

# Newsletter

Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025

**WOODBURY SCHOOL**

*My Footsteps to the Peaks,  
Every Footstep Counts*

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

Kia ora e te whanau,

Ngā mihi nui kia koutou katoa - warm greetings to you all!

It has been great welcoming students back to Woodbury School this week - we hope that everyone has had a refreshing holiday and that children are keen to get back into their learning. It is nice to hear the playground full of excited voices as everyone connects again with their classmates.

The first couple of weeks is very much a “settling into routines” time for the children. This week all students head to Timaru to the museum and library, to explore and also to learn about the history and significance of Waitangi Day. Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February is the Waitangi Day Holiday, and this Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February there is also no school.

Next week we have the excitement of school camps, information for this will have gone out / will be going out on ClassDojo. These are not only a fun and challenging opportunity for our children, but another great chance for parents to connect particularly at the Year 1-3 camp at school. Please note that due to camps, next Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> there are NO AFTERNOON BUSES. And Friday 14<sup>th</sup> there are NO MORNING OR AFTERNOON BUSES.

Following camps, classes will be into their regular classroom routines. Teachers will be gathering further information (on top of what we already know) about children’s learning needs and establishing programmes. For students requiring extra support we make contact with parents to meet and discuss what is in place. Of course, parents are also welcome to contact us at any time if you would like to discuss the learning, behaviour or emotional progress of your child in relation to their schooling.

We are very pleased also to have been able to use some extra staffing to reduce our class sizes in Tarahoa (Year 4-6) this year. Parents in these year levels will be aware of this already, but rather than 2 classes of 29 students (numbers higher than we usually have had) we have created 3 classes. Each year level has a teacher until lunchtime for the core subjects of reading, writing and maths. Walking through each space, with only 18-20 students in each, it is very noticeable the lower noise levels and increased space for children. Teachers are excited at the prospect of being able to dedicate more time per student in these rooms, and working with smaller groups. Most afternoons all Year 4-6 students then carry out work together, across the classroom spaces in this area. This helps to foster positive interactions and encourage relationships across the Year 4-6 groups.

Ngā mihi,

Mike



## NEW STUDENTS



**Emily** has started in Pekapeka and joins her older sister Indi at Woodbury School



**Harriet** has started with us in PekaPeka



**Connie** has returned to Woodbury School after a year abroad and has joined Tarahoa.

## **BUSES**

Bus Vests and bus safety are a priority for us, to ensure children are visible when getting to and from the bus. We have some strategies to try and positively encourage children to remember to bring and wear these. We hope not to get to the point where children are not allowed on the bus (and require collection by parents) for repeatedly not wearing their vest. If your child requires a new vest because they have outgrown their old one, please contact the office. Thank you to Hayden Mackenzie Contracting, who have generously provided these vests for our children.

## **GERALDINE HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS**

In Term 4 of 2024, the High School ran a very successful Touch Rugby Competition for our older students. We believe this will return in Term 4 of this year.

This Term there will be an opportunity for interested students to take part in volleyball lessons and games, utilising the brand new Geraldine High School Gym. This is open to Year 5/6 students. We will enter teams, and students will be given some coaching and take part in a mini-tournament. There will be modified rules to support students (i.e. the ball allowed to bounce) as they get the hang of how the game is played. This will be on Wednesday nights. A post will go on Clasdojo to ask if there is any interest.

## **SWIMMING**

Please send your child along to school with their togs and towel every day, even though your child may not get in the pool that day.

After School Swimming begins Tuesday 18th February, occurring every Tuesday and Thursday until the final session on Thursday 13th March. Please contact Clare Connolly ([clare.connolly@xtra.co.nz](mailto:clare.connolly@xtra.co.nz)) with any questions. It is wonderful to see close to 60 children taking part in these lessons this term! Unfortunately, Clare now has a full complement of children for this term and no space for any other students.

## **SUSHI**

This proved popular during Term 4, so we will continue for Thursday lunchtimes, beginning in Week 3 or 4.

***Note there is no sausage sizzle in Term 1***

## **CONCERNS / COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE**

At the start of each year we remind parents of our Concerns and Complaints Procedures, which are linked below.

- [Concerns and Complaints Policy](#)
- [Raising Concerns and Complaints](#)
- [Assessing and Responding to Concerns and Complaints](#)

## **BOOK CLUB**

Issue 1 for 2025 will be handed out today for Y1-3 and tomorrow for Y4-6. Cut-off date for ordering online is 21 February.

## 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, or in the shaded plantation area. It is fun to be out on the fields and playgrounds though, so we encourage children to bring them!



## FLOWER SHOW

We have recently been made aware that the Woodbury Harvest Gala is not on this year. The last couple of years we have moved our Flower Show event to a Thursday, to avoid clashing.

*On the original calendar we had Thursday 13th March for the Flower Show, please note we have now moved to our preferred Friday 14th March.*



## **TERM DATES**

Please find a link here to the [School Calendar Term 1 2025](#) Note that most dates are confirmed but there may be some changes. For all events, there will be Clasdojo and/or emails home prior with more information.

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### **Week 1 (3 - 7 February)**

- The first day of school for 2025 is Monday 3rd February. When students arrive at school they will go to their new classrooms to put away their bags. When the bell goes at 9.00am we will all meet on the courts for a “Welcome Back”
- On Tuesday the Year 1-3 students are going to Timaru to visit the museum (as part of their learning around Waitangi Day) and the library. The Year 4-6 students (Tarahaooa) go on the Wednesday. Further information about this trip will come out via ClassDojo.
- Thursday 6th is Waitangi Day Holiday, and there is no school on Friday 7th either.

### **Week 2 (10-14 February)**

- On Wednesday Tarahaooa head away to Living Springs for their camp. The Year 1-3 students have their camp at school on the Thursday and Friday.

### **Week 3 (17-21 February)**

- BOT mtg Monday night 7.00pm
- After School Swimming with Clare Connolly begins Tuesday 18th February
- Bike to School Day - Friday 21st February - with bikes then kept at school for triathlon practices the following week.

### **Week 4 (24-28 February)**

- On Friday the school will be visiting the Winchester A & P Show
- Also on Friday is our school Triathlon - starting at 4.00pm

### **Week 5 (3-7 March)**

- The South Canterbury Triathlon is held on Thursday 6th March, for students in Year's 5/6

### **Week 6 (10-14 March)**

- On the Monday evening we are planning an information evening for parents of Year 1 students (who have started, and are starting later in the year).
- The Flower Show is being held at the Woodbury Hall on Friday 14th March..

### **Week 7 (17-21 March)**

- Monday 17th is a BOT mtg at 7.00pm

### **Week 8 (24-28 March)**

- On Tuesday 25th the Year 5/6 Rippa Rugby tournament is held in Timaru

### **Week 10 (7-11 April)**

- Friday 11th April is the last day of term, with the Year 6's leading an ANZAC Service to finish the day.





**BRONZBEAT STUDIO OF DANCE**

# AJDA Jazz

## Syllabus

Preschool and Up  
2025 Enrolments open now.

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Dance to Learn | St Mary's Church Hall  
Dance for Fun | Church Street  
TIMARU



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

 021 1559692 txt only

 [bronzbeat2022@gmail.com](mailto:bronzbeat2022@gmail.com)




**FREE PARENTING HELPLINE** | [www.parenthelp.org.nz](http://www.parenthelp.org.nz)  
**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 HOOD

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

 Mental Health Foundation  
mauri iā, mauri ēre  
[www.mentalhealth.org.nz](http://www.mentalhealth.org.nz)

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