



WAIMATE CENTENNIAL SCHOOL



16th May 2019

Tena Koutou Katoa
Nga Mihi Mahana- (Warm greetings)

NEW STUDENT

Our new student this week is Aroha Taupo who came to us from Waimate Childcare. Aroha loves the big playground and is really looking forward to being able to play on it when the big kids are away. In class Aroha has just finished her rocket and she is very proud of this work. It shows coloured squares in the shape of a rocket that has her name across it. Well done Aroha and welcome to Centennial School.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Over the last few years there have been a number of emergency experiences that communities have had to deal with. Earthquakes, flooding, and unusual weather events, and of course the Christchurch shootings. Depending on the emergency taking place schools are required to respond according to their health and safety procedures. If the emergency is during the hours when students are at school the students are the school's responsibility.

One response may be to lockdown or put in place a reverse evacuation. Students are trained to return to the nearest classroom immediately. Once there, teachers will lock doors and close curtains so no one can see inside. Students will be sitting quietly in an area that is not visible to someone who is outside. Students, teachers and administration staff may need to stay in this position for several hours in a real emergency. A lockdown may be put in place for a number of reasons. During the events in Christchurch recently when schools went into lockdown/reverse evacuation people responded in a variety of ways. Some parents arrived at their child's school and insisted on taking their children home. When others were told they could not do this they sat outside the school buildings to wait for the lockdown to end. Many parents were unable to find out what was happening with their child's school. I am sure not being able to find out what was going on and not being able to have their children would have caused anxiety to all parents and students.

The Ministry of Education is reviewing what happened and are keen to make sure that if the need arose for a widespread lockdown people would behave in a more informed way. In a lockdown situation schools are not able to let their students out of the secure areas they have them in. No other people are supposed to be on the school grounds. If they do enter the property the teachers and students have been trained not to respond to their request to enter the buildings.

During the first minutes the school is very busy making sure all students are accounted for and contacting the police. These communications may continue over some time and there is little time to ring parents individually to let them now what is happening. As a parent you should not come to school during a lockdown. You may be endangering yourself and the students who are safely waiting for the all clear. Please stay at home or in a place that is safe and wait for the communications that will come out to you. You may be contacted and asked to come and take your child when the lockdown has been lifted.

The fastest way for schools to contact parents and pass information on is through the mass text/e-mail applications we all use. One of the first things we would do after the police have been contacted would be to send out an automated text/e-mail to let parents know what is happening. This would have information in it that the police have passed onto us for this purpose.

If you have a smartphone you can receive the messages that the school will send out. The only requirement is that you download the APP that the school is using. In our case this is called Skool Loop.

<https://www.skoolloop.com/>

Once downloaded you will need to set Centennial as your school. When we send out a message to the community it will come to your phone. If you are not part of this group then I urge you to get set-up please. If the experience in Christchurch is anything to go by it could save a lot of grief in an emergency. I regularly send out messages about things that are happening so even if it is not an emergency you are able to be kept informed.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Bully Free Week May 13th-17th
- Pink Shirt day May 17th
- Fun Run May 17th
- Board Elections June 7th
- Next Board meeting 10th June
- Home and school lunch 5th July
- Last day of term two 5th Jul

Out of School Music Programme

There are more than 50 students learning to play instruments in the Waimate Community of Learning, Out of Schools Music Programme. Almost half of these are from Centennial School. This makes for a very busy Tuesday afternoon as lessons begin at 3pm and finish by 5:30pm. There is still room for more students if you are interested. Let Mrs A. or myself know if you are wanting your child to access music lessons.

FAST

The FAST committee will be running a Coupland's fundraiser. An order form will come home next week for friends and whanau to order their favourite pies and biscuits.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast club is running again this term. If your child needs a second breakfast or they prefer to eat a while after they get up in the morning, send them along to school at 8:15 to join the breakfast club. Weetbix, milk, yoghurt and fruit are on the menu every morning of the school week.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

PINK SHIRT DAY

This Friday Centennial students are asked to wear something pink as a way of supporting Bully Free NZ week that is occurring this week. Students are not required to bring any money. Looking forward to seeing a lot of pink children this Friday.

TEACHER INDUSTRIAL ACTION

Centennial school will be closed on the 29th May

Teachers have notified the Ministry of Education that they will be on strike on the 29th May. This is in response to our attempts to achieve a fair and equitable outcome to our collective contract negotiations. Despite the spin that the government is putting on their offer, most teachers will only receive a few dollars more a week and the real issues that teachers are concerned about are not addressed at all.

- There is a shortage of teachers. We see this when we are trying to find relievers for sick teachers or find new teachers to take up positions. Where once there were many applicants and relievers now principals are having to cover classes and schools are doubling up classes to make sure students are safe.
- Teachers need time to prepare to teach and to help students with special education needs. Secondary teachers have 5 hours per week release to manage their workload. Primary teachers have one hour per week. This has not been addressed in the current offer.
- There is not enough support for students with high complex needs. Teachers are not trained to teach these students and often the disruption to the other students in the class is damaging to learning. This has not adequately been addressed in this offer.
- Secondary teachers will be striking alongside primary teachers.

In a recent poll the public responded in the following ways

- **89%** of the public support more **money being spent on education** relative to other issues
- **89%** agree there is a **shortage of teachers**
- **83%** agree we need a **pay rise**
- **79%** agree we need **more time** for planning, preparation and assessment
- **91%** agree more needs to be done to **support students with additional needs**

The Ministry is keen for negotiations to continue and there may be some movement on their part before the 29th May. We will keep you informed about and variation to the planned industrial action if it occurs.

Poari o pōtitanga kaitiaki

Board of trustee elections.

Our school requires 5 parents on the Board

Friday 24th May	NOMINATIONS CLOSE - 24th May at noon.
Wednesday 29th May	Voting papers will be sent by post
Friday 7th June	Voting closes at 12 noon.
Thursday 13th June	Votes are counted.
Friday 14th June	New Board takes office

We have included a pamphlet in this newsletter for your information. If you have any questions come and have a chat.

FUN RUN

Tomorrow Friday the 17th May we will be having our school fun run. Parents and family/whanau are encouraged to come along and support the children. We hope you will join us for lunch on Friday as we get students ready. The emphasis is on having fun and getting everyone to be involved in physical activity. Sponsorship money needs to be back at school as soon as possible so students can then claim their prizes before the cut off date of the 31st May.

Our family/whanau e-mail address is _____

Please Return: I have received and read this newsletter () (tick)

Family name _____

STANDING TALL

- Respect for Others** - Jackson Couper
- Respect for Self** - Briar Craig, Maddy Smith, Mayah Peters, Dante Linton
- Effort & Progress in Reading** - Kaylee Timms-Dodge, Zaydee Proudman
- Effort & Progress in Maths** - Joel Roberts
- Positive Attitude** - Owen Cawley, Zaylee Davis, Brock Tupara-Burgess
- Settling well into Ruma Takahe** - Caleb Mills, Tahlia Ainsworth, Sophia Davidson, Aroha Taupo
- Settling well into Kakapo** - Miley Willcox
- Settling Well into Tui** - Eden Grieve, Lucas Cook, Ella Willcox
- Welcome to Weka Class** - Bailey Gregge

GOLD BAND WINNERS

- Sasha Harrison, Caleb Good, Enya O'Donnell, Joel Roberts, Leah Finn, Sam Matheson, Amy Wilson, Ethan Mitchell, Aziah Lane, Kelly Carter, Lily Upston, Lilli Cadogan, Ollie Smith, Maddy Smith, Olivia Garland, Ellie Tangney, Dahara Tulett, mayah peters, Amelia Buckingham, Jakob Boyes-Burt, Annabel Gillan, Colbie Lane, Carter Buchanan

If you have lost a lovely pounamu we have it in the office

Kiwican



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