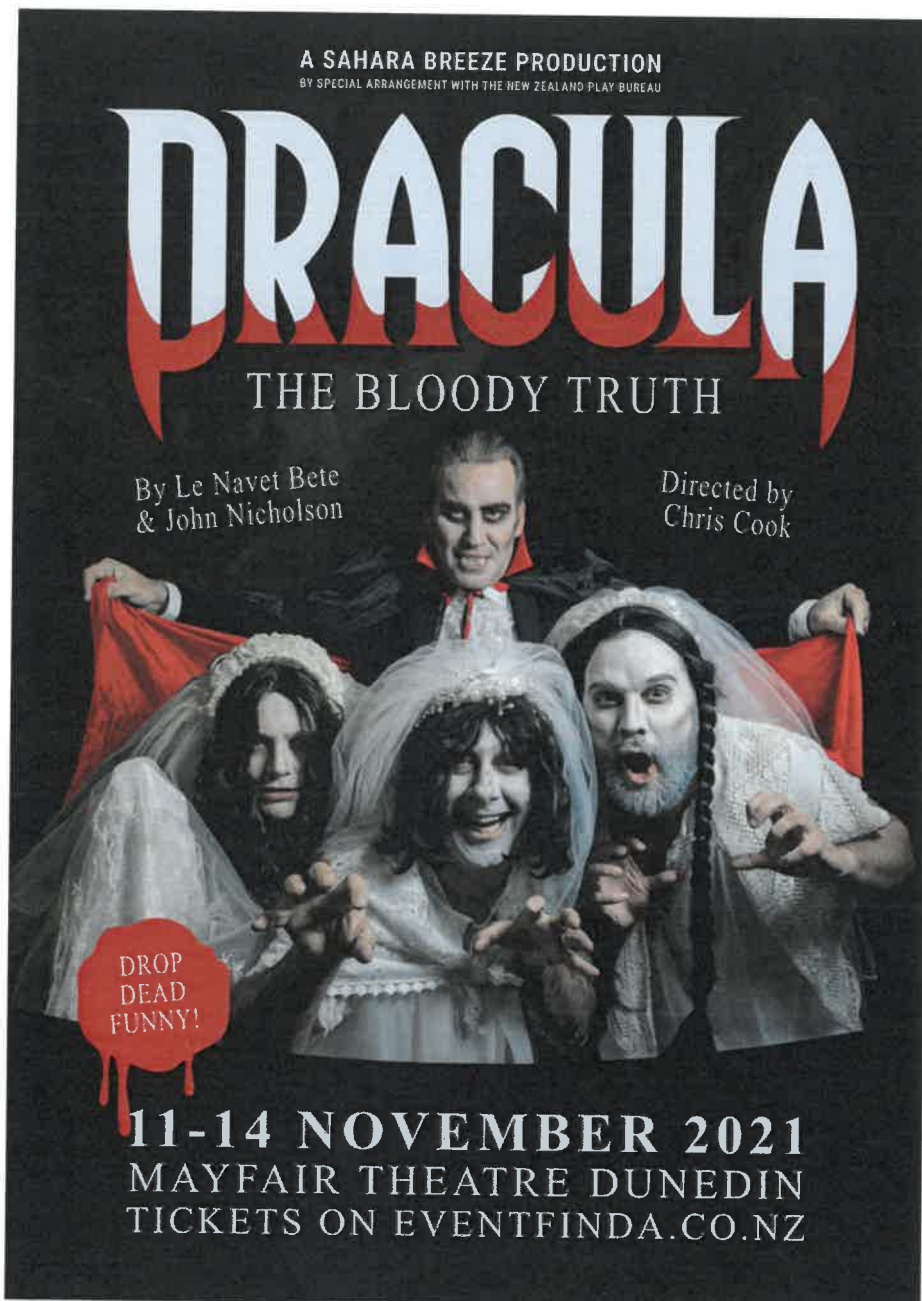


RUN, JUMP OR THROW? GIVE IT A GO!

To find out about your local club,
sprint to athletics.org.nz.

Thanks to our partners  douglas





Sahara BreeZe Productions will be bringing **Dracula – The Bloody Truth** by Le Navet Bete & John Nicholson to Dunedin, Arrowtown, and Wanaka: 11 Nov - 4 Dec 2021' *side-splittingly funny.* **Broadway World.**

'A Gothic madcap mixture of *The Play That Goes Wrong*, *Noises Off*, *Grand Guignol*, *Monty Python* and *slapstick.*' **The Reviews Hub.** **Early Bird Tickets** and best seating available through Eventfinda now:

<https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/tour/2021/dracula-the-bloody-truth>



Kia ora parents and caregivers,

We are going to refine and redesign the way in which we report back to parents. Over the years we have toyed with the idea of a more formative assessment model which is designed to monitor student learning and provide regular ongoing feedback to staff, parents and students. As opposed to our twice yearly summative assessment which evaluates student learning at the end of the first and second semesters.

We are also looking to broaden the scope of our student goals that we report on. Currently we focus on a narrow range of goals that we relentlessly pursue so that the students are able to experience educational success. We have developed a Graduate Profile that is an overview of the education and opportunities that we want to provide our students by the time they leave Sara Cohen School. We want our students to have a broad range of experiences and successes in multiple learning areas and to leave our school with a full basket of skills and knowledge to take into their futures. In line with this, we have developed 10 domains of learning that we will set goals and focuses under.

Learning Domains	
Communication	Health and Personal
Social Skills	Community Access
Recreation/Leisure and Sport	Life Skills
Functional Literacy	Personal Safety
Functional Maths	Food Preparation

As we ventured into our online reporting system with Educa in 2020, we discovered that families were keen to have an online format but that Educa was proving to not have a strong uptake. Through discussions with teachers we realised that Seesaw was a platform that was used consistently across the school and was enjoyed by our families. We have decided to embrace this information and pursue our reporting through Seesaw.

In your CLP meeting, a broader range of goals will be discussed with you. These goals will be the focus of learning for your child. Next term, we will trial a system of daily reporting via Seesaw. You will receive daily updates on the 'celebrations' of your child's day and approximately twice weekly posts on both goal progress and goals that may have been completed. This will replace the end of semester Narrative Report.

A parent evening will be planned for early term 4 to discuss these exciting changes.

Ngā mihi nui

Matthew Tofia