



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S CHAIR

NEWSLETTER: 25.5.17

"Our Children Our Future"

Mt Somers Springburn School Motto

Our school motto is an important part of our school. It sits at the heart of our school logo which includes our mountain and our rivers. It takes pride of place in our school office and is what visitors to our school are welcomed with. It represents our role here at Mt Somers Springburn School, to help develop our children into the confident adults who will be our future.

In this week's newsletter you will read articles from our media team as they interview the children from some of our classes. Maybe what you see here today is the first news article by a future news reporter or journalist.

On Monday we head to Mayfield for our annual cross country. Some of those running may go on to be our next regional, national and olympic champions. We will remember how we saw them running as a 7 or 10 year old and thought, "I wonder how they will go in the future."

Our chess players acquitted themselves well in their tournament in Christchurch. The strategic thinking that they are developing may see them become grand masters or the next officers in the armed forces.

Those who came to the library evening could be our next group of university graduates or lawyers. Reading is at the centre of much we do here at school and the future is bright for those who see it as worthy to spend a Tuesday evening.

The last item in the newsletter is a poem by Lulia she wrote as part of the writing the class has been carrying out recently. The imagery in her poem is vivid and bright. It makes the reader think and reminisce. Perhaps we see here the first published poem of a future poet.

Our children are our future and every day we see their future beginning to become their present.

Sean Wansbrough

Principal

Assembly

Assembly is next Friday at 2.15 in Te Kiekie. This will be the 2nd of June.

Tussock News by Madi Holgate

Exciting things have been happening in Tussock lately.

We have Violet who said to me,

“I really enjoy writing because we get to write whatever we want, although sometimes the teacher tells us what to write about”

Violet also learnt how to read some of her sentences in her writing fluently.

Holly says “I like all of the subjects we sometimes get to write about what we did on the weekend and I really enjoy writing long stories and using my imagination!”

Otto adds “I got the writing medal 4 times!!” Otto also learnt how to spell the word was and he says “We do some independent writing” He even knows that the book night is coming up in the library which he is very excited about!

Jack mentions “We did some writing and I loved it because I got to write about a pretend monster,” which sounded very exciting. Jack loves writing and thinks that it’s really cool!

Mika tells me that “On Fridays we do the creation stations and I love doing those because I get to do some really cool paintings,” which I got to have a look at.

Mrs Chapman responds by saying “The class has been learning about 1/2s in maths and I have been learning, as a teacher, Maori words for the weather.”



In the next few days Tussock are going to be starting some Maori art on some legends.

This Week in Harakeke by Emily Greer

Harakeke, the wonderful class of 6-7 year olds. Has Miss Gaskin as their amazing Teacher.

Today I have Interviewed a few Children from Harakeke and they have told me a lot of things that you all will be reading about today.

In writing the students of Tussock and Harakeke have been doing pen Pals. “My Pen pal is Otto,” Dylan M told me.

Harakeke have been budded up with Tussock. For example Molly and Holly are penpals and Dylan and Otto are too.

They have written to their buddies at least 4 times each and it sounds like lots of fun.

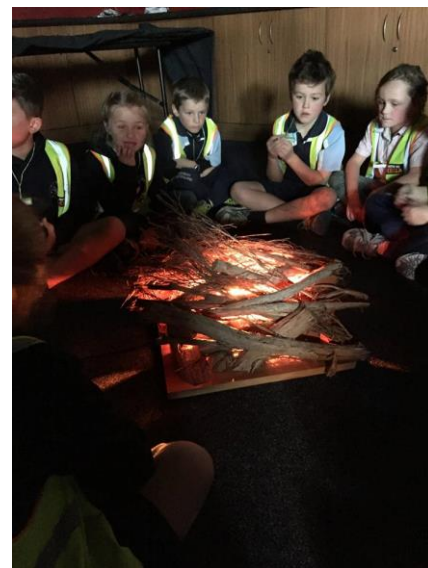
In Maths they have been learning fractions like a lot of the school, "It can be easy at times but when we have to do a work sheet it can be hard," commented Noah G

Thank you to Harakeke for letting me be in your class and thank you to Noah, Flynn, Dylan, Molly, and Peyton.

Kowhai Room Report by Abby Lowe

On week three Kowhai room had so many fun events including the Timaru museum visit where they learned some Maori culture art and words including why there are faces and eyes on the Maori art.

At the museum they got to do so many fun stuff including dressing up in super cool outfits, and also they got to sit down and hear the wonderful stories of the Maori culture at a fake but really realistic campfire.



There were lots of great comments from Kowhai. "I enjoyed listening to the stories Keely told us," commented Emily Heaven.

Blake commented, "I learned that some maori cloaks are made out of feathers."

Sylvie commented, "I saw a moa's leg."

"The trip was fun," said Kaidyn.

After talking to Kowhai room the trip sounded so much fun and I'm sad that I missed out. It sounds like Kowhai room learned a lot and I hope that they

get to do cool things like this in the future.



School Photos

Photos are on Monday morning before we head to cross country. If you would like family photos with all your children the photographer will be at school before 9 for you to get these photos. Class and individual photos will be after 9.

Cross Country

We will be heading to Mayfield on the buses at 11.30 for a 12pm start. Children will be running in year groups. Only children from Year 5 to Year 8 will be eligible to make it to the Counties Cross Country. The first 5 from each of those year groups will be eligible. You are welcome to pick up your children from the cross country afterwards to take them home.

There is no parking on the rugby field and vehicles will need to park on the roadside or around the hall. The postponement day is the 30th of May.

Communication Survey

At our school we are always working to make sure our communication about learning and school events is the best it can be. We have a communication survey where we are interested in your opinions. To access the survey please go to this web address –

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SVVYWRB>

After School Care

The school has been approached about the possibility of offering after school care for children during the week. This would be run by an outside provider using the school facilities. This would be similar to programmes run at other schools in the district. There would need to be a minimum of 10 regular children attending the programme in order for it to be commercially viable.

The programme would include assisting children with their homework, afternoon tea and managed play during the sessions utilising some of the facilities on the school grounds.

The 3 options for care could be -

from 3 to 4 at a cost of \$45 per week

from 3 to 5.30 at a cost of \$70 per week

from 3 to 6 at a cost of \$75 per week

Casual sessions would be around \$15 per session

Could you please email Sean at principal@mtss.school.nz if you would be interested in this possibility. Could you also indicate which would be your preferred option, including those people who might use it casually.

Unfortunately, even if we have enough numbers this will not start immediately as there is an approval process that involves police vetting of any organisation offering this service at school, as well as Ministry of Education and Board of Trustees approval.

6 Hour Bike Race

A big congratulations to Will Boyd, Charlie Chilton, Lachlan Rooney and Jess Heaven for competing in the race and representing the school. It was a big effort for the 4 of them and they acquitted themselves well.

Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees had their regular meeting on the 15th of May. At the meeting a report was presented to the Board about the English curriculum and the many facets of English in learning at our school. As part of the cyclical maintenance programme the Board are investigating the options around painting the exterior of the classrooms. This work is expected to be carried out in the next 12 months. A discussion was held around the possibility of employing a second teacher aide to support learners in our school. The Board passed a motion to employ a part time teacher aide until the end of the year.

The Board remain committed to continuing to support and develop teaching and learning throughout the whole school.

The next meeting is Monday 19th of June in the School Staffroom. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Winter Options

In Term 3 we offer the Winter Options programme. If you have a skill or option that you would like to share with a group of children please let us know.

Chess Team

Congratulations to the Chess Team who headed to Christchurch this week to compete in the Regional Interschool Chess Championship at Liwood College. Our school was well represented and we came away with a number of medals and certificates. Bronze medals went to Alex MacPhearson, Will Murphy, Hunter Stacey, Arlo Bruce, James Clark and Jess

Heaven received bronze medals for their effort. Jess also received a

medal for best girl player. Well done to all those who entered and thank you to Justy for her time in coaching. Thanks also to the parents who helped with transport to the event.



May

Miguel Dantas

Nina Reveley

Emily Greer

Library Evening

What a fabulous turn out at the MtSS Book Night on Tuesday evening! We thank you for your support. 59 people representing 19 of our 51 school families were there and over \$90 was raised for library refurbishments.



Thank you to Gabriella Brown, Blaise France, Blake Madden and Sam Chapman who volunteered to help on the night.

Thank you to Miss Gaskin for her work in organising the event.

Rata Room Hot Dog Camp Fundraiser

Bree and Jess organised the hot dog fundraiser as part of their effort towards fundraising for the senior camp at the end of the year. They raised around \$240 towards the camp. Thank you for supporting the event.



Creation Stations - Term in Review Term 1 2017 by Miss George and Mrs Chapman

This is a developmental play based programme designed to support all children, aid in the transition to school, and to develop the key competencies in a meaningful way.

Key Competency skill focus for term 1:

-Relating to others - taking turns, sharing, communicating, developing oral language



Teacher Reflections:

Over the term it has been great to see the children so engaged with the Creation Stations programme. One comment from a parent was that this was their child's favourite part of the week. We have noticed that their sharing skills have improved and they are able to articulate what sharing is and how we can do it. The children have had the opportunity to participate in lots of different activities including building, crafts, painting, shared drawing, water play, playdough, shops, role play and lego creations.

Creation Stations has allowed us to observe the children as they have natural interactions with their peers and to see how they are able to use communication skills. Many of the activities have supported fine motor skill development (essential for writing) and this will continue to be a focus as the year progresses. We have also had the opportunity to see the children forming new friendships and gaining confidence with new experiences.



Focus for Term 2

- Continue to develop fine motor skills
- Managing self - waiting your turn to talk
- Continued development of oral language
- Supporting new children in their transition to school

Principal News

Mr Wansbrough and his wife Kimberley are expecting their first child together in November.

Lost Property

On these days where we have cold weather in the morning that warms up during the day we tend to have an issue with jerseys and sweatshirts going missing. Please make sure that all children's clothes are marked as it makes them easier to return. We have had some specific requests about children who have sweatshirts that are going missing. Layla has misplaced her jersey. If you see it could you please return it to her.

Missing Watch

Bede's Ice watch is missing.

It is bright green, with yellow hands and writing on the face (Ruby's pictured).

If you can help, please contact Tina Giera 0272 751 786.

Thank you



Drawing by Iulia Bessai

Have you ever grabbed hold of a pencil?

Sure you have!

Remember that time you used it?

We have all drawn with a pencil.

Yes, you remember,

That was drawing.

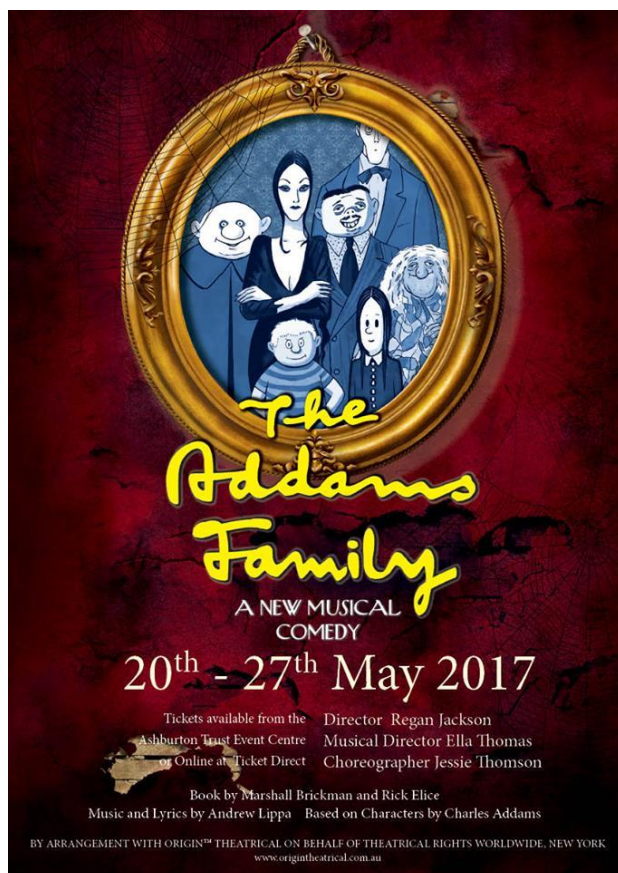
Remember that time,

When your pencil was slowly reaching the paper?

You move it around,

And in a few seconds,

A masterpiece appears.
 That was drawing.
 Remember that time,
 You had your masterpiece look bad?
 You might have also had the time,
 When your work looked like Da Vinci's.
 You were stunned at how it looked.
 That was drawing.
 Remember that time,
 You drew so much,
 That you started to smell the graphite
 Inside of your pencil?
 So in the end, we all know that time.
 That was drawing.



LIONS CLUB OF ASHBURTON IN ASSOCIATION WITH LEMACON MID



CANTERBURY

Invites you to our bi-annual

'RAY WHITE REAL ESTATE BIG SMOKE VS POWER FARMING ASHBURTON
 RURAL FOLK TEAM CHALLENGE & AUCTION 2017'



WHEN – Saturday 17th June 2017

AT – Ashburton MSA

Starts 7:30 p.m. – doors open from 6:30 p.m.

- Six stage challenges between the Townies (Big Smoke) lead by Heath Walters taking on the Rural Folk lead by Mike Boon (each team has ten players). Fun, laughter and entertainment.
- A number of goods & services auctioned on the night from the very affordable to the like to have.
- \$40 per person and includes supper. Make up a group of friends or come as a couple for a great night out. Tables of 8 or 10 available.
- All profits to St John Ambulance Ashburton, Mid Canterbury Rural Welfare Trust and Lions Club of Ashburton Charitable Trust.

**BOOK YOUR SEATS OR TABLES via SUE 308 3876 or
 sueletham@xtra.co.nz**

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Enquiries
Lee-Anne Tarling
Education Coordinator
MHERC
projects@mherc.org.nz
0800 424 399

Brenna Russell
Community Connector
RCPHO
Brenna_Russell@rcpho.org.nz
027 228 7995

Free Workshop

Resilient Children, Resilient Teens

Thursday 1 June 2017
6.30pm - 8.30pm

Participants will be provided with the opportunity to:

- Develop skills around challenging behaviours
- Manage conflict
- What is positive parenting?
- What constitutes bullying and ways to deal with it
- Take home some useful tips and ideas



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Team Hutt is run by the Canterbury Alpine Sports Trust, a not for profit trust.
All funds are re-invested into supporting the alpine program.