February 2017

Ngā mihi ki te whānau o te Kura Waenga o Ngāmotu

He aha te mea nui o te ao?
He tangata! He tangata! He tangata!
What is the most important thing in the world?
It is people! It is people! It is people!

Welcome back to the 2017 school year and a special welcome to our 16 new families. We hope that, very soon, you will feel you truly belong to the school whānau.

The school roll starts at 330 and is made up of a diverse ethnic community of Pasifika, Cambodian, Vietnamese, British, European, German, Indian, Middle Eastern, African, Australian, Thai, Filipino, Fijian, Dutch, Chinese, Malaysian, Hispanic, 56% NZ European/Pakeha, 20% Māori and many more. How rich we are.

This year is our 8th SOMAD (School of Music, Arts and Dance) year! Record Saturday November 11 on your calendars now as children are very disappointed if family cannot attend and celebrate all their learning in the Arts. Every child is essential to at least 2 performances so their attendance is required. Essentially from 9.30-2.30 and is a day of lots of learning and talent with food and other stalls to enjoy as well. We’ll tell you more in newsletters to follow.

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF

HEATHER EARBY
Heather is a mother of 3 fine men, is married to Bruce and she is a super fit walker! Heather has been teaching New entrants and Year 1 students at West End School for many years and has taught in various Taranaki schools

over her career. A cook, gardener and reader, Heather loves people and her job! Heather and Christina are job sharing in Room 3 with Heather working the equivalent of 4 days a week and Christina one.

CHRISTINA DARNEY
A warm welcome back to Christina whose heart strings are being tugged as she leaves her 7 month old Theodore in the very capable hands of her mother to return to her teaching one day a week.

SIOBHAN O’HARA
Siobhan is Whanganui born and calls Wellington home. Sports, including netball, swimming and cycling are her passion as is all things IT. Siobhan has been teaching at Inglewood Primary School and we are delighted to have her on board.

OTHER STAFF NEWS
We are really excited that Matua Pete is part of our team for 4 days a week now! While he is completing his teaching qualifications he is teaching in his Te Reo Māori tutor role as well as being a teacher aide in many classes.

Jess McKendry and her husband Will were married less than 2 weeks ago and Jess is now Mrs Tomkins.
Welcome back to Kate Baxter.
We farewelled Kate only to ask her back! Kate is leaving for the UK in July so we have snapped her up in a part time role for the next couple of terms.

Welcome To Rebecca Creery
Well Nick has not truly deserted us as his wife Rebecca has joined the team in a part time capacity.

Principal Sabbatical
I am very grateful to the Board of Trustees for approving 10 weeks sabbatical leave for me in term 2. I am looking forward to spending time on my own study as well as getting in some travel to Europe. The school will be in the safe hands of all the staff with Maxine and Charlaine at the helm.

SCHOOL ORGANISATION for 2017
PRINCIPAL Mrs Juliet Ormrod
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPALS Mrs Charlaine Spencer Mrs Maxine Luff
RANGINUI- Years 4-6 Team leader Miss Siobhan O’Hara
Room 12 Siobhan O’Hara Y6
Room 11 Mrs Jess Tomkins (nee McKendry) Y5/6
Room 10 Mr Glynn Hills Y5
Room 9 Mrs Jo Ross Y4/5
TANGAROA Years 2-4 Team leader - Philippa Fairclough
Room 1 Mrs Pip Bayley-Hine &Mrs Rebecca Carberry Y2/3
Te Whare Mātau - Mrs Floortje Bastin Y3
Room 6 Mrs Judith Van Kooten Y3/4
Room 7 Mrs Julie-Anne Hall Y4
Room 5 Mrs Philippa Fairclough Y4
PAPATŪĀNUKU Year 1/2 Team Leader Mrs Charlaine Spencer
Room 8 Whānau New Entrants Mrs Sarah Collins and Mrs Jacqui Gnoth
Room 4 Y1 Mrs Julie Scott
Room 3 Y1 Mrs Heather Earby and Christine Darney
Room 2 Mrs Anne Fromont Y1/2
PART TIME TEACHERS Mrs Jocelyn Bryant
Mrs Sandra Petrove
Mrs Lucie Wolfe
Mrs Justine Darney
Ms Susan Lupton
Mrs Rebecca Creery
Mrs Geraldine McQueen
Miss Kate Baxter
Mrs Rebecca Carberry
SUPPORT STAFF TEAM
Ms Vicki Sutton
Mr Bryan Sutherland
Mrs Kathy Hinton
Mrs Lindsay Stones
Mrs Judith Price
Mrs Helen Chamberlain

Ms Lynne James
Mrs Jill Phillips
Mr Edward Darney
Mr Liam Blyde
Miss Hannah O’Connor
Mrs Barbara Gibbs
Matua Peter Taylor

WRAP IT UP - a new system for payments and permission slips!
Please find attached the instructions for setting up your school payments through Wrap-It-Up.

FAMILY PICNIC - Tuesday 7 February 5.00
This annual event gives the children, staff and parents and whānau a chance to catch up again for 2017, and meet the families and staff new to the school. The pool will be open although students must be supervised by an adult, and sportsgear will be out for fun and games. Bring a picnic and let’s settle in together!

YEAR 5 CAMP - WEEK 5 February!
Year 5 Camp @ Vertical Horizons
Dates: 27 Feb-01 March
Cost: $160.00 (payments can be made to the office when possible) or on wrap-it-up shortly.
We will hold a parent information session on Thursday 9 February in Room 11 from 5.15pm. Come along to learn more about the camp, hear about the experiences the children will encounter and ask any pressing questions. More information to follow later this week.

TE WHARE MATAU
We are so very disappointed that our beautiful new library has to be a classroom this year. The books were all stored at the end of last year and we can still access them in a limited way. Floortje Bastin is teaching in Te Whare Mātau this year and we know that the Year 3 students in there will take special care of it.

SUMMER FAIR March 5 - save the date!
HOME AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Calling all new families, and old. On Sunday March 5 we will be having all the fun of the fair at school! For a successful fundraiser and a really happy day we need lots of support and offers of help from our parent community.
The Home and School committee is a committed group of very social parents and whānau who support the school in numerous ways. They would be delighted to welcome any new parents to the school at their next meeting. Please come along and join our very organised team on Wednesday 8 February at 7.00pm.
EXTERIOR PAINTING OF THE SCHOOL
Nearly there! We are very close to finishing off this mammoth job. The coned off areas should be gone over the next couple of weeks.

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES
SCHOOL TIMES
School starts in classrooms at 8.55a.m. It is preferable that your child is here by 8.45a.m so that they have time to unpack bags, check in with their teacher, and get outside to link up with their peers before the school day starts. School finishes at 3.00pm.

TOO EARLY FOR SCHOOL
With the exception of road patrollers, no children are to arrive at school before 8.20am. We are fortunate that we have before school care at School’s Out, on the site for those families with earlier starts. Information for both after, and before school care can be found at the office. You can phone Haidee on 0211271818.

KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH YOU
We have a substantial number of emails failing to make some of your inboxes. If you have changed your email address please let us know urgently. If you think you may be missing communications from us please check that we have not made an error when recording your email address.

SAFETY AT THE SCHOOL GATES
The safety of our students is paramount and we do not apologise if this may stretch an adult’s tolerance. All students are encouraged to walk, scoot, bike or park-and-walk to school. Our goal is that we will be able to reduce the number of 2-minute Kiss and Drop spaces within 2 years.

As a central city school, we do have heavy congestion around the school gates at 3.00p.m. We have a minimum of 5 teachers/staff on duty to manage the safety of our students however we rely on our parents and whānau to support us.

The patrolled Kea crossing on Gover Street allows for safe crossing. Please do NOT allow your child to cross over Gover Street in any other place and especially at the Lemon Street corner. We ask that parents model this by also crossing in the correct place.

Parents lining up in their cars at the Gover Street Kiss and Drop (Y 2,3,4 students only) create a number of dangers. The road patrollers are not able to see oncoming traffic, the cars turning left and right out of Pendarves Street cannot see to make a safe manoeuvre. You are asked to move on for safety as an accident at the intersection is likely to impact on the pedestrians in that vicinity.

We encourage our students to walk, park and walk, scoot and bike to and from school. The Kiss and Drop areas on Pendarves and Lemon Streets are for Year 1 students only. We request that
1. Only caregivers of the year 1 student kiss and drop users enter Pendarves and Lemon Streets. If the kiss and drop zone is full, please do not double park in Pendarves Street and block the street for public use.
2. The 120 minute car parks on Pendarves and Lemon Street are especially for parents with young children in car seats. If your child is older, or you no longer have younger children in the car, please arrange to meet them further from the school or park and walk to meet them.
3. The kiss and drop zones(P2) are not for waiting in. If your child is not waiting there already you must move on. You will be ticketed if you stay in the spaces longer than two minutes, including before 3.00pm. Please do not wait in the zones before 3.00pm. Most children take a few minutes to get down to the gates. If you are an early bird we request you park further away, meet your child at the user friendly space at the gates, and walk your child back to the car.

The disability parking spaces are well used by our school community. Please DO NOT use them as drop off points.

We know how congested our entrances are and certainly appreciate parents setting a good example by parking correctly, crossing at the established crossings and following the directions of the road patrols. Thank you all for your understanding and awareness.
SCHOOL SWIMMING and the SWIMMING PROGRAMME

The 83 year old school pool was filled during the last week and is now open for learning. Class swimming during February and March is part of the school’s physical education programme and is compulsory for all children except those with medical reasons. If your child cannot participate at any time due to illness or injury, please write an explanatory note to class teacher concerned. We ask for your cooperation with our swimming programme by ensuring your child brings swimming togs every day. Swimming is not a privilege but a curriculum requirement. If the weather is ‘iffy’ please leave the decision whether to swim or not to us as often the weather can change and children can be disappointed, especially if a lunchtime free-swim is on. If the temperature of the pool is below 18 degrees no child is expected to swim or to stay in the water longer than they choose. It is sensible for every child to have a sweatshirt in case of cooler weather. We also recommend the wearing of rash vests etc to provide sun protection. Please ensure togs or rashsuits, towels and goggles are named.

A STRONG REQUEST FOR PARENTAL SUPPORT
LONG HAIR IS TIED BACK AT SCHOOL

It is practical and safer for all students with long hair to have their hair tied up/back. With fitness and physical activity every day, loose long hair is not suitable, especially in the swimming season.
With nits being rife yet again, the public health nurse suggests hair tied in plaits appears to be most effective in reducing the spread of nits.

SCHOOL LUNCHES
Lunches are available every day of the week by ordering online.
All you need do, the first time, is visit www.lunchonline.co.nz and
1. Register an account
2. Add members - set up your child/ren
3. Make a payment so there are funds in your account
4. Place an order

Thereafter, once you have made an internet or credit card payment, you link to Central School and order your options.
Orders need to be in 9.00a.m.
Lunches are delivered to classrooms at 12.20pm each day.

ANNUAL DONATION

The Board of Trustees has set the 2017 annual donation at $150 per child. Receiving this money from our families is an important part of the school’s income and assists us in keeping our children well supplied with learning resources. We have a number of instalment payment options available to make the payment easier for families. If you would like to pay the donation through internet banking or in instalments the school’s bank account is Central School Board of Trustees 1539 53 0287198-80 (TSB), Ref: Your name/AD
They will also be available to pay on wrap-it-up.
Don’t forget, if you pay the donation now - most families can claim 1/3 of it back from the IRD in April. You can visit www.ird.govt.nz and search for the IR526.

SUNSENSE Every child MUST have a wide brimmed (minimum of 6 cm around) hat at school everyday. The school has for sale, a variety of colours of NZ Cancer Society approved sunhats. These are available at a subsidised rate of $10.00 at the school office. Students are welcome to wear their own choice of hat as long as they are comparable to those recommended by the Cancer Society. (6 cm brim all round) Information can be found on the following link. http://www.cancernz.org.nz/products/sun-hats/

SUNSCREEN - children need to bring their own

While we keep sunscreen in our first aid kits and the medical room, we do not choose to apply sunscreen to children in case of allergy or parental choice. Nevertheless children are in the sunshine for a number of hours a week so we ask that your child has an easily manageable sunscreen (e.g. a roll-on) in their bags to apply before physical activity and break times outside. Young children need to have been instructed in the application of sunscreen, to avoid sunscreen in the eyes and to ensure full coverage. Children will be given time to apply sunscreen and will be reminded to reapply it by their teachers.

ABSENCE PROCEDURES
Regular school attendance is fundamental to student learning. Parents and guardians are legally responsible for their child's regular attendance at school. The Board of Trustees is also legally required to ensure all
students attend school every day. The Education Act 1989 states
Every student of a registered school who is required by Section 20 of this Act to be enrolled at a registered school shall attend the school whenever it is open.
We seek your support in ensuring your child is at school on time each day, and that absences from school are only for genuine reasons such as ill health or bereavement. Holidays and long weekends are not deemed justifiable absences by the Ministry of Education.
If your child is absent, we need to be informed before school and the Ministry of Education requires a reason. An email to office@central.school.nz, or a message left on the attendance line at 06 7583240 is required. Please do not text teachers.
If your child is late to school please ask them to report to the office before they go to class. If your child is late more than three times, you will be contacted.

PROCEDURE FOR ADMINISTERING OF MEDICINE AT SCHOOL
I would like to clarify our procedure for the administering of medicine and medication at school.
1. If your child requires regular medication, there is a permission, instruction and procedure form to be filled out at the office.
2. If your child requires emergency medication for anaphylaxis, you are expected to provide the medication to Vicki at the office, and fill out the permission, instruction and procedure form at the office.
3. If your child is on antibiotics, the school does not administer doses on your behalf. In most cases families can time the doses to fit the instructions around school hours. Talk to us if you have exceptional circumstances such as medications that need to be taken 30 minutes prior to eating.
4. If your child is unwell and we phone you to collect him/her, we can administer paracetamol at your request. This is a one-off dose only.
5. If your child requires regular paracetamol doses then it is considered he/she is not well enough to be at school.
6. If your child is asthmatic and requires either regular or intermittent medication, you are asked to provide the medication to Vicki at the office, and fill out the instructions for administering on the school form.

CELEBRATION FOOD AT SCHOOL
We would appreciate your understanding and support. When children have birthdays, many generous families send a cake, treats or food for the birthday child to share with the class. While we support the values around this manaakitanga we do find there can be problems created. Some children are not always able to share in the food because of food allergies or family preference. The party time can impose on learning time, and families can be led to believe it is a requirement and this can place undue pressure on families. As a result we respectfully request that families only send shared food to school when there is a formal, shared class or school occasion that you have been informed of by the class teacher.

CONCERNS OR QUESTIONS
If you have any niggling worries or questions to be answered at this early, but nevertheless stressful time of the school year please do not hesitate to check in with us all. A good and communicative start to the year for us all is the key.

NEWSLETTER
The newsletter which you will receive the newsletter by email is published weekly, usually on Tuesdays. The newsletter is also posted on the school website, as are sports notices. If you prefer a hard copy each week, or do not have email, then let Vicki know and one will be delivered home by child post each week.

CELLPHONES AT SCHOOL
We do not encourage children to bring cellphones to school however we appreciate that in some circumstances the planning around family obligations means children occasionally need access to a cellphone. Children are asked to hand their phones into the office at the start of the day and collect them after school. Thank you for your co-operation.
SPORTS NOTICES
A separate newsletter with the year’s sports information outlined will be sent home shortly.
Kate Baxter is your first port of call for any queries.
kate.baxter@central.school.nz

DATES FOR DIARY
February 6 - Waitangi Weekend public holiday
February 7 - Family Picnic 5.00
February 9 - Year 5 camp meeting
16 February - 1pm-7pm, school finishes at 12.30 for Community Connection Conferences.
20 February - 3pm-6pm Community Connection Conferences
Monday 13 March - Taranaki Anniversary day holiday
Term 1 finishes - Thursday, 13 April
Term 2 begins - Monday, 01 May