



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S CHAIR

NEWSLETTER: 9.2.17

Our children are lucky to live in a place with so many opportunities.

Last week as I rode the school buses to see where our families live I was amazed by the places that the children at our school live in. New Zealand is the best place in the world to bring up children and our area is certainly the best of the best. Gone are the days when living away from the major centres was a barrier to learning. Our children have all the technological advantages that children at schools in town have and so much more. They have a playground where they can explore and grow and challenge themselves to become great people.

The trip by most of the school to the Beach Education Day at Waikuku Beach and Rata Room's learning at the EA Network Centre prove what great kids we have. I was impressed to see our children focussed on the learning they were receiving and then tear into the sea to swim and boogie board. Their faces showed how much fun they were having. The fact that no child misbehaved or had to be spoken to by a teacher about their behaviour was a great credit to the children and their families.

The Board of Trustees have a goal for our children "To develop grit, determination and resilience". Activities like Beach Ed and the work at the EA Centre certainly go some way to building this capacity in our children. Throughout 2017 children will be challenged by activities in the outdoors as well as in their classrooms. At times (like heading into the surf for the first time or struggling to free yourself from an upturned boat) those challenges will be physical and at times they will be in the classroom (like when your child is struggling with a new idea in Maths or learning to read more challenging books). What we want our children to remember is that these challenges are an opportunity to learn. And we need to remind them that learning only occurs when we put in the effort, maybe fail the first time but knowing that if we keep going we can finally achieve anything they want.

Throughout 2017 we will continue to offer opportunities in all the areas of learning that challenge our children to learn and grow. The teachers want to work with your families to offer those challenges at school and we know that you will be offering, at home, all the amazing challenges that living here gives them.

Sean Wansbrough

Principal

## **Assembly**

Assembly is tomorrow at 2.15. We look forward to seeing you there.

## **Home and School Meeting**

This amazing group of school support people is meeting on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> of February in the school staffroom. All are welcome to attend the first meeting for the year.

## **Goal Setting Meetings**

The year of learning has only just begun and you, your child and their teacher are thinking about what kinds of achievements are planned for. The teachers will be holding goal setting meetings from the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February. We encourage you all to come along to these meetings and help set the direction for your child's learning in 2017. Keep a look out for more information coming soon.

## **School Library**

The library is back up and running for 2017. Classes have a time during the week to visit the library and take books out. We expect that all children will take books regularly during their library visits as part of the reading programme at school. We ask that children are bringing back their library books when they have finished reading them so they can be swapped for new books. If you have found library books from last year at home please send them back to school as overdue books have an impact on how many books a child can take out.

## **Swimming Sports**

Our annual swimming sports with Mayfield and Carew Peel Forrest is being held on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> of February from 9.30 to 12 at the EA Network Centre. Teachers will assess children's swimming abilities and let parents know who will be attending the event. Counties swimming sports will be held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> of March for those who are successful at this event.

## **Updates**

If you have changed email address or cell phone number or if your child has an update on a medical condition or anything else you think it is important for us here at school to know then

we would appreciate if you could let Rebecca in the office know. You can contact her on 3039892 or send her an email at [office.mtss.school.nz](mailto:office.mtss.school.nz)

## Rippa Rugby

Rippa rugby notices went out last week. Could we please have these back to school as soon as possible.

## Education Review Office Visit

The ERO is visiting our school from the 28<sup>th</sup> of February to the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March. Their role is to evaluate how well our school is running and how we are ensuring quality learning for our children. They will meet with teachers, the Board of Trustees and talk to children about teaching and learning. We will welcome them to school with a powhiri on Tuesday morning. There will be two reviewers at school and they will complete a report about Mt Somers Springburn School at the end of their visit.

## A Message from the Mt Somers Pool Committee

It has come to our attention that some people have been sharing their pool key with others who are not part of the key holder's household. Number 5 of the Pool Key Agreement states "I agree to not share this pool key with anybody living outside of our household". This agreement is part of the Health and Safety requirements of the Ashburton District Council and failure to follow the rules of the pool may result in confiscation of the pool key so we ask people to please stop doing this. We have to have a signed Agreement for everyone who uses the pool.

Thank you.



<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Sylvie France	Iulia Bessai
Monty Murphy	Kiran Hudson
Connor Stratford	Kassey Webster
Arlo Bruce	Blake Marett
Ruby Giera	
Bede Giera	
Zoey Reveley	

## Winter Hockey

Mt Somers Springburn children have the opportunity to join Mayfield School kids and combine forces under Tinwald Hockey Club. This year we plan to have teams in the Year 3/4 grade, Year 5/6 and hopefully in the Year 7/8 grade. Hockey is mixed, both boys and girls. The Year 3/4 grade is held on Saturday mornings, Year 5/6 on Friday afternoons and Year 7/8 on a Tuesday afternoon. All games are in Ashburton on the turf but practices are held at Mayfield school or the Mayfield domain. We are fortunate to have Glenys and Stacey Carr (former Black Stick) assisting with coaching. Please contact Penny to register interest: 021812489, 3039749.

## Mt Somers/Staveley Playcentre

Invites all local preschoolers and caregivers  
To our sessions on Tuesdays (term time)  
9.15am to 11.45am  
50 Pattons Rd, Mt Somers  
**Queries.** Cindy Grobler 0210432774

Quality learning through play!



**SUNSMART FACT**



# Caps don't cut it!

Caps do not provide enough sun protection to your cheeks, nose, ears and neck. These are all common places for skin cancer. Bucket or wide-brimmed hats are best.



**SUNSMART  
SCHOOLS**  
Cancer Society

**TERM 1 2017 SWIM LESSONS  
NOW TAKING BOOKINGS**

**Waterbabies** 6-36 months 

 3-5 year olds **Pre-school**

**School age** 5+ year olds. 

EA networks centre  Call Stacey on 308 4035 or email [stacey.hoets@gdc.govt.nz](mailto:stacey.hoets@gdc.govt.nz)  **Ashburton** DISTRICT COUNCIL

 **Mt Somers Squash Club**

**New Potatoes**

**Delicious Highlander Potatoes**

**\$2/kg** Contact Mrs Heaven 027 217 0052 

Please support us to raise funds for the installation of a heat pump in our squash court.