

NEWSLETTER: 31.08.2017

From the Principal's Chair

“Either Way it's 20K” – www.saferjourneys.govt.nz

Driving the bus is always a great time for me. It is a chance to see the children at our school from the time they get dropped off by their parents until they arrive home again. It is a pretty unique opportunity for a Principal.

What I have also seen, though, is the number of drivers that don't seem to realise the special cargo that rides on our buses, the children. Many drivers whizz past our stationary buses on their way to work or to an appointment without slowing down. It is as if they are not aware of the special road rules around school buses or they are so caught up in what they need to do or where they need to be that they forget.

These people are not always visitors to our area, often they are our neighbours, friends and family. The “Either Way It's 20K” campaign is one that will never get huge advertising campaigns on TV or the internet but as far as value for money goes, protecting our children is priceless.

During the week I read an article about a school bus driver in the Waikato, Pat Sheehan, who retired after driving in Cambridge for 40 years. She spoke of how much she enjoyed the children and loved watching them grow into nurses, builders, teachers and more. She also spoke of the one accident 20 years ago when a boy died after he was hit by a truck. He was just so excited that he ran across the road and the vehicle couldn't stop.

It seems to me that if we are going to get people to look out for our children we can't wait for a big campaign. We need to talk to everyone we meet about the importance of slowing down around our children. One person you talk to and remind them of the speed limit around our buses will hopefully keep our kids safe to grow up to be what they want to be.

That is something we all want.

Sean Wansbrough
Principal

Representative Sports Teams

We are aware that some children have made rep teams for their sports recently. If your child has made a team could you please let us know at school so we can celebrate their success in the newsletter.

Miniball

We have entered a Year 4 and a Year 6 team in the Mid Canterbury basketball competition. Miniball has started with skills sessions at the Oxford St stadium. The Year 6 team needs 2 or 3 more players. If your child was considering playing then they are still able to. Please contact the office to let us know.

Speech Competition

The speech competition was held on Wednesday here at school. All the children who stood up to speak did a fantastic job. We did have some placings.

Year 4

1st Blaise France

2nd Liam Harden

3rd Archie Rooney

Year 5&6

1st Arlo Bruce

2nd Paige Brogden

3rd Equal Will Murphy and Bede Giera

Year 7&8

1st Abby Lowe

2nd Madi Holgate

3rd Annabel Harmer



The first 2 place getters for the Year 5&6 and Year 7&8 competitions now got on to represent the school at the Southern Cluster speech competition against speakers from Mayfield, Hinds and Longbeach schools. This is being held at Mt Somers Springburn School in Te Kiekie on Wednesday 6th of September at 6.30.

A big thank you to the Mayfield and District Lions for supplying the prizes and attending the event.

Junior Speeches

These are being held on Wednesday the 27th of September here at school. Check with your child's teacher if you would like to know more.

Down's Bus Run

We are looking for a driver for the Down's bus run. If you have a Class 2 licence (or would be prepared to get one) and would like to take on this valuable position in our school please let Sean know.

Bus Vests

It is good to see so many of our children wearing their bus vests while waiting for the buses. Some children are still turning up at school without them, however. Even though the mornings are getting lighter, it is still important for all children to wear their bus vest. Many drivers do not always slow down when they are aware of children waiting for buses on the side of the road or

even when the bus has stopped to pick up children. Wearing the bus vest will help to keep children and drivers safer. If your child has misplaced their bus vest, please get them to come to the office for a replacement.

Kowhai's Week by Annabel Harmer



Many exciting things have been happening in Kowhai Room this week. “We have been doing lots of writing and we are writing action stories,” says Jack. Emma also adds, “The stories we are writing are Narratives and Time stories.”

This writing is ‘Action Writing’ and the children have to have characters, a problem and a solution. Sylvie is writing hers about a movie she watched.

They have practiced their dance for the play which Emma enjoys very much. Spelling words on Mondays are also popular with the children.

Jack comments that there is a new child coming into their class soon and he is very excited.

Literacy is another subject Kowhai Room does. During this time they do spelling worksheets and sentences. Emma has fun learning this subject and I’m sure many others do too. Zoey also loves reading and spelling.

I would like to thank Jack, Emma, Zoey, and Sylvie for their contribution. I would also like to thank Mrs Ashton who allowed me to take these children out of class for their comments.

Happenings in Rata by Madi Holgate

Many things have been happening in Rata lately. From speeches to the WPCA.

Blake said, “ We have been doing some maths on subtraction we are also doing the WPCA where Hunter, Lachlan and I are building a billy cart for the school. My favourite part about the WPCA is getting free time to achieve my goals. During last week I learnt my 6 times tables”.

Samantha commented with, “We are doing speeches at the moment I am writing about why you should be a farmer. I have finished my speech and it is now on cue cards, my favourite part about my speech was learning new facts about farming that I didn’t know before. Tomorrow we are having the speech competition and on Wednesday we have got the talent show”.

Samuel replied with, “We have been doing passion projects for the WPCA. I am doing minecraft and I am making a steam train. I really like building on Minecraft and finding out more about Minecraft. I learnt that if you have a combination of water,lava and a tree you get a cobblestone structure. Tomorrow we have speeches”.

Savanah says, “We have been practicing our speeches. Mine is about calvin. My favourite thing about my speech is that I learnt a new fact which is in 2015 to 2016 4,500 bobby calves died. Tomorrow we have our speech competition which is in the multi purpose room”.

Thankyou Rata for letting me interview you I found out a lot about what happens in your classroom.

This Week in Beech by Katelynn Coleman

Ava said, “We have been hard at working on our dance and speeches this week. We even learnt the song without the music which I thought was amazing. Mrs Heaven has been helping us with our speeches by giving us helpful feedback on what we need to work on”.

I also interviewed Blake M this week and he said that they had been learning about birds in reading. He said, “We had to learn 5 facts about birds which I didn’t find that hard”.



I like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Heaven for letting me take some of her students for interviewing.

School Talent Show

A big Thank You to Annabel Harmer, Katelynn Coleman, Abby Lowe and Samantha Coleman for organising the talent show. It is tremendous to see senior children from our school stepping up and taking responsibility for organising an event like this. Well done also to all the children who performed an act.

Winter Options

This week is the final week for Winter Options. We will be heading back to regular assemblies beginning soon.

Amazing Writers

You will remember that in the last newsletter there was the news that Will Murphy, Samantha Coleman and Arlo Bruce had been successful in the ODT writing competition. Will and Samantha have had their winning entries published in previous newsletters. This week we include Arlo’s story.

Dan's War Museum Adventure by Arlo Bruce

Dan Chesworth wasn't very fond of museums, so his head hung low when his mum dragged him off to Millvale War museum.

Even though he hated museums, he always wanted to stay in one overnight. Now that he was a rebellious teenager, he thought it was time to try it...

Hours later, the museum closed and he crept out from behind his hiding place. To his surprise, all the lights were still on. Suddenly he heard footsteps. He expected to see a security guard come round the corner, but instead he saw a man dressed as a German officer. The German guy glared right at him. "Mein gott! Englisch kerl!" shouted the officer, who now had a gun pointed right at Dan's head. Dan closed his eyes, and waited to be shot. Suddenly a gun went off.

Dan opened his eyes, and was surprised to find that he was not in heaven, or even hell. He was still in the museum. The German officer keeled over backwards, very, very dead. There was another man standing behind the dead body, holding a Lee Enfield rifle.

"Another second, and you'd be as holey as a monk's socks. I'm colonel Saunders, commander of her majesty's expeditionary forces in this area." Said colonel Saunders.

The colonel took Dan back to a group of tents, which appeared to be a combination of both world wars. "Us brits control the west wing of this building, the Germans control the north wing, and the French own the south. The Russians are barely holding on in the east." said the Colonel.

"Wait," said Dan, "You do know its 2017, right?"

"Nonsense," exclaimed Saunders, "it's 1943, middle of World War 2."

At that moment Dan realised, that the soldiers obviously thought they were still in WW2. Dan explained to the soldiers that it was the year 2017, and that World War 2 was long over, and that it was time for them to leave the museum.

All the soldiers were delighted to see the world again, and Dan was happy too for saving all these men and women who had been stuck in the museum for years. He had set them free! "Danke freud," said a portrait of Joseph Himmel.

"Thanks old chap, hope to see you again some time.", thanked Saunders

Dan was full of pride. But then he remembered the matter of explaining where all the exhibits had gone...

Blaise France also had her writing recognised in the National Rainbow Poetry competition with her poem, Secrets.

Secrets

Whispers,
Secret, mysterious,
Telling, talking, muttering,
Murmuring to your friends.
Surprised faces giggling, laughing,
Chuckling like mad.
Sneaky smiles –
Gossip.

School Bus Driver Required

We are looking for someone who -

- *has a Class 2 licence
- *would be prepared to obtain a P class licence if necessary.
- *enjoys working with children and families
- believes safety is the most important aspect of being a school bus driver.
- *is mechanically minded
- *has attention to detail.

This role is for approximately 20 hours per week.

For the right applicant we would be prepared to assist the person with the training required to become our bus driver.

If this sounds like you, please call the Principal, Sean Wansbrough, to find out more about the position



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Ron 027 445 2355

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 **The Aoraki Mackenzie
Starlight Festival
Galileoscope Workshop**
Celebrate New Zealand's International Dark Sky Reserve

 Photo: Valley of the Stars by Mark Gee

**The Hermitage, Aoraki/Mt Cook
13-15 October 2017**


Come to the Starlight Festival and join *Science Alive!* instructors in the Galileoscope Workshop 1.30-4.00 pm Saturday 14 October. Then use your Galileoscope for stargazing from 9.30 pm at the new Mt Cook Observatory.

The Galileoscope is a kitset telescope valued at \$70 and yours to keep, but the workshop tickets are only \$20. The Galileoscope Workshop is designed for people of all ages, but especially for school students (years 4 to 13) who have a passion for astronomy.

Buy tickets on-line! VENUE: THE CHAMOIS BAR & GRILL, HILLARY ALPINE CENTRE (Mt Cook),
www.starlightfestival.org.nz

Galileoscope kitset telescope Galileoscope Workshop at the 2015 Festival


 PRESENTS
**A COMEDY
HYPNOTIST SHOW**
FEATURING GERARD V

Saturday **23rd**
of **September 2017**
7.30pm at the **MSA**

"Come and experience a fun, hilarious, family friendly show and if you are brave enough to volunteer you will have the time of your life!"

Open bar available | Supper provided
Tickets **\$30** each or **2** for **\$50**

For all ticket purchases and enquiries
please contact
Emma Todd 0210399258 or
Phoenix Preschool (03) 3088461





GIRL GUIDE BISCUIT FUNDRAISER

Original, Choc or Mini Choc \$3.50 per packet.

Or any 3 packets for \$10.

Whole boxes from \$50 onwards.

Please support this main Fundraising event for the Girl Guides.

Contact Nicola 0210 295 6119 for orders

METHVEN TENNIS CLUB OPEN DAY

SAT 9TH SEPT. 1:00-3:30PM
Methven Domain



Come and Register for the 2017-2018 Tennis Season (Registration in Pavilion if wet)

HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES OCTOBER 2017

SWIM LESSONS

Group and
individuals
available

OCTOBER

2nd - 6th
9th - 13th

Individual lessons available
both weeks on request



BREASTSTROKE CLINIC



OCTOBER

2nd - 6th
9th - 13th

For children
struggling
with the
breaststroke
goal in
any level

COASTGUARD BOATING

Boating Education and Water
Safety Workshop
for kids at Pesky
Penguins level or up



- 1.30pm - 2.15pm
- Limited spaces
- \$60 for week of 5 sessions

OCTOBER

9th - 13th

INDIVIDUAL LESSONS

\$40

30mins

\$27

20mins

\$20

15mins

Individual
lessons are:

- \$40 for 30mins
- \$27 for 20mins
- \$20 for 15mins



EA networks
centre

Call Stacey on 308 4035 or email
stacey.hoets@adc.govt.nz



Ashburton
DISTRICT COUNCIL

ALLENTON SCHOOL FAIR

**Saturday
16th of
September 2017**

11am-2pm

**Live Entertainment, Bungee,
Art Auction, Wacky Hair Stall,
Face Painting, Silent Auction,
Yummy Food, Photo Booth
& so much more!**

PosterMyWall.com