

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

TERM 4 - WEEK 5

15TH NOVEMBER 2021

WOODBURY SCHOOL

*My Footsteps to the Peaks,
Every Footstep Counts*

Ko Tarahoa me ona whanau kia whakaruruhau nga tapuwae ki te taumata.
Ko te tapuwae te hikaitanga i te ao.

From The Principal's Desk

Kia ora koutou e te whanau,

The busy times continue as we enter the last 5 weeks of term. Please refer to the calendar link on the right, as some changes have been made.

We wish some of our Year 5 and 6 students well as they head off on Tuesday to the Caroline Bay Relay Race. We have recently found out that the South Canterbury Athletics event has been cancelled, so it is great to see children still get to compete against other schools. The ability for people to spread out along the course at Caroline Bay is a factor in allowing this event to go ahead, and I am sure our runners will again do well.

While it was disappointing we couldn't carry out Pet Day, our students still had a very exciting few days in Week 3. The Year 1-3 trip to Orana Park was a real highlight for the year. Students enjoyed coming up close to all the animals, and learning from the educators who showed us round.

Thank you to the huge parent contingent who came along and also helped with transport. On Friday students were able to see and learn about blade shearing from Phil Oldfield (husband of our teacher aide Jo Dolan). Children then buddied up across the school for a walk around to see all the wonderful Pet Day projects students had been working so hard on. In the afternoon the Year 4-6 children welcomed in a group who demonstrated some African drumming, as part of their current integrated unit.

At teacher only day we discussed our remaining events for the year, and how we can keep these as normal as possible and whether we could safely involve parents. By splitting events, we can keep our numbers down and with strict Covid 19 safety protocols these can go ahead. Please see below how athletics will work, and we will advise in coming weeks how prizegiving will operate. **Please note that for any event to happen, we need full parent co-operation around protocols that need to be followed, and thank you in advance for your support in this regard.**

The last few weeks have also been a busy time for schools with regard to the vaccination mandate for school staff. Please see below for what this means for school, and also in regard to parents.

Nga mihi

Mike de Joux,

Upcoming Dates

Week 5 (15-19 November):

Daily swimming Year 1-3 (Tues & Weds will be at the Geraldine Pool)
Sth Canterbury Relay Race (Yr 5/6)
Athletics – snr (Fri)

Week 6 (22-26 November):

First Aid training students (Thurs)
Athletics – jnr (Fri)

Term 4

This will be added to further as dates arise.

[Term 4 calendar dates are here](#)

Photos: Orana Park Trip



Important Information Around Vaccinations

Important information around vaccinations

As many parents will have seen in the media, under a Public Health Order (PHO) from tomorrow (November 15) all staff who are likely to interact with children on-site will need to have had at least their first Covid-19 vaccination. The second vaccination needs to have occurred by 1 January 2022. The scientific data and research shows that vaccination significantly reduces the chance of catching Covid-19, spreading the disease or developing a more severe illness. The mandate is designed to keep everyone involved with schools safe. Under this PHO vaccination mandate, parents at Woodbury will see no disruption to their child's learning.

Another aspect of the PHO relates to our families. As of November 15 any parents who volunteer for class trips, or camps, or any other EOTC activity involving children will also need to be vaccinated. We are also working through how and when we collect information from parents regarding their vaccination status, and await further Ministry of Education guidance in this area.

For the purpose of "being a parent", parents do not need to be vaccinated at this stage. This includes pick-ups and drop-offs, meetings with teachers, or events where the parent is not a volunteer. We are not yet sure how this will look when the traffic light system is introduced and whether or not the "vaccinated events" with fewer restrictions refer to schooling.

We appreciate parents ongoing support in these matters, and stress again the need for **parents on-site to sign in with the Covid Tracer app, to wear a mask while on site and to socially distance yourself from other parents and students.** Parents at After School Swimming and pick-ups please remember to do this also, as these are the most frequent times parents are on site and interacting. **If as a whole we cannot keep to these guidelines, it will limit what we can potentially do in the future.** During these warmer months teachers will also use outdoor learning where we can, and ask parents to have discussions around student learning outside in the open air.

We currently have students, staff and families who are in immuno-compromised situations or are more susceptible to serious complications from Covid19. The above steps are hugely important in ensuring the health and safety of our students, staff and wider families.

Just a
reminder...



School Trophies

Please can all school trophies be returned to the school office this week so they can be prepared for 2021 prizegiving.

Sausage Sizzle

Will be on a Thursday for the next 2 weeks.

School Photos Orders

Return before 26th November

Woodbury School Support Group

Please can we have Raffle ticket forms back to the office by tomorrow (Tuesday), as well as any donated items for the hamper.

Woodbury School
559 Woodbury Road
RD21 Geraldine
PH: 03 692-2817
Email: office@woodbury.school.nz
www.woodbury.school.nz

Y-1-3 Swimming

This week the Year 1-3 students continue their swimming lessons with the CBAY instructors, so please remember togs, towel and goggles each day. On Monday, Thursday and Friday this will be at school. On Tuesday and Wednesday this will be at the Geraldine Pool (students will be bused to the venue).

Athletics

On Friday we notified parents via Dojo that we were still planning to go ahead with athletics, with a few modifications to abide by Covid19 regulations and keep everyone safe.

This Friday 19th November we will have athletics for all students who turn 8 (or older) in 2022 (this involves Year 4-6, plus a number of Year 3's). The following Friday 26th November we will hold the event for the younger students.

The events will begin at 10.00AM. With rotations being around 20mins we anticipate finishing around 12.30PM. Students are to wear their Woodbury School top and remember their hat.

To enable us to fit under the 100 person limit for Level 2 gatherings, students will be able to have **one** family member come along to watch the event (sorry, even if more than one child competing families can still only have one attend). This is the only way we could have supporters at the event.

All supporters will need to strictly adhere to the following:

- Masks to be worn for the duration of the time you are on site.
- Please sign in with the Covid app or in the office.
- Remember to social distance, from both other parents and students – there is plenty of space on the fields to spread out.
- Please avoid the classrooms before and after the event.

School Photos

You will have received school photo forms back last week. Please can completed forms be returned to the office by 26th November.



Photos: Top Teams



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Property

In the remaining weeks this year and into January we have a number of building works parents may see happening. Towards the end of term we have a new fence being erected along the roadside, to ensure the safety of students by limiting their access to the road. We also have several rooms being re-roofed. New sliding doors will be going in between the HTK classrooms (the larger learning space), and the walls in the other classrooms are being refurbished. We are also installing some new heat pumps. Our largest property modification involves building new toilets and extending the current decking around to the library, but this will be a number of months away.

Parents may have noticed we have cleared some trees out near the roadside, which were shading the courts and making them slippery in winter and were also required to be cutback due to their proximity to the power-lines. We have new plantings to go in this area, we are just waiting on the new fence to be installed. We also cleared some silver birches in our shingled playground which had died. We would love to put an old tractor in this area for children to play on – if anyone can source one please let me know (have looked and asked but cannot find one). I imagine this would prove a very popular playground addition.



Photo: Making the most of sunny days in the sandpit



Photos: African Drumming



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Community Notices

love
tennis

all welcome
come play
it's free!

www.lovetennis.kiwi



21 NOV 2021 10AM-4PM

TOOT FOR TUCKER

Tuesday 30th Nov. from 6pm

SUPPORT THE FOOD BANKS

With The **Geraldine Emergency Services**

Proudly supported by:  GERALDINE SIGNS

LISTEN OUT FOR THE SIRENS AND TOOTS
ON TUESDAY 30TH NOVEMBER FROM 6pm
POP ON OUT WITH YOUR DONATIONS
FOR THE LOCAL FOOD BANK OR LEAVE AT
YOUR MAILBOX FOR COLLECTION

DONATIONS CAN ALSO BE LEFT AT
NORTH END MOTORS OFFICE

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

(Disclaimer: We in no way endorse or otherwise any notice placed in this section. It is purely an information section for public notices)