

March 12 2018

Dear Parents and Caregivers

A huge congratulations to Mrs Young and her husband on the birth of their son Cullen William Young born on Friday March 9. It is wonderful news and the only boy out of the the 5 babies born in the last two years for the staff. We are all thrilled and I am sure you will join me in wishing them all the best as they head home today to start a wonderful life together.



Welcome to week 7. The term is flying by and we have a lot happening. Our Cricket teams enjoyed their day last week and we hope the Rippa Rugby competition gets underway this week.

Finances

The new Labour Government is looking at making some contributions to schools to lift our operational grants. This may be a grant of around \$150 per child. This is something our school would certainly support. At this point in time our school seeks donations at \$15 per term, per child and also a contribution towards activities. The donation is exactly that and we get about 50% of donations paid. The contribution towards activities is a little more important to us as it covers a multitude of things. It is also \$15 per term per pupil.

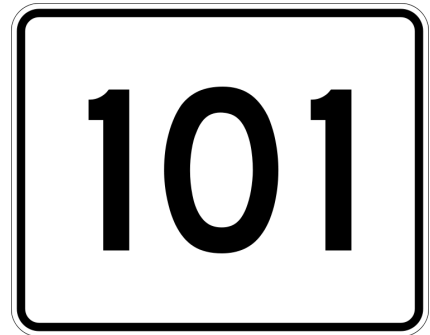
Below is a list of some of the costs we pay for students at school and your contributions support this. We also cover the Life Education costs and visits to the school by other visitors and sometimes they are just a \$2 charge and your contributions help us out.

- Linewize Internet filtering - \$5.50 per student per year
- Edge School Management System - \$5.65 per student per year
- Library, Finance and Asset management - \$2.80 per student per year
- Athletics Year 3-8 - \$31.08 per student per year
- Reading Eggs - \$33.20 per student per year
- Hapara - internet management software - \$4.95 per student per year

As well as these costs we also cover many of the bus trips for students. Last year the swimming costs with buses and entry to the pool cost almost \$12000 with us bringing in \$7600 from your payments leaving the school covering the other \$4400. Some of this is still to come in with us invoicing for swimming not yet paid but we will still have the short fall to cover to do our very best to maintain some equity in the school and access to curriculum for all pupils.

Decisions from the Government will be happening soon and so we will invoice for stationery and swimming and hold at this point in time on the contributions. Donations can still be made at anytime to support the school and we are very grateful to the local business owner who provides us \$40 a week to cover bread, butter, fillings and snacks for any children who need extra at school. Your personal donations do not feed children.

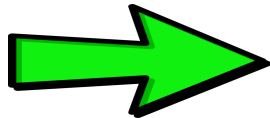
Rakaia 101 - I am holding another opportunity for parents to hear a little about how the school runs and what we are about. This is an introduction to Rakaia School and we ran them twice last year. This will be held tomorrow March 13 at 12 noon in Room 4/staff room.



Community Notices:

Itinerant Art Classes starting term 2.

Similar cost to Music lessons which are no longer available due to the Music teacher changing jobs.



Meeting the intellectual and emotional needs of gifted children

An Evening with Jim Delisle—hosted by the Canterbury Explorers

The Canterbury Explorers are excited to bring internationally renowned gifted expert, Dr Jim Delisle, to Christchurch later this month. We will be hosting an evening for parents, teachers and others interested in gifted children and gifted education.

Date: Wednesday 21st March @ 7:00pm

Location: The Medbury Centre, Medbury School

Cost: \$15 for members, \$25 for non-members or \$10 Students.

Visit www.canterburyexplorers.org.nz for booking or further information.

Or e-mail info@canterburyexplorers.org.nz if you have any additional questions.

Art Classes

Available for Rakaia School Students
Every Wednesday Lunch Time
(Term 2)
Spaces Limited

\$17.50 per lesson (materials included)
To be paid per term

We will cover a range
of processes.
Ages 7 and up

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