

NEWSLETTER

Issue 4

12 May 2017

*Kia Ora Talofa Kia Orana Chao mung quy vi Malo e lelei Aloha Olá
Halo Ni Sa Bula Fakalofa atu Ni Hao Xin chào An nyong Ha se yo
Assalamu alaykum Namaste Ahalan Saleem Shalom Dia dhuit
Zdravstvuyte Hej Greetings*

Kia ora koutou,

Welcome back. A special welcome to our new children and whanau. It is a privilege to have your little person enroll at Mt Cook School. Welcome to the Mt Cook School community.

Official Classroom Opening

Our new classes Harakeke, Kowhai and the shared Tui class were officially opened last week. Minister Chris Finlayson did the honours. The Minister has been supportive of our school in his work with the Memorial Park and more recently with our new classrooms. He is a regular reader at book week and has even been seen helping sell books at our school gala.





OUR BROAD RICH CURRICULUM

Senior/Middle team

This term the middle and senior team are exploring space as a topic. They have enjoyed discussing what they already know, and discovering the many other areas of space they can learn about. They have been working on forming open questions that they can find answers to. Later in the term children will be selecting an aspect of space that interests them and will then create a research project around this.

Harakeke and Kowhai classes have had a wonderful start to term 2. The tamariki were very excited to have Minister Chris Finlayson come to officially open the new classrooms.

On Thursday the seniors went to see a documentary called **The Common Touch** a story of a Christchurch College boy diagnosed with cancer. It was part of the Docs4schools programme.

Next week Wetapunga, Katipo and Takahe are going to see **Naledi: a baby elephant's tale**, a story of an orphaned elephant in Botswana.

Katipo and Takahe are continuing their exciting exploration learning project work from term 1.

Junior Team

Manaia and Kiwi classes are working together to explore a variety of topics around science. For the last two week they talked about plants. They start the sessions encouraging children to ask questions around this topic. Once they have discussed what the children are wondering about, the children get to choose two play based activities around this topic. The children have fun working together and are having great conversations around plants. They have explored the life cycle of plants, the different textures of leaves, and they also got to make a little glass house for a bean plant.



Pekapeka and Kereru have been enjoying their learning through play time. They are building on children's interests, using the opportunities that the session creates to support and develop oral language, helping children learn to socialise and working hard to ensure a really positive transition to school. The children have been experimenting with kinetic sand and large cylinders.



READ YOUR HEART OUT!
2017 in the Mt Cook School Library

Kid's Lit Quiz

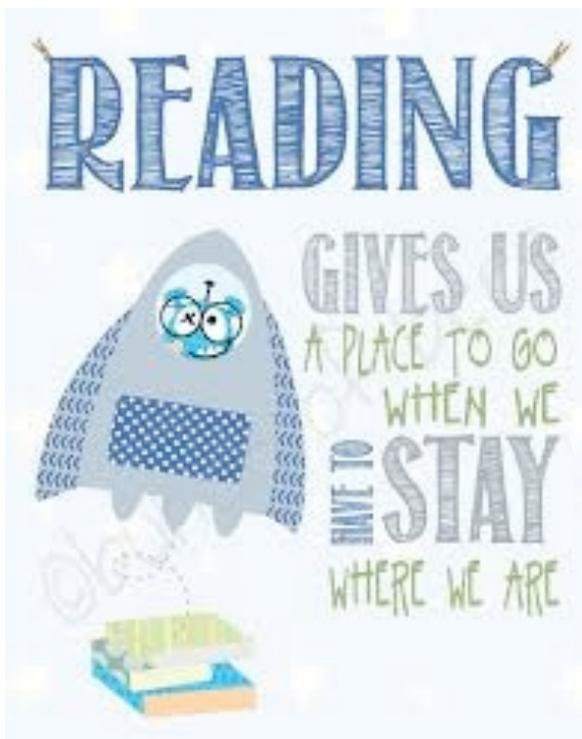
Towards the end of last term eight children from Mount Cook represented the School at the Kid's Lit Quiz, held this year at Marsden College in Karori. The Lit Quiz is like a sports competition; only it is all about books! Teams of four answer 100 questions divided into 10 categories. The categories this year included castles, fish, footwear, fruit, and disabilities. Congratulations to Jamie, Le'Aniva, Olive, Mia, Amy, Annie, Alexander and Charlotte, who did well against teams from schools all over Wellington.

Arty Bees Bookshop

Arty Bees in Manners Street, is a wonderful bookshop that buys and sells second-hand books. Mount Cook School has an account there; if any one in the community has books they no longer want, they can take them in to see if Arty Bees will buy them, and the credit can be added to the Mount Cook School account. We buy good quality books for the Library from there during the year, to stretch the budget that little bit further! Thank you to those who have contributed to our account recently, we appreciate it.

Spaced Out!

Over the next week, the School Library will transform into the world of space, and week four sees our annual Book Week with book-related activities, including a dress-up day. We welcome any additions of space themed art that can be hung in the Library. Do pop in... you might find yourself in another galaxy altogether!



Enviroschools

Mount Cook School and Preschool have joined the enviroschools network. This is a network that encourages sustainability practices and eco thinking within our community. Caregivers who have any ideas or can volunteer for eco projects please contact either Rebecca at office@mtcookpreschool.org.nz or Moira at mross@mtcook.school.nz.



ANZAC Day

Mohammad and Alyssa represented Mt Cook School proudly at the National Service at Pukeahu National War Memorial Park on ANZAC Day.



Mt Cook Trash lab

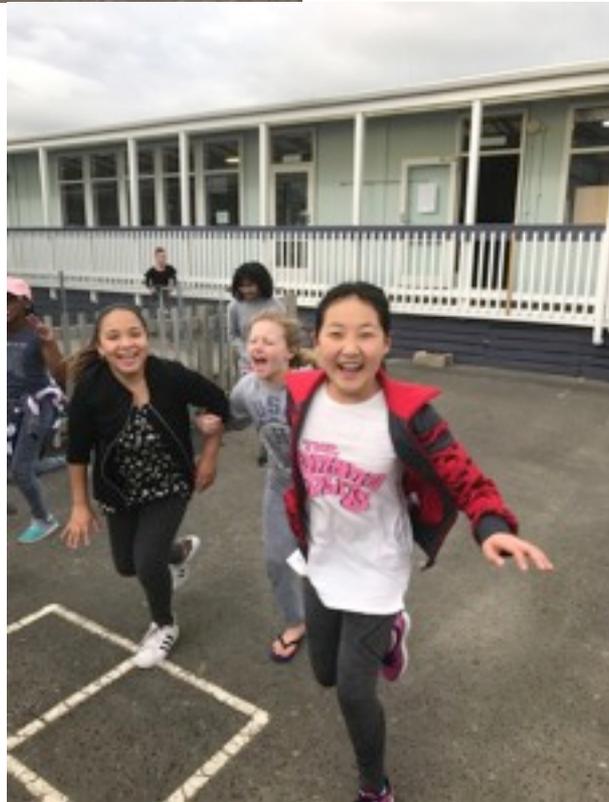
We have had some parent interest in helping with the Mt Cook Trash Lab. If you are keen please contact Liam at school.

Events this term

- 🕒 Book week – Week 4 22nd-26th May Dress up on Wednesday
- 🕒 Year 4-8 Central Zone Cross-Country – Week 6, 6th June (pp 8th June)
- 🕒 Electives– Monday afternoons from week 7 until the end of term
- 🕒 Matariki breakfast event – details to come

Sports News

The Central Zone Cross-Country competition for year 4-8 takes place this term. The morning running club has been training hard with Terry and Francis. Middle and senior classes have started their cross-country training during fitness time.



The **netball and basketball** seasons begin this term. We have three netball and basketball teams competing this year.

Netball

The Hermiones are coached by Emma Watson. Lissa Mitchell and Sreejith Sukumaran are managing the team.

The Rons are coached by Jo Hendy. Sharon Finlayson is managing the team.

The Dragons are coached by Polu Samuelu. Jo Vilipaama is managing the team.

Basketball

The year 7 & 8 **Hoop there it is** team is coached by April Henderson

The year 5 & 6 **Space Jam** team is coached by Eva Reid and Nicki

The year 5 & 6 **Dunking Donuts** team is coached by Michael Kelly and Nicki

Thank you to those of you who are helping out, some of you again. Our kids are really lucky as we can't run our sports teams and the running club without our parents/ caregivers.

Where in the world is Sandra McCallum?

Sandy has been very busy traveling the world. She has been seen in Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia and has just arrived in Sweden. She has been spending time with Mt Cookers in foreign lands. Catching up with our teacher Kate and her family in Munich and Alex, Felicia and family in Stockholm.



FUNDRAISING

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS 2017!

An easy fundraiser for the school

Digital Membership or a Book are available again this year.

Digital membership is very popular.

This can be done by going online to:

www.entbook.co.nz/106r791

If you are thinking about buying please buy through Mt Cook School.

The cost is **\$65 with \$12** going to the school.

A great gift or something to use for yourself with many discounts on dining, arts/sports, shopping and travel.

**A FANTASTIC FUNDRAISER FOR THE SCHOOL
TELL ALL OF YOUR FRIENDS**

PLEASE SUPPORT MT COOK SCHOOL

OTHER INFORMATION

Newsletter

For those of you who are new to Mt Cook School you will receive a school newsletter once a fortnight. This will keep you informed of what is happening during the term and the year in syndicates and across the school.

School Donations

2017 donations are \$20 for the year or \$5 per term. As you will be aware our school donations are very low. As a board we have made the decision keep the fees low to ensure that they are affordable for all of our families. We also have families who offer to pay more. If you are in a position to pay more the board suggests an amount of up to \$100. The school would be very appreciative of any additional funding without changing our donation amount. Thank you for your support with this. Just a reminder that this is a donation to the school and that you can claim it on your tax.

CARPARKING – PLEASE DROP OFF ON TORY ST

Just a reminder that drop off and pick up needs to be on Tory St or the slip road from Martin Square and **not anywhere in Sages Lane**. Thanks for your support with this.

School Hours

School begins at 8:55am and finishes at 3:00pm. It is very important that children arrive before the bell goes in the morning. The first few minutes of the day in class are vital for

the setting up of the day. Please make sure that your child arrives on time. We know that there is the occasional emergency but in general we expect children here at 8:55am. ***On Tuesdays school will finish early at 2:55pm for staff meetings.*** If you are picking up your child at 3:00pm please be punctual. The school is not responsible for children after 3:00pm and children must be picked up on time. Remember that there is After School Care if you are unable to pick up your child at 3:00pm. Please encourage your young person to be at school 8:45am each day.

Lateness and Absences

Please contact the school if your child is going to be absent from school. Also, if your child is going to be late, we need to be contacted too. These procedures are in place as a precaution. If your child hasn't arrived at school by 9:15am and we've not heard from you, we will need to contact you if we are able to. If your child arrives late, we ask that they, or the accompanying adult, come to the office first so that we are aware that the child has arrived at school. Please help us with your co-operation on this important safety issue. The only reason that your child should be away from school is if he/she is ill. For our children to get the best education possible they need to be at school.

After School Care – Monday to Friday, 3:00pm – 6:00pm

The YMCA continues to provide After School Care for our children as well as a school holiday programme. They have been working in the school for a year and we are very pleased with the programme that they are providing. For further information you can contact them on 027 782 0794 or pop in and see them in the school.

School Lunches

Cube bakery continues to provide school lunches this year on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. These can be ordered before school in the office. Children then come to the office at lunchtime to pick up their orders. Menus are at the office.

Sushi Tuesday – Tuesday lunch is sushi that must be ordered at the office by 8:45am or online - www.wrapitup.co.nz.

Addresses and Phone Numbers

If you have changed your address or phone number recently please let Briar know. It's really important that we have accurate information. Thanks a lot for your help with this.

School Banking

School banking continues this year. We believe that it is really important for our children to have an understanding of financial literacy and how to manage and think about money. Too often our kids think that the source of money is the "hole in the wall".

ASB have a very good school banking set up. If your child does not have a bank account and you would like them to do so pick up a form from Briar at the office. For children to be filling in the deposit envelope and bringing it into school and placing in the box gives them a great sense of where it all starts and how savings work. School banking day is Thursdays.

BOT (Board of Trustees)

Our Board of Trustees members are:

- 👤 Phil Hawker - BOT Chair
- 👤 Frances Fraser
- 👤 Jo Hendy
- 👤 David Lloyd
- 👤 Sue Perry
- 👤 Sandra McCallum - Principal
- 👤 Lliam Carran/Simon Depree - Staff Reps

The next meeting is to be confirmed.

Mobiles at school

Some students need to bring mobiles to school to make contact with parents/caregivers at the end of the day. These will be locked in a teacher cupboard for the school day and returned at 3:00pm. Remind your young person to hand these in to the teacher on arrival at school. Thanks a lot.

MP3Player/iPods

These are not permitted at school. If they are brought to school they must be handed in to the teacher to be locked up until the end of the day. We cannot take responsibility for these.

DATES FOR THE TERM AND THE YEAR

Important Dates For Term 2

👤 **Term 2 ends** **Friday 7 July, 2pm**

Important Dates for 2017

👤 Queens Birthday **Monday 5 June**
👤 Labour Day/Long weekend **Friday 20 October - Monday 23 October**

Term Dates for 2017

👤 Term 2 **Monday 1 May – Friday 7 July**
👤 Term 3 **Monday 24 July – Friday 29 September**
👤 Term 4 **Monday 16 October – Tuesday 19 December**



Hei konei ra

Sandra, Lliam, Julia, Moira, Jacinda, Ned, Gina, Sandy B, Nicki, Kelly, Marije, Katie, Simon, Jason, Diane, Stu, Louise, Robyn, Diana, Briar, Makshud, Nui, Karen, Vickie, Pippa, Sarah, Rachel, Ria, Emily W, Shenee & Emily M

COMMUNITY NEWS

Blended Family Success

Discover how to help children adjust to step family life and create a united, supportive home atmosphere. Overcome common challenges and learn practical strategies that really work from New Zealand's leading stepfamily presenter. Live happily ever after in your stepfamily! Only ONE Wellington workshop this year. Numbers limited. You must register to secure your place.

When: Saturday 24th June, 9am – 4pm

For more information go to: www.blendedfamilysuccess.nz/events
email: adele@stepfamilyhelp.info Or phone/txt: 021 404 742

ARound the Valley

Saturday 13th May

Aro Valley Community Centre

48 Aro Street

1:00-4:00pm Tour

3:30-5:30pm Entertainment and Food

ARound the Valley is the Aro Valley Community Centre's Neighbours Day event. We are opening up parts of the Valley that are not always accessible. The day gives residents and people from outside the Valley the opportunity to learn a little more about the businesses, buildings, environment and people of Aro Valley.

People can pick up a map from the Community Centre from 1.00pm and take themselves on a self guided tour to the places that interest them. There is something for everyone. At the end of the day we will finish up Aro Valley style with some good music, food and company.

Springboard & Platform Diving at Kilbirnie Pool

Wellington Diving Club has a range of diving classes for kids aged 5 years and up. Why not try something new this year? Visit our website and come along for a free trial lesson! We have several after-school sessions and cater for kids of any level from beginners to competitive. We also run fun casual sessions on Sundays. For more information, please visit our website www.wellingtondiving.org.nz or call/text Barbara on 027 485 8888.

Wonderplay Drama Classes

Wonderplay drama classes are free to try this week! Classes for 4-8 and 9-12 year olds as well as Advanced Drama for 11-13 year olds and our teen Young Actors' classes! Classes are on Wednesdays and Thursdays at Island Bay Community Centre. First lesson is free to try. Please contact Debs debs@wonderplay.co.nz 021-172-2836, www.wonderplay.co.nz