

NEWSLETTER: 22.11.2017

### **From the Principal's Chair**

#### **"I'm not better than anyone – I'm just different." Anonymous**

At this time of the year people begin to think about their children's education for next year. The impending Christmas holidays often have children and families nervous and excited about what the new school year will bring. Grandparents and relatives often ask which class they will be in next year and the inevitable conversation about whether Year 5 and Standard 3 are the same thing occurs across the country. Discussions around who their teacher will be for next year and the stories about how strict next year's teacher is bounce around the dinner table. Stories about camps and trips that happen in certain years begin to build children's anticipation of the coming year. Having taught in a number of different schools in a variety of communities, from large urban schools to small rural ones, many of these things remains the same. So too do our own worries about whether we are doing the best for our children. It is during this time that some people begin to worry about whether the current school is right for their child.

All schools in our country are different. They offer different things and families need to make decisions about what is best based on the fact that no school is better or worse – just different. Sometimes we hear of people making decisions to move to another school. If the family has gone through the process of weighing up those differences, they will make the right decision for their family. What we should remember is that if we are making the decision because our children's friend is going there or we have heard good things about it at the hairdresser then we should make sure that if we do move our children it is with their learning at heart.

Each school has its unique flavour and just as things that frustrate us at one school might not appear to be at another school, the things we like about our current school may not be available at another school. What one school offers will be different to what another school can. The ability to build educational relationships with our child's teacher will be different in different schools. The Board of Trustees has been looking at the strategic direction for our school and sees real value in helping the children at Mt Somers Springburn School to develop a sense of identity around where we live, to develop grit and determination in our learners and to provide a quality education for all our children from Year 1 to 8. I believe that these goals are essential to creating a learning environment where children can be educationally successful, develop their leadership capability and help children to grow into the best that they can be.

2018 will be another year where we achieve success and we have our struggles. This is the nature of life. As time goes on though, what we do realise is that 2018 will be no better or worse than 2017. Just different.

Sean Wansbrough - Principal

## **Staff for 2018**

We are pleased to announce that Kylie Chapman and Michaela George (who were here in 2017 on a fixed term contract) have been successful in winning the permanent teaching in Tussock.

We also welcome Miss Hayley Duthie to Mt Somers Springburn School as the permanent teacher in Rata starting in 2018. Hayley comes to us from Allenton School and lives in Mayfield.

Miss Blair has been successful in gaining a permanent position at Allenton School. We thank her for her work at MTSS and wish her all the best for the future.

At the recent Board of Trustees meeting the Board decided to continue to fund 2 teacher aides for the whole of 2018 as they have done this term. This is really great for learning support in our school.

We have one more position to fill in Harakeke (replacing Miss Gaskin) and we intend to have this sorted in the very near future. We wish Sarah all the best as she heads to Pleasant Point School for next year.

## **Canterbury Athletics Day**

We have 3 children representing Mid Canterbury at the Canterbury Athletics Champs in Ashburton on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December. Good luck to Blaise France, Ruby Giera and Bede Giera.

## **Senior Camp**

Rata Room is away on their senior camp. Thank you to everyone who has supported their fundraising efforts throughout the year. We know they will have an amazing time in Wainui and are looking forward to hearing about it.

## **Assembly**

Assembly is next Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> of December at 2.15. We look forward to seeing you there.

## **Prize Giving**

This will be held on Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> of December in the Mt Somers Hall. This will start at 6.30pm.

## **Last Day of School**

The last day of school is Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> of December. Traditionally this day is for Year 7&8 only to help with clean up at the end of the year. This would only be a half day for these children.

Children in Year 6 and below are not expected to come on this Friday.

School begins again on the 29<sup>th</sup> of January in 2018.

## **Whole School Swimming**

We head to Ashburton for swimming lessons at the EA Networks pool From the 4<sup>th</sup> to the 8<sup>th</sup> of December. Please ensure your child has their togs at school during this week.

We are also swimming from the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> of February next year (Week 2).

Swimming Sports is pencilled in for Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup> of February at the EA Networks pool.

## **Thank You**

Thank you to all the people who have wished Mr Wansbrough and his family well over the birth of their new baby. Stella was born on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of November at Lincoln is doing really well.

## **Bus Vests**

As the weather has been turning warmer and the days are getting lighter we have some children forgetting to wear their bus vests. There are children throughout the school who are forgetting them but there are a large number of children from Rata and Beech who are regularly not wearing them. It is disappointing that some of our senior children are not setting the best example for others in the school. Please remind your children about the importance of wearing their vests while travelling to and from school.

## **Library**

Week 7 will be the last week for children to issue books from our school library. We need all books returned before the end of term so we can complete the annual library stocktake the week after school finishes.

## **2018 Stationery**

By the 4<sup>th</sup> of December we will have stationery lists available for each class so you are able to organise this for next year. There will be 3 options for ordering your child's stationery.

*Option 1* – You can order online through [officemax.co.nz](http://officemax.co.nz). Stationery packs will be sent through to your home address.

*Option 2* – Paper Plus will again be making up class packs which you will be able to purchase at their Ashburton store.

*Option 3* – You will be able to use the school stationery list to source your own from your preferred supplier.



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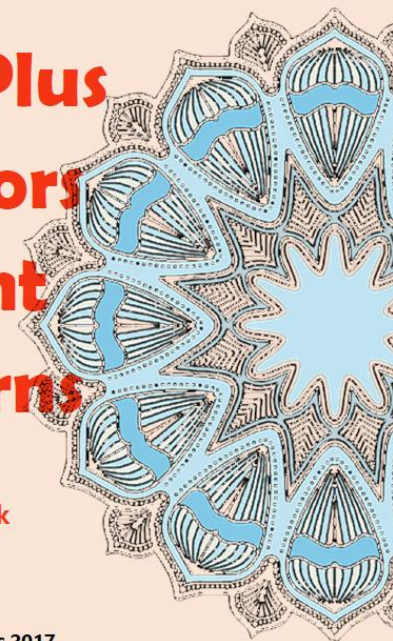
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This event is run by the Lions Club of Hinds and Districts & Longbeach School. Profits from the 2017 event go to Longbeach School and the Hinds Lions Charitable Trust.

# MindPlus Curators Present Patterns

Come and see  
our amazing work  
about patterns!

**Thu 30 Nov – Sun 3 Dec 2017**  
**Ashburton Museum**  
 OPEN: 10am to 4pm daily  
 327 West Street (SH1) Ashburton 7700



Slip



Slop



Slap




Wrap



Shade

**TENNIS  
HOLIDAY  
PROGRAMME**



**18<sup>TH</sup> – 22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER**

**COME ALONG ANY DAY ONLY \$5 A  
SESSION OR \$20 FOR ALL 5 DAYS**

**9:00-10:00 AM – MAYFIELD**

**10:30-11:30 AM – CAREW**

**3:00-4:00 AM – HINDS**

**KIDS OF ANY ABILITY ARE WELCOME TO COME  
ALONG TO THEIR LOCAL COURTS AND JOIN IN SOME  
FUN TENNIS ACTIVITIES AND GAMES.**

**"A GREAT WAY TO RELIEVE THE STRESS OF KIDS, AND  
GET RID OF THEIR ENERGY CLOSE TO CHRISTMAS"**

**PLEASE CONTACT OLIVER MCKEOWN ON 0273030015**

**ANOTHER PROGRAMME AFTER CHRISTMAS IF ENOUGH INTEREST**



**KIDZ METHVEN**

**night market**

Thursday December 7, 2017  
6 - 9pm  
Mt Hutt Memorial Hall

free admission  
cash bar  
market sites & food vendors



# HAVE A GO WITH A THROW!

Searching for NZ's next throwing champion!



Above photo: Kim Mickle (Javelin Coach)

**DATE: Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November at Port Hills  
(Hansen Park)**

**Coaches:**

Kim Mickle - Dual Olympic/Commonwealth Gold Medalist Javelin thrower  
Amanda Murphy - NZ High Performance Throws Coach  
Lauren Bruce: NZ Hammer thrower

**Sessions and times:**

JAVELIN: U13 and above = 9am-11am & 11.30am-1.30pm  
SHOTPUT: U10 and above = 9am-11am  
HAMMER: U13 and above 9am-11am  
DISCUS: U10 and above = 11.30am-1.30pm

**Availability and costs:**

Don't miss out... Maximum 20 per clinic so First in best dressed!!!  
\$25 per athlete (Parents welcome to watch and learn too)  
All equipment provided but feel free to bring your own.

Please email [kimmickle@hotmail.com](mailto:kimmickle@hotmail.com) to book. Payments will be required to secure position but will send out after email has been confirmed.