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## School Newsletter

**TERM 2 – 3 JUNE 2020 – WEEK 8**

### Upcoming Reminders

- **Week 10**      **Monday 15 – Wednesday 17 June**      Interview Week
- **Week 11**      **Friday 26 June**      Cross Country
- **Week 12**      **Thursday 2 July**      Matariki Performance
- **Week 12**      **Friday 3 July**      **Last Day of Term 2**

### From the Principal's Desk

Kia ora koutou whanau,

Many parents will have seen in the news that **Teacher Aides** are finally getting a pay increase to match the valuable work that they do within the classroom. Our Teacher Aides carry out all manner of vital roles within the school. This includes running specialist programmes in small groups for both literacy and numeracy, supporting individual students in the classroom, and supervising and supporting other students while the teacher works with small groups. Mrs Wynn, Mrs Lewis, Mrs French and Miss Clubb are highly valued members of Woodbury School, and it is fantastic to see the Ministry recognise their important work. A school our size would ordinarily have only 1 or possibly 2 Teacher Aides. I would like to thank the BOT for providing us with a third, and the fundraising efforts of the WSSG for supplying us with our fourth.



Miss Clubb with Luna, Mrs Lewis, Mrs French and Mrs Wynn

We have made the decision to make a significant change to the **structure of our classrooms** for next year and beyond. This is a result of a review into the numbers occupying our spaces, and feedback from a number of parents and BOT members. You may recall last year we notified parents that we were reviewing how our classes would operate. We continue to have large numbers in the Year 4-6 year group. While these larger numbers have prompted the changes, we believe that what we are doing will fit really well with student learning at Woodbury School.

We understand that **2021** is still a long way off, but many parents may be interested to see how our classrooms will be arranged. **I am keen to hear back from parents regarding these changes, as we can then address any questions as part of our planning. I understand people get used to the status quo and can be unsure of change. Please email [principal@woodbury.school.nz](mailto:principal@woodbury.school.nz) if you have anything you would like to share or ask.** More information regarding these changes will be sent out during Term 3, and we plan on holding a parent evening for any interested parents to find out more about how the classes will operate.

The following are our plans for how classes will operate next year:

- New entrants will continue to go to Pekapeka with Mrs Bromwich. We intentionally keep these numbers low throughout the year. In here we focus on integrating children into primary school life and our routines, while giving them a good exposure and base in oral language, literacy and numeracy. The ability to explore through play is also emphasised in here.



*Pekapeka*

- Students in Year 1 (who are not in the new entrant class) along with Year 2 and 3 students will be in Tarahaoa. This is a larger space, and will be similar to what students would have been part of in a pre-school environment. In this room there will be 2 teachers (each responsible for their own class of 19 or so) and 2 teacher aides to support learning. We plan on constructing a movable wall within this room, hopefully by mid-year. This will mean that classes can operate independently but also collaborate for activities such as art, discovery and inquiry time. The teachers in this class will be Mrs Patrick and the new teacher we appoint when we interview in Term 3.



*Current Tarahaoa*

- Piwakawaka and Kereru classrooms will have Year 4/5/6 students in them, and will also have the Awa as part of their teaching space. We are not yet sure how we will split these students. This will give them a similar environment to what they will be moving into in high school. With the decking area soon to be created on the south side of the classrooms, they will also have an outside space to use so will have plenty of room. Miss Talbot and Miss Greenslade will be teaching one of these classes each. We still plan on running the combined Year 4/5/6 camp within the first few weeks of the year, and these classes will collaborate together in a number of areas.



*Current Piwakawaka and Kereru*



*The Awa*

Please follow the below link to book a time for **parent interviews** (alternatively, contact the office with your preferred time and Robyn can add it in). Note that Tuesday and Wednesday are the days for parents who have children in Years 1-3 (Pekapeka, Piwakawaka and Kereru). It is also for parents who have children in Year 1-3 **and** Tarahaoa (Yr 4-6). Monday is the day for all parents who **only** have children in Tarahaoa to attend (i.e. you do not have any children below Yr 4). This is because Tarahaoa have more children and require more time slots for interviews.

- [Click here for Junior Teacher Parent Meetings](#)
- [Click here for Tarahaoa Teacher Parent Meetings](#)

This is the opportunity to raise any questions you may have with regards to your child's learning and social development. During the meeting you are also welcome to make a time to meet again with the teacher, to discuss things further or to establish a learning plan specific to your child. We are well placed at Woodbury School in terms of resources, Teacher Aide time and access to external supports, and are always open to parent enquiries around how we can use these to support your child.



The **Dental Van** turned up on site to see our children this week, but has left again as the truck is not working properly. They will be back in the near future.



Thank you to parents for your feedback regarding **online learning**. We had 19 families respond so were able to get a range of feedback. This feedback certainly reflected the diverse situations families found themselves in, we had a very broad range of responses. This feedback will be reviewed by staff and we will make any changes required to our planning. Hopefully the need for distance learning does not arise again anytime soon!

Nga mihi

Mike de Joux  
Tumuaki / Principal

## First Aid Course

Our staff at Woodbury School will be doing a First Aid Course on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June at school from 3:30-7:30pm. Should anyone in our community wish to join us, **we only have 2 spots left**. This would be a refresher course or a basic first aid course. Not suitable if you have never done a first aid course before. The cost is \$115.00 per head. Please make contact with the office should you wish to book.

