

September 14 2016

Kia ora Koutou

Welcome to week 8 of the term and hopefully we have seen the last blast of winter.

Yesterday we hosted Duffy Role Model, Diana Queenin who shared her experiences of working at the Museum of Natural History in New York, and how reading helped her to learn about the exhibits and travel the world. Here is a picture of our Duffy Caught being Good Award Recipients with Diana.



We have a junior school assembly this Friday September 16 at 2.15pm where we will give out awards and celebrate with the team. Please mark this in your diary and attend if you can.

Congratulations to Tim Boag, Kael Monoy, Alleleie-Rose Anday, Flynn Ford, Tipeti Afu, Geoffrey Garcia, Ace Yasana and Lockie Atkinson who were the group stage, winners of the Mahi Tahi Speech contest. They will now go up against each other on Thursday, where Mrs Franklin will judge an overall winner.



Next Wednesday 21 September is our presentation evening for our Art focus. We invite you all to attend and view the works that have been completed by the students around the Olympic theme. The evening begins at 5pm (Not 5.30pm as advertised last week) and ends at 7pm and there will be a BBQ with \$2 sausages and onions available. This will be run by School Support and we invite you to mix and mingle with us, tea and coffee will also be available.

The usual SSG Friday Sausage sizzle this Friday 16th, \$2 sausage and bread, with orders in by 9am Friday morning. We will also have a Pet Day sausage sizzle too on Friday 23rd as well as sharing any awards and messages for the students and parents.

Thank you so much to all of you for supporting the teachers union meeting last Friday. It was an inconvenient time but necessary for the union to explore options and information about the new global funding model that the government is exploring. The slogan for the meeting was "better funding" and this is certainly something all teachers and principals want for our children and equity is important to us so all children have the best opportunities available to them.

We have the school BOT meeting Monday September 19 at 6.30pm and these are open to the public to attend. Please come along if you want to see what we do and learn more about school Governance.

Calendar Art Orders need to be in this Friday with money. This has already been extended so Friday is final day.

There will be a Pet Day notice coming home by end of week with times of events and more details.



Can you help please??

It's **Jackson Holmes Salmon Run** time again; 8th October 2016, and this year the organisers are hoping to double the numbers on the 2015 event. They have introduced a fun walk to make the events inclusive to almost everyone. Its open to 5 years and over accompanied by a parent or guardian. The 6 km run is now open to 12 years

and over so the kids can stretch out too. We seek your support to advertise the event, as the funds raised benefit your school as well as the community. With a bit of encouragement I'm sure parents would love to explore a new part of the Rakaia riverbed, heading east of the town and learning a bit of history along the way.

We had over 70 volunteers last year and will require more this year with the introduction of the fun walk. The Lions are asking each school to provide at least two volunteers to tail end Charlie one of 6 events.

Please email agsutherland@hotmail.co.nz with names of those who can assist by the 20th September.

It's not too late to start training.

Principal's Comment and requests - safety and attendance

I would like to take some time to ask that you all continue to do your very best to have the children at school on time ready to start at 8.55am. This is when the bell goes to start the day so arriving at school at 8.45am at the latest gives your children time to settle. Arriving after 8.55am is recorded as late on the attendance record and this is a legal document for the government to refer to if we ever had to go to court over attendance issues. We work extremely hard to maintain safe practices for our staff and students and so we will call you if we do not hear from you about an unexplained absences, however we do ask that you maintain the routine of emailing, using the app or calling to let us know if your child is away.

We also ask that if you are collecting your children throughout the school day for appointments then please come through the office and advise the staff so we know what is happening. We also want to know if someone different is collecting your children so teachers can release them safely into their care.

If you are visiting through the day then please come through the office so we know who is on site and for what reason. This is all to do with the Health and Safety changes and also the Vulnerable Children's Act.

In simple terms;

- Please be on time to start school at 8.55am
- Check in through the office if visiting during the day
- Advise us promptly of changes to pick up and drop off
- Keep us up to date with phone numbers and emergency contacts
- Always keep us informed of changes that affect your children or may affect your children.

