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## School Newsletter

**TERM 4 – 3 NOVEMBER 2020 – WEEK 4**

### From the Principal's Desk

#### Upcoming dates

Week 5: Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November – Year 5-6 Rippa Tournament (Timaru)  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November – Teacher Only Day

Week 6: Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November – Year 5-6 Relay Race (Timaru)  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November – Athletics (Geraldine Domain)

Kia ora koutou e te whanau,

Our annual **Athletics Day** is coming up in a couple of weeks time. We will continue with last year's successful format at the Geraldine Domain, where children of all ages moved around the same activities (rather than juniors doing modified games on a different field). Carew Peel Forest are organising this years' event. Please see the attached letter home, which explains to parents how the day will run.



2019 Athletics Day

The children have been hard at work practicing for **this years' Production – "A Very Woodbury Christmas"**. Our School Production is usually held every second year, during Term 3. Following the loss of several weeks' learning due to the lockdown, staff had lengthy discussions around what we had to cancel, postpone or re-arrange. Despite Term 4 being particularly busy, we decided to go ahead with a smaller performance. In doing this, we can provide students with an opportunity to develop their confidence performing on stage and give proud parents and grandparents the chance to see their children acting, singing and dancing. As we have less time to practice this will be a shorter production, but being written specifically for the Woodbury School community by our very talented Miss Talbot we are sure families will be very entertained. We have also decided to have 3 performance nights as we did in 2018, in order to accommodate all our families. We are aware that this can be tiring particularly for younger students, but with a shortened show and some relaxed days in class we are sure our children will be able to manage. Please contact the office if you would like to book tickets (\$5 per ticket, to cover costs for sound and lighting).





Children across the school had a great time last week on **farm visits**. On Tuesday the Year 1 and 2 students visited former Woodbury School parents Fi McQuade and Kelly Bartlett's farm (Geraldine Farm Tours), and our Year 4-6 students visited Danette and Hamish McKeown's farm. It was an excellent opportunity for children to experience a range of farming activities and learn all about the animals and farming practice. Thank you to both sets of hosts for allowing us onto your property and sharing all your knowledge with our children.





Next week our **“After School Care”** programme begins, as a trial, for 5 weeks. Should we have enough interest this will continue into 2021. Each child involved needs to have a parental consent form completed. If you are interested in using After School Care on either a regular or casual basis and have not filled out a form, please read the [Procedures Manual here](#), then follow this [link to complete the parental consent form](#).

The **Social Worker In Schools (SWIS) Trust** is an incredibly important resource for our local community. This gives us access to Social Worker Deana Avrill, who we have used on a number of occasions to meet with students and families and who also has numerous contacts we can use to support families in a variety of circumstances. If your family has used the service in the past couple of years, please follow this link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/H6VJSBT> to complete a very short survey. This information is vital to help secure future funding for the service.

Our **Swimming Pool** has been re-painted, re-filled and is ready to go for another swimming season. It has been fantastic to see over 40 children signed on for lessons with swimming instructor Clare Connolly, starting after school next Tuesday and Thursday for 4 weeks. For many parents this is far more convenient than a trip to Timaru, and it is great to see just how much children progress in both skill and confidence in the water in this short time. I am sure the Woodbury School Support Group and Southern Trust, both of whom funded our pool upgrades, will be excited to see how much use the pool is getting. Please contact the office if you would like a key for the summer season. The pool will be available to families to use from 16<sup>th</sup> November.

A reminder also that **next Friday is our Teacher Only Day**. We are using this day to review and further develop our literacy teaching, and to plan ahead for 2021.

Nga mihi

Mike de Joux  
Tumuaki / Principal

## Top Teams

Our year 3-6 children had lots of fun at Top Teams last week.



# Athletics Day: Friday, 20 November

Below is some important information to make note of, ahead of the combined Woodbury – Carew Peel Forest Athletics Event.

## **Date:**

Friday 20th November (postponement Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November)

## **Location:**

Geraldine Domain. Look for the school gazebo as this is our base, where we will keep our bags.

## **Time:**

Students will need to be at the domain from 8.45am. We will address the children at 9.00am and start the first event at 9.15am. These times are earlier than last year after receiving feedback from last year that it would be beneficial to finish earlier, we therefore have moved the start forward and reduced the break times to achieve this.

**What to bring:** Bag with sunhat, drink bottle, lunch. Wear a school shirt on the day and bring a warm jacket/jumper in case of cooler weather.

## **Organisation:**

We received a lot of positive feedback last year after our first combined Athletic sports with the two schools. Most of the feedback was around smaller year group sizes which allowed the children more turns at each station with the juniors doing the same events and rotations as the older children, slightly modified to suit their ability. We will therefore continue with this format this year

The format will be 7 rotations (shotput, discus, softball throw, sprints, hurdles, high jump, long jump) with 30mins at each rotation.

There are 7 age groups from Under 5 to Under 11. These are ages as of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 – an easy way to remember is if your child turned 6 in 2020 they are Under 6, turned 9 in 2020 they are Under 9, etc.

## **Parent Help:**

Teachers will run all the events with assistance from Geraldine High School Students. We would really appreciate parent help to walk with a group to help get them to events (and remember to take hats, drinks, etc. with them!).

***NB: After a very hot year last year we would like to have a gazebo erected at each station to provide a bit of shade. If you have a gazebo that you would be happy to erect at a station and take down at the end of the day it would be greatly appreciated by all.***

***Please e-mail Fiona Peck, [sports@carewpeelforestschool.co.nz](mailto:sports@carewpeelforestschool.co.nz) if you have a gazebo we could use, so we can coordinate these.***





# Pet Show Day

Thank you for joining us on Pet Show Day!

