

WOODBURY SCHOOL

Newsletter

Term 1 Week 3

Kia ora e te whānau,

I have to commend our children and staff on such a wonderful, settled start to the year! It has been great to see how quickly everyone has gotten back into the routines of schooling.

Starting the year with camps once again is such a valuable way to get the year off to a positive start. The Year 4-6 students headed away to Mt Hutt Retreat for 3 days of hiking, swimming, abseiling, archery, and many more challenging and fun activities. With the Year 5 and 6 students having already attended camps in the past, we see their enthusiasm and excitement really rub off on the Year 4's which helps ease some of their apprehension about 2 nights away. Seeing students taking on challenges, interacting with a range of other students, and seeing relationships strengthened between teachers and students as well as parents shows the importance of these camps.

The Year 1-3 camp was also a great success. I was blown away by the numbers of parents coming along to support during the days and overnight, this support is hugely appreciated and something that those of us who have taught at different schools certainly do not take for granted! It is invaluable for students to enjoy these experiences in a safe and supportive environment, and having parents along reinforces our links between home and schooling.

We have a busy Term 1 ahead with regular events on the calendar. Please check the weekly breakdown and Term 1 Calendar link (towards the end of this newsletter). We will always post more information and reminders on ClassDojo as well, prior to events. Next up is our Bike To School Day, next Friday 16th February.

Mike de Joux

Tumuaki / Principal



Book Club orders need to be made online by Friday, 23rd February

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

It is with regret that we are no longer able to run after school care program as we do not have enough children attending regularly to cover our costs to employ supervision. Those families who do require an after school care option we encourage to contact "Kids Alive Geraldine", who operate an afterschool service 5 days per week.

COMMUNICATION

As in previous years, we communicate primarily through ClassDojo so please check this regularly for any messages, including for newsletters which generally come out every second week. Staff can also be contacted via email or phoning the school. We also at times post notices on Facebook if something quick needs to get out, or if it is around something that wider family members or the community are interested in (i.e. events, cancellations, etc...). We are still using HERO for Family accounts & invoicing, which are sent to you via email directly from HERO. You will also receive a notification on your HERO App.

BIKE TO SCHOOL

Our Bike To School Day next Friday 16th February serves a number of purposes.

It is a chance to encourage healthy activity, and develop road safety skills with the safety of multiple adults present. It also gets children's bikes to school, as the following Friday we will be holding triathlon, so children will have the chance to practice on our course. Children leave their bikes at school, which are stored in the shed and the pool area. They will also be able to use them each lunchtime on the bike track. Following triathlon bikes are taken home, unless children would like to keep storing them at school for another week or 2 and continue to use at lunchtimes.

The Bike to School Day is optional, [please follow this link](#) and fill in the form if your child or yourself would like to come along (we encourage parents to join us!). This gives the staff an indication of numbers, though children may join in at any point. If your child doesn't join us, please drop their bike to school during the day for us to store.

AFTER SCHOOL SWIMMING

This starts today (Tuesday 13th February). A reminder to please be at the pool WITH your child, as they will need to be supervised. We no longer have after school care so children will not be able to remain on site by themselves, after 3.10pm, as they will be unsupervised.

INVOICES

You will have received an email from HERO alerting you to new invoices for camps. Please can payment be made for these as soon as possible if you haven't already done so. Invoices for stationery and the Ritchies Bus will be sent out next week.

SAUSAGES

The Friday sausage sizzle begins Week 3. To made orders please use the following link: [Term 1 Sausage Order Form](#). Orders will need to be completed by Tuesday, 13th February. Again, any money raised will go towards helping pay for any school trips and extra activities for the children.

CELLPHONES

With the age of our children and the ability of parents to get messages to their child during the day via the office, we have never required an "official" ban on cellphones. As per new Ministry of Education guidelines, we are giving parents official notice to please ensure your child does not bring a phone to school. This is our current school policy, which has been in place for a number of years:

"Woodbury School does not allow students to have cellphones at school. If a student brings a phone to school they must hand it in to the office before school, and pick it up again after school. If a student is observed with a phone, they will be asked to take it to the office. If possible, students should lock their phone before handing it to staff. Cellphones may not be taken on EOTC events."

CURRICULUM

We also received word of the governments' instruction that children receive 1 hour of reading, writing and maths everyday. We can assure parents this has always happened here, so no changes there.

This year our staff are engaged in 3 major initiatives that involve upskilling teachers through professional development and enhancing our curriculum.

Firstly we are continuing our focus on Structured Literacy. This involves embedding learning over the past two years, developing our systems for assessment and tracking of students, ensuring consistency across the school and further developing our systems for supporting students who are struggling.

In maths we are part of a Timaru cluster, which will support teachers understanding in maths planning and delivery and also help us to refine our curriculum, assessment and tracking practices. We are using a system called Numicon in our Year 1-2 classes, and PRIME maths (which we have been using for the past 2 years) in our Year 3-6 classes.

We are also undertaking a "Cultural Review", with a focus on ensuring all students and whānau feel safe, happy and supported at Woodbury School. This involves:

- Professional development using the KiVa Anti-Bullying system (more information will come home about this).
- A focus on "Relationship Based Learning", as a development through our Kāhui Ako (our Community of Learning of all the learning centres in the Geraldine area). Effectively, this is around establishing family-like class and school environments that are inclusive to all.
- Enhancing our systems around the teaching and use of Te Reo and Tikanga Māori.
- A focus and reinforcement of our PEAK values

CONCERNS AND COMPLAINT PROCESS

Please find a [link here](#) to our Concerns and Complaints process.

SUN SMART

At this very sunny (hopefully!) time of year we remind parents that children need their drink bottles, hats, and sunscreen EVERY DAY.

For those children not wearing hats, they will play in the shaded area by the office. It is much more fun out on the fields and playgrounds, so we encourage children to bring them!

CALENDAR AND UPCOMING TERM EVENTS

Please find a [link here to the Term 1 calendar](#) for 2024. Note that most dates are confirmed but there may be some changes.

Week 3 (12-16 February)

- BOT mtg Monday night 7.00pm
- Bike to School Day - Friday 16th February.

Week 4 (19-23 February)

- Triathlon - 4.00pm Friday 23rd February (children stay at school for this event, rather than go home first).

Week 7 (11-15 March)

- Flower Show on Thursday 14th March at the Woodbury Domain
- South Canterbury Triathlon (Year 5-6 students) on the Friday

Week 8 (18-22 March)

- Teacher Only Day Friday 22nd March (Teacher literacy professional development)

Week 9 (25-29 March)

- Friday 29th is Good Friday Holiday

Week 10 (1-5 April)

- Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd April are Easter Holidays

Week 11 (8-12 April)

- Friday 12th April is the last day of term, with the Year 6's leading an ANZAC Service to finish the day.

SENIOR SCHOOL CAMP PHOTOS - MT HUTT RETREAT





JUNIOR CAMP



Community NEWS



**SATURDAY
16 MARCH 2024**

**WOODBURY DOMAIN
538 Woodbury Rd, Woodbury**

FAMILY PICNIC & GAMES DAY

9:00am – 3:00PM

FREE ADMISSION

Old fashioned fun family picnic day for all the family. Bring a picnic or buy from the stalls. Enter the produce, baking, distilling, floral or poetry competitions*. Have a go at horseshoe throwing. Check out the interactive displays. Shop at the stalls. Guess where the pony will poo. Bid on a silent auction or buy a raffle ticket. Let the kids loose at the kid's games (\$10 day pass or gold coin entry per game). Enjoy the live music. Come along and join in the fun.

Schedule Highlights

- 9:00am** Drop off Potato in a Bucket, Produce, Baking, Distilling, Floral and Poetry competition entries
- 9:00am** Stalls open
- 9:30am** First "Guess Where the Pony will Poo" competition
- 9:30am** Kid's races begin – to include three-legged race, sack race, sticks and pinecones race, woolpack race, fill a bucket with water relay and moon hopper race
- 10:00am** Competition judging
- 10:00am** Interactive demonstrations begin
- 11:00am** Hall opens to the public– see which entries have won the competitions
- 11:30am** Potato weighing for Potato in a Bucket competition
- 12:00N** Lunch break – bring a picnic or buy from the stalls
- 12:30pm** Potato In A Bucket Trophy Presentation
- 2:30pm** Silent auctions and raffles announced

Live music throughout the day.

Fundraiser for Woodbury Hall and Eleanor Tripp Memorial Library

Contact - woodburyharvestgala@gmail.com

See the full schedule of competitions and events at our Facebook page Woodbury Harvest Gala.

Four Peaks Seido Karate



Beginners class

Venue: Geraldine Bowling Club rooms,
Starting date: Thursday 8th February 2024.
5:50 pm-6:50 pm
Contact: Sensei Gisell Johnson 02102287049

Children under 10 years old must be accompanied by an adult please; Parent(s) are encouraged to join in. The cost will be just \$2 a session per family. First session free.

- ✓ Great Fitness Training for the New Year, developing stamina, strength and co-ordination skills.
- ✓ Builds up confidence and self-esteem as well as resilience in a supportive environment.
- ✓ Great Self Defence & Martial Art that will give you the skills and confidence to cope in any situation.
- ✓ Ideal for families as parents and children can train together in the same classes.
- ✓ Quality coaching.

Parent Help
www.parenthelp.org.nz

FREE PARENTING HELPLINE **ALL ISSUES ALL AGES** **0800 568 856**

FIVE WAYS TO WELLBEING

CONNECT TALK & LISTEN, BE THERE, FEEL CONNECTED

Give Your time, your words, your presence

TAKE NOTICE REMEMBER THE SIMPLE THINGS THAT GIVE YOU JOY

KEEP LEARNING EMBRACE NEW EXPERIENCES, SEE OPPORTUNITIES, SURPRISE YOURSELF

BE ACTIVE DO WHAT YOU CAN, ENJOY WHAT YOU DO, MOVE YOUR MOOD

INTRODUCE THESE FIVE SIMPLE STRATEGIES INTO YOUR LIFE AND YOU WILL FEEL THE BENEFITS.

Mental Health Foundation
mauri iā, mauri ora
www.mentalhealth.org.nz

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