

March 2011

Congratulations to all our international students who achieved success across the board at the end of 2010. We particularly congratulate Chanin Pinthong, Nitisa Pinthong (both from Thailand) and Jessy Macdonell (from Canada) for achieving their New Zealand University Entrance. We are very proud of all of you.



Congratulations also to Ren Tsutsumi (from Japan) who was chosen to be a Darfield High School Prefect this year. Ren will be graduating from Year 13 at the end of 2011 after seven years at Darfield High School.



Near the end of 2010, the International Department invited all our host families to an end of year barbecue to say thank you for opening your homes and hearts to our international students. A caring, happy home means a happy student and this flows on in the way the students settle in at school and adapt to a whole new way of life. The International Team did an outstanding job of making sure this year's barbecue was a happy, relaxed occasion which everyone enjoyed. The students organised activities and encouraged everyone to participate. Sadly, but with lots of pride, we said goodbye to our Year 13 students and wished them every success in the years ahead.

At the beginning of this year we welcomed international students from Japan, Korea, Canada, Germany, Austria, Holland and Papua New Guinea. At the end of Term 1, we also welcomed new students from Thailand. As part of our orientation process, we took all our international students out for a day of sightseeing, activities and fun. The tenpin bowling was very competitive, however youth eventually won out over age!! The new students were all welcomed to Darfield High School by Mr Morris, Principal, at assembly.



A big welcome to Amanda Kemp and Adam Husband from Southpointe Academy in Tsawwassen, Vancouver. They arrived after our main intake of students and were also welcomed in Assembly by Henry Oliver who went to Southpointe Academy in 2010.

In early February, we were visited by Anya Raiwa and Lars from Hausch & Partner in Germany. We have a very positive relationship with this company and it is always a pleasure to welcome their representatives to our school.



In early February, we hosted a group of students from Yubetsu District in Japan, for two weeks. The group of ten students were accompanied by Mr Akio Kato, Deputy Mayor of Yubetsu, and Mr Toshimasa Sato, who works for the Yubetsu Council.

During their time here, the students participated in many activities, including canoeing and an overnight camp at Lake Lyndon. They also visited Rubicon Farm where they enjoyed a farm show, a horse trek and a jet boat ride. The group visited Mr Kelvin Coe, Mayor, at the Selwyn District Council Offices in Rolleston, and Jenny Gallagher, Malvern Community Board Chair. They also visited pupils at Darfield Primary School. In-school activities included rock climbing on our professional rock climbing wall, making mousetraps and scones in cooking classes, Maori Culture, Social Studies lesson and attending classes with their Darfield High School buddies.



Yubetsu have kindly offered a three- month scholarship to a Darfield High School student wishing to apply for an exchange visit to Yubetsu in May 2011.

The visit ended with a Sayonara Dinner where the students, along with Mr Kato and Mr Sato were presented with certificates and a gift for Yubetsu. This was a lovely way to end a very successful visit and to say farewell to a wonderful group of students.



Thank you Mr Kato and Mr Sato for bringing this very friendly, polite group of students to our school.