

Kia ora katoa

Welcome to Sam who started in Room 4 and Thomas who has joined Room 5 this week.

Assembly tomorrow at 2.00pm. Our presenters will be McKenzie and Kara. We will see items from Rooms 2 and 7. We look forward to seeing you there.

Road Patrol Wardens

We appreciate the service our school leaders give in helping people cross safely after school. Please thank them and be patient as new wardens are learning. All children crossing the road at Green Street and High Street are to use the crossing. We ask that parents/adults walking with children use the crossing too, please.

Safety Vests

Please ensure that children walking, bussing and biking to school wear their high visibility vests to and from school. They take under 10 seconds to put on and could save accident or injury. Vests are available to buy at the school office for \$15.00.

Parent Help in Classrooms

We encourage our parents and other family members to work alongside us in the classrooms and were very grateful for all the help we got last year. The more 1 to 1 or small group work we can offer children the better it is for their learning. If you would like to help in your child's class please speak to your child's teacher. A guideline for working in classes will be given to each adult when they come to the class for the first time.

Education outside the Classroom

Thank you for completing the slip giving permission for your child/ren to attend **all** educational activities and trips for the year. This permission covers activities which are of a day or less duration.

You will receive information about what the children are doing from each class or syndicate. Please watch for this information... and return slips offering parent help.



All costs for these trips are financed from the *Annual Activity Fee*, which remains the same as last year: junior and middle syndicate, \$70.00 per year and senior syndicate children \$90.00 per year.

The *Activity Fee* is used to pay for costs such as buses, admission fees, in school visiting performers etc. Invoices for the *Activity Fee* and the \$30.00 voluntary school donation were sent home this week.

If cost is ever a problem, please make contact with me, your child's teacher or Mrs Carolyn Pridham in the school's office. We are happy for families to pay any costs at school in a way which best suits them. Some families prefer to pay it all at once, others by the term and many families have an automatic payment paid to school each fortnight. We are reluctant to have any child miss out because of family finances, but we need to be fair and honest, in that the school, too, is working hard to remain within a budget.



The Year 6 school camp is the only Outdoor Education activity not included in the activity fee.

We are always dependent on parents accompanying trips and outings. They are fun, and it is a great way to gain an insight into how the class works and to meet other parents. We would love to have you join us.

Teachers contacting ALL parents

Teachers hope to have been in contact with all families by the end of next week. The conversation will only take 5-10 minutes. This is: to hear, from the home point of view, how this year's learning has started for your child; for parents to let us know anything that will help individual's learning - such as areas of strength/interest/friendships/concerns/worries and for parents to identify areas of learning which they would like us specifically target over the next 4 months (goals). Teachers may be able to 'catch' parents at school but most will be by phone. Please let class teachers know times that would/would not suit you. This replaces individual teacher 'meet the teacher' interviews. Teachers will be outlining programmes etc to parents 6.30 - 6.50 prior to the Board of Trustees gathering for families to help with the school's future directions on Wednesday 24th February.

School Banking

The National Bank Mosgiel branch is proud to support Silverstream School. Going home today is an account opening form for those wishing to open a School Plus account. There will be bank representatives at School on Wednesday 17th February at 8.30am to collect the completed forms and answer any questions. All new accounts from this will go in the draw to win two family passes to the movies. School banking will start on Wednesday 24th February.

Library Report

It's great to see all the smiling faces visiting the library and hearing about the books read in the holidays. We're all looking forward to new exciting books and comfortable old favourites. Each class is timetabled to visit the library each week, and the library is open every day at lunchtime for swapping books, games and puzzles. Juniors begin by borrowing one book at a time and progress to where Seniors can have three books out. Juniors are best to learn the routine of returning their books each week on their library day. All books are issued for two weeks and can have their loan renewed. **At home, it is a good idea to have one place set aside where library books are kept safe** from pets, very small children, and accidents; for example keeping the books in the school bag or on the bedside table. Please phone me with any questions or concerns you have. If you are moving house, it is a good idea for your child to keep their library books at school over the move, because we sometimes have to wait weeks for a book to be retrieved from where it was packed! If a book is overdue by at least a week, an 'Oops' note is sent home. If you cannot find a book, please contact me or your child's teacher. Sometimes we can track the book down at school. If a book is damaged, please return it and all the pieces to me. It may be fixable. Please NEVER use selotape on books. If anyone would like to help in the library, either as a lunchtime supervisor, or covering and strengthening books, please call in and see me. Your help would be hugely appreciated. - *Jo Steffensen, School Librarian*

'Homework' Task

Thank you for taking the time to record your children's views on this sheet. We want our children to feel involved in helping their school grow and to learn that their views are valued.

Friends of the School

The next meeting for our Friends of the School will be held on Wednesday 17 February at 7pm in the school staffroom. All parents are welcome.

Friday Sausage Sizzle

These will begin again on Friday 12th February along with cookies and juicies. Sausages and cookies are \$1.50 each and juicies are 80c each. These can be ordered from the canteen. Please order your sausage before 9.00am on Friday mornings.

We **urgently need** parents/caregivers to help cook and serve sausages on a rostered basis from 11.15am - 1.00pm Fridays. If you are able to help please contact Julia Budd on 489 8809 or leave a message at the school office.



Touch Rugby

Term one is a new season for Touch Rugby, so there will be all new teams. The first game of the season is on Monday 22 February. The year 3/4 teams will play at 3:30pm and the Year 5/6 teams will play at 4pm. The games are half an hour long. If you want to coach or manage a team please let me know. Thank you to those coaches who have already confirmed they are willing to continue in 2010. *Angela Hawthorne.*

On behalf of all staff, Elizabeth (Libby) Cleverley

Future Dates

12 Feb	Assembly 2.00pm
15-19 Feb	Middle and Seniors Swimming, Mosgiel Pool
16 Feb	BOT Meeting 7pm
20 Feb	Working bee for playground markings
24 Feb	6.30 Meet the teacher session 7pm - 8.30pm Community Meeting to guide future planning for our school
26 Feb	Assembly 2.00pm
5,8,10,11,12 March	Juniors Swimming Mosgiel West Pool
8-12 Marc	Berwick CAMP - Y6 children
22 Mar	Otago Anniversary Day - school closed
1 April	Term 1 ends for Easter Break
19 April	Term 2 begins
2 July	Term 2 ends

Thought of the week ...

Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass ... it's about learning to dance in the rain.



Congratulations to Kristina (Room 3 teacher) and Mike who were married on Waitangi Day. We wish you both a very happy future together.