



Growing Together For Success

# ASHGROVE SCHOOL

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Dear Parents / Caregivers

## Turepo Learning Team Newsletter – Term 2

Welcome back to Term 2. The students had a good break, and are settling back into the routines of school well. We hope you managed to find time for some rest and relaxation and enjoy the wonderful weather over the holidays.

A special thank you to everyone for your support of our camps in Term 1. Without exception, the feedback has been really positive – with the students having a great time, learning a lot, building good class culture, and representing Ashgrove with distinction. An extra special thanks to those parents who were able to assist as parent helpers and to Chrissie Wrigley for organizing all the food. Camps are a major undertaking, but an amazing learning experience – without your help they would not be possible. Thank you!

Once again we have a busy term ahead of us, with student conferences in week 9.

### **Learning in Turepo**

Mathematics and Reading groups are working across our team this term. The Maths focus is on Numeracy and mathematical operations. The Reading groups are using Sharp reading non-fiction and fiction texts, with a focus on improving comprehension skills.

For Inquiry we will complete our Kaikoura Topic, and begin a new Inquiry “Our World – Our Future”. This is based upon environmental decisions that affect the students’ future, and includes inherited global problems which must be faced by this generation.

This term our Home Learning is weekly spelling, reading and Maths Buddy. Our STAR focus for this term is “Attitude” and students can choose one further activity to complete. This will be presented in their homeroom in week 9 or 10. We will be having a team celebration on the last Thursday afternoon of the term for those who have completed their Home Learning.

We will be writing around the Persuasive genre this term. Students will write and present their own persuasive speech this term. Students will be able to choose from the following speech topics - “You should laugh every day”, “Teenage boys are lazier than teenage girls”, “Katniss Everdeen would alienate Harry Potter”, “Does technology connect or isolate people?”, “Music has the power to heal” and “The Solution to bullying”. Our team speech winners will then compete against Rangiora Borough to earn a place in the Rotary North Canterbury Speech competition, held at the Rangiora Town Hall in week 9.

### **Sport**

We begin this term with cross-country. Our school event is Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at the Rangiora Showgrounds. If your child is not biking to the venue, there is a bus provided at a cost of \$2.10 (to be paid on Kindo.) The North Canterbury event is Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June at Loburn Domain, and the Canterbury Schools Cross Country is Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June at Halswell Quarry. We are training daily, so please ensure your child wears shoes suitable for running.

On Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May we have 2 volleyball teams taking part in the Canterbury Indoor tournament at Lincoln. Notices for the students involved will be sent home next week. Unfortunately our boys and girls basketball teams did not qualify this year to represent Rakahuri zone for the town tournament.

The Rakahuri Friday sport competition starts on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May and will continue for another 3 weeks next term. The one day Winter Tournament is on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July in week 10. If any team places first in this tournament, they will then be invited to take part in the Canterbury tournament in Christchurch.

Thanks to those parents who are prepared to coach and manage teams to make it possible for all students to participate. A reminder that the payment for winter sport is \$38.00 and is requested by the end of week 3. For team managers and coaches, a credit will be added to your account at the end of sport once we know how many sessions are involved. Uniforms will be provided for all teams for our students to look smart as they take to the field/court. Students keep this uniform for the season and are expected to take care of it.

In the July holidays the Canterbury and New Zealand Orienteering Champs are on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> and Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July at Avonside and Leithfield. Notices for those interested will be out shortly.

### ***Other Events***

This term we have entered 2 debating teams in the North Canterbury competition. Our first debates were this week and while the debate was very close we lost to Fernside on Wednesday, but won on Thursday against Loburn. This team is now into the second round. We wish them luck for their next debate.

We will have 5 teams in the Canterbury Spelling Quiz on the evening of Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June. The venue for this is yet to be confirmed.

The North Canterbury Chess competition is also coming up early next term. Heats to qualify for the final are usually on a Sunday. We will be starting chess club on Wednesday lunchtimes to work out our teams.

Next Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May we have a performance from the outstanding Strike Percussion team. Payment of \$3.10 can be made on Kindo. We also have a Playhouse performance on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June and payment for this will be added to Kindo.

### ***High School Update***

This term all the high schools have open days. Rangiora High School has open days on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May and tour times must be booked. If your Year 8 is the first child attending High School this is an excellent opportunity to see what they offer. RHS enrolment forms were sent home earlier this week.

### ***Winter's on its Way!***

As the weather gets colder it is especially important at this time of the year for the students to be dressed appropriately for play / PE outside. We will require them to play outside unless it is raining, so a school polar fleece and a jacket are needed on cold days. We also ask students to take off wet or muddy shoes before coming into the classroom, so a pair of warm slippers can be a good idea.

If your child is feeling unwell or has a heavy cold please keep them home. As you will appreciate, working across several rooms, germs can spread very quickly and we'd like to avoid this if possible.

### ***Last, but not least . . . .***

Well done to our senior pupils who are setting a fine example in taking on responsibilities around the school. School Councillors, Librarians, House Captains and Leaders, and Kea Patrollers to mention a few. All these truly reflect our Ashgrove "STARS" and it has been pleasing to see pupils working towards their Value bars and Ashgrove Star badges. These are signed off in your child's STAR booklets by their homeroom teacher and presented at Turepo assemblies.

Remember to keep an eye on the school fortnightly newsletter. It will keep you up to date on what's going on, and coming up. Also we frequently contact parents via email, and you can contact us the same way.

A final reminder about uniform, black or navy thermals are allowed under your child's school polo shirts. Sunhats are **not** required until term 4. **Make-up, nail polish, and jewellery** are **NOT** part of our school uniform.

We look forward to another productive term with your children!

Kind regards

TUREPO LEARNING TEAM

Pam Batchelor, Nigel Seaton, Charlotte Pearce, Mat Jenkins and Megan Cherry