

ASHGROVE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

“GROWING TOGETHER FOR SUCCESS”

Mission Statement: “To provide a quality education in a positive environment which encourages learning for life”

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Tena Koutou katoa
Greetings parents and caregivers

The month is moving on and by now you will have either received a newsletter from the class teacher or met your child’s teacher. Or even better still attended a meeting with other parents and teachers. We realise not everyone has the time to be down at the school during school hours because of other commitments. But it is also clearly evident to us at Ashgrove, the more opportunities we can have to meet with parents and involve our school community the better our relationships and communication will continue.

I know you will find the calendar useful that can be found on the back of this newsletter as there are a lot of events happening in the next while. The swimming sports on the 1st March involves those children who are 8 years old and over. This will be the first big event this year that involves many of our students.

The other is the parent interviews which involves all the school except for those new students in Rooms 1 and 2. These students will have individual interviews at another pre-arranged time. Please note we close the school early on these two days to allow time for all families to arrange a time that suits. More about that later in this newsletter.

The property developments continue which also means further disruption to classes. This is unavoidable and teachers are doing a fabulous job of keeping the programmes and activities as normal as possible for our children. The first lot of earthquake repairs have been completed in the library, the dental clinic and the multipurpose room. Classes are now occupying those rooms while the classrooms are being repaired. The bus pick up and drop off area is underway though the weather is holding up the tar-sealing and curbing.

Whole school assemblies are held the first week in each term and every second week after that. That is odd weeks on a Friday 9.00am. Please feel free to join us. It is a celebration time and we take this opportunity to highlight special events and achievements by our students. Our STARS Values are also reiterated with one of our values featured every term.



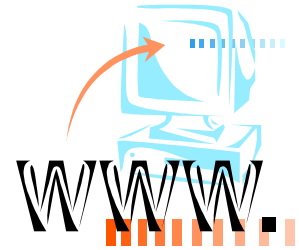
When you have an opportunity to visit the classroom be sure to view the Values displayed and ask your child about what they know about them.

Have you looked at our website yet? It has a lot of information that you might find useful, especially the details around our school zone. We are receiving inquiries daily from prospective families looking to enrol their child. We have copies of the school zone in the office if you want to take one, you may know a family looking to move into the area.

Have a good week everyone.

Christine Chadwick

Principal



Maori whakatauki me te wiki

Maori quote for the week

Ko tangaroa ara rau

Literal translation: Know the pathways of the sea

Interpreted as: Be willing and able to assist others

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

The first of the Scholastic Book Club brochures for the year have arrived and each pupil now has a set. If you are placing an order from Issue 1 you need to have the completed form/s and payment to school by **Thursday 23rd February**. If you earned a \$5 voucher 2011 you need to use it on this issue. If you are not going to use your \$5 voucher you have the option of donating it to the library to be used toward a library book. Extra copies of the brochures are available from the library.

TELECOM “BILLS TO STORYBOOK” PROGRAMME

We would like to thank the Telecom families who have chosen Ashgrove School as their favourite primary school. This has enabled the school to received 16 storybooks donated to our library from Scholastic.

A REQUEST FROM OUR FRIENDLY POLICE

We have been asked by our Rangiora Police Education Officer to encourage parents to use the Kingsbury Ave entrance to the school. The Waimakariri District Council last year very kindly put an all-weather pathway through Ashgrove Park to allow access to the school from Kingsbury Ave. This was to help alleviate the traffic on Seddon Street where parking is limited. We ask please that parents use this access-way. On wets days the volume of traffic in Seddon Street is a safety concern. A short walk through the park is not only safer but a healthier option for families. We thank you for your support in this.

STAFF CAR PARK

The staff car park gates are closed from 8.30am to 3.30pm. Parents please set a good example and not use this entrance as a short cut. The safety of our children is more important. Vehicles come and go from this area often.

KEEPING OURSELVES SAFE PROGRAMME – KNOWING WHAT TO DO

There will be a parent information session with Constable Ken Terry on Thursday 1st March at 9.00am in the staffroom. This is for all parents of students in the Early Junior and Junior Learning Teams (Rooms 1-7).



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PARENT / STUDENT / TEACHER INTERVIEWS – Detailed notice sent home yesterday

Interview schedule for all rooms (except Rooms 1 & 2) is as follows:

Monday 27th February & Wednesday 29th February
Time: 2.30pm to 6.40pm ** (** Last Appointment Time of the Day)

- The school will close at 2:00pm on Monday 27th and Wednesday 29th February to enable interviews to proceed from 2.30pm

Interview times to be booked online. Bookings close 4.00pm Wednesday 22nd February

- Go to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz
- The school code is QG8CF

HOME SUPPORT FOR YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

Would you like to understand some of the new “jargon” that is currently being used around learning?

Would you like to better understand the results of your child's testing, and their reports?

Would you like to know how to work together with current teaching methods to support your child in their learning?

We can help! Following the success of the parent information meetings with Mrs Mosley in 2011, we are repeating and extending our *programme*.

2012 topics**Term 1**

Wednesday 22nd February - Key Competencies and Goal-setting: Why are they important? What do they have to do with the curriculum, and daily learning? How can I help my child to set useful and achievable goals? How can I support them at home to meet their goals?

Wednesday 28th March - Foundations for literacy learning. Where do I start? I'm not (repeated from 2011) a teacher, so how can I best help my child to progress in literacy?

Term 2

- Making a good start with reading, and keeping the progress going. Is “sounding it out” still the best way to help with a tricky word? What is the right level of book for my child? (repeated from 2011)
- Foundations for writing and spelling success – making a complex task easier. The place of alphabet skills. Engaging children in writing. (repeated from 2011)

Term 3

- Why is writing still so important in this Technological era? How can I help with writing? Is spelling really all that important? What is the best method to use to help with spelling? (repeated from 2011)
- Understanding the “Numeracy” approach to maths, and how it differs from the way parents were taught. What do the levels mean? (repeated from 2011)

Term 4

- Kitchen Cupboard maths – helping with maths practice in practical settings. What about “tables” and “basic facts”? (repeated from 2011)
- Report reading. What do the levels mean? How do I know if my child has made good progress? What do I do if I'm worried about their achievement? What about next year's class?

Come to one session, or all of them.

Gather some useful ideas that you can use easily at home, to support your child at school.

Sessions this year will be from 2.00 – 3.00pm. Come at 1.30pm and have a cuppa and a chat with other parents before the meeting starts.

ASHGROVE SCHOOL CALENDAR

20th February – 4th May 2012

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
20th February BOT Meeting 7.00pm Library	21st February Middle Camp Parent Helper Meeting 6.30pm Rm21 PTA Mtg 7.30pm Staffroom	22nd February	23rd February	24th February
27th February Parent Interviews Goal Setting 2.30pm – 6.40pm School Finishes at 2pm	28th February	29th February Parent Interviews Goal Setting 2.30pm – 6.40pm School Finishes at 2pm	1st March Ashgrove Swimming Sports 10-3pm Dudley Pool	2nd March
5th March Rakahuri Zone Swimming Sports	6th March Room 16 Camp to Hanmer Early Juniors trip to Museum Upper Juniors Swim Gym 12.45pm	7th March Room 16 Camp to Hanmer Middle Camp to Living Springs Parent Information Mtg Juniors Keeping Ourselves Safe 9.00am	8th March Room 16 Camp to Hanmer Middle Camp to Living Springs	9th March Room 16 Camp to Hanmer Middle Camp to Living Springs
12th March North Canterbury Swimming Champs 12.30 – 3pm Dudley Pool	13th March Room 15 Camp to Hanmer Upper Juniors Swim Gym 12.45pm	14th March Room 15 Camp to Hanmer	15th March Room 15 Camp to Hanmer	16th March Room 15 Camp to Hanmer
19th March BOT Meeting 7.15pm Library	20th March Room 17 Camp to Hanmer Upper Juniors Swim Gym 12.45pm PTA Mtg 7.30pm Staffroom	21st March Room 17 Camp to Hanmer	22nd March Room 17 Camp to Hanmer	23rd March Room 17 Camp to Hanmer
26th March	27th March Room 14 Camp to Hanmer Upper Juniors Swim Gym 12.45pm	28th March Room 14 Camp to Hanmer	29th March Room 14 Camp to Hanmer	30th March Room 14 Camp to Hanmer
2nd April	3rd April Upper Juniors Swim Gym 12.45pm	4th April	5th April Last day of term	6th April GOOD FRIDAY
9th April EASTER MONDAY	10th April Holidays	11th April Holidays	12th April Holidays	13th April Holidays
16th April Holidays	17th April Holidays	18th April Holidays	19th April Holidays	20th April Holidays
23rd April	24th April	25th April ANZAC DAY	26th April	27th April
30th April	1st May Upper Juniors Swim Gym 12.45pm	2nd May	3rd May	4th May

2012 SCHOOL TERMS

Term 1	30 th January	–	5 th April 2012
Term 2	23 rd April	–	29 th June 2012
Term 3	16 th July	–	28 th September 2012
Term 4	15 th October	–	14 th December 2012