From the Principal’s Chair
In the past few weeks, it has been great to walk around our school and see so many children being active, kind and caring.
In the playground we have had children from Rata helping to coach younger children to play netball and rippa rugby. Both the older and younger children benefit and the smiles on all their faces as they play has been amazing. Children who are hurt or sad often have someone who comes up to ask if they need an icepack or plaster or just if they want to join in playing a game. Our children also give up their time to serve others. Whether that be giving up a break time to run the PE shed or give advice on how to do a new trick on the trampoline, it is always great to see how our children act with each other.
In classes I see children working in groups in their learning to share ideas and help someone with their spelling or grammar. The settled environment gives them a chance to hear and be heard when it comes to learning. The Boost sessions in Te Kiekie allow children to talk to their tutors about more than just reading and allow them to have another adult who cares about how they are along with their teachers.
When we visit other places or travel on the bus it is amazing to hear the manners that our children display from thanking the bus drivers to holding doors open for members of the public. It is always very humbling to hear from people outside our school about how well mannered, interested and well behaved our children are. This is especially evident when there are other schools at the same venue as our children. The number of times that I or the teachers have had positive comments from people outside our school either at an event or through a follow up email is too many to count.
This is not to say that at times children don’t have disagreements or come into conflict. We can all hope that we give them the skills and attitudes to deal with that conflict peacefully, that they will realise that when we all work together to be happy that we are being successful at life and that by spending time to get to know someone we will make a friend rather than an enemy.
Right now we need to all work together to teach the next generation how to love, be kind and be happy.
Sean Wansbrough

Assembly
There is no assembly on Friday but we are fortunate that Brett Fairweather (the creator of Jump Jam) will be at school from 2:15 to meet the children and hold a Jump Jam session with the kids. You are all welcome to come along and join in.
Tight and Bright Mufti Day Tomorrow
With the visit from Brett Fairweather we thought it would be a great chance to get out the lycra and fluro colours to celebrate his visit. Brett is a former aerobics world champ and we are really looking forward to having him at school. Children can choose to wear something bright and sporty or fun that they can jump jam in when he visits us on Friday afternoon.
We would like the children to bring a gold coin donation and the money will be donated to helping the families associated with the shootings. We have been advised by the Ministry of Education that the wearing of a lot of red is culturally insensitive to the Muslim community so ask that red be kept to a minimum where possible.

Paid Union Meeting
The Paid Union Meetings that were due to be held on the 18th of March were postponed due to the events in Christchurch. Teachers will now take part in an electronic vote in April on the offer that has been made by the Government. This means that for the time being there will be no interruption to school while teachers consider this offer.

Measles Outbreak
There are currently 31 confirmed cases of measles in Canterbury. New information from the Canterbury District Health Board has been distributed and replaces the information that came out earlier in March. This is included at the end of this newsletter.

Peer Mediators
You will remember last year that staff last year took part in some Cool Schools training. This term all classes have had a Health Curriculum focus on learning called Keeping It Cool. During this time they have learnt about solving conflicts peacefully and the peer mediation process.
This week invitation have gone out to interested children in Year 4 to 7 to become peer mediators and help children in the playground solve their issues peacefully. The letters to Mr Wansbrough are due to him on Monday 25th of March. Children have been advised that they should get some help in writing the letters as we are only choosing 15 children to train as mediators. This training will happen next week.
A big thank you to Bree for her help in talking to children about the role and importance of being a mediator in our school.

Nissan School Bus
The Board have decided to sell the Nissan school bus that was formerly on the Down’s bus route. It is for sale for $18,000 or near offer. If you know of anyone who is looking to buy a bus please contact Sean.

Board of Trustees Elections
June this year sees the triennial Board elections. We are looking for new trustees who are committed to the future of our school. If you would like to know more please contact any of the current Board members or you could attend a session on what is expected of a trustee in Hornby on the 11th of April (check out the advertisement at the end of this newsletter).
Important Dates
Canterbury Swimming Sports – Thursday 4th April
Term 1 Ends – Friday 12th April
Term 2 Begins – Monday 29th April

School Calendar
The school Google calendar is available on the school website – www.mtss.school.nz. This has important dates for the term.
19 March 2019

Canterbury
District Health Board
Te Poer Hauora o Waitaha

Canterbury Measles Outbreak – Information for schools and EEC

Measles is spreading in Canterbury. It is a highly infectious virus that can be life threatening. Complications occur in about one in three people, and for them measles can be serious, even fatal.

What are the symptoms?
Measles symptoms are a:
1. cough or runny nose or conjunctivitis **AND**
2. fever above 38.5°C **AND**
3. a rash

If you’re sick stay home and telephone your GP team for advice any time of day or night. Please do not go to your GP in person as you may spread the illness to others. Anyone with measles needs to be isolated from the time they become ill until 5 days after the rash has appeared.

Who is protected from measles?
People who have had two MMR vaccinations (typically given at 15 months and 4 years) are immune from measles. People born before 1969 will have been exposed to the measles virus and will have acquired immunity.

Those born between 1969 and 1990 are considered to have a good level of protection. This group were offered one measles vaccine and evidence suggests that one dose of MMR protects 95% of people from developing measles.

What is the priority group for vaccination?
To ensure vaccines are being provided to those in greatest need, a vaccination programme is being rolled out by general practices which prioritises those who need it most – that’s those most at risk of harm if they get measles.

The immediate priority is children aged 12 months to 13 years who have never been immunised. GP teams are also focusing on providing the vaccine to young adults aged 14 years to 28 years who have never been immunised.

As more vaccine becomes available the MMR vaccine will be made available to other priority groups.

What happens if there’s been a case of measles in a school or early childhood education centre?
Most students in Canterbury have good immunity against measles.

Health authorities will be in contact with any school or early childhood centre where there has been a confirmed case and advise accordingly. If there is a confirmed case at their pre-school, child care centre or school, then parents should keep their unimmunised child at home.

As a general rule, a contact is considered someone who has been in a confined space with a confirmed measles case (while the case was infectious) up to one hour after the case was there.

Should students attend outside of school events?
Students who feeling unwell with measles-like symptoms, or who are not fully vaccinated against the measles, should avoid events as there will be a risk of either catching or ‘passing on’ measles.

**You are invited**

Waitaki Boys High School
**DON HOUSE**
Hostel Open Day
Sunday 7th April 2019
12.00pm

Don House is situated on the grounds of Waitaki Boys' High School. It promotes family values and the "big brother, little brother" ethos. Boys get the benefit of using the school's facilities and activities while also enjoying a "home away from home" atmosphere.

We invite you and your son to inspect our newly refurbished facilities and chat with our Hostel Manager, Dan Keene and Matron, Sandra Katto.

Telephone: 03 437 0529
www.waitakibhs.school.nz

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**Coffee & Connection**

A monthly coffee & support group for parents and caregivers of children or adults with special needs. A friendly environment to discuss challenges and share experiences.

Robert Harris 9.30am 2nd Friday of the month during term time

Contact:
Flona 0275020477
Alison 0226198639
Kōrari

“Kōrari really helped me understand what it’s like to be a school trustee”

An informal session for those interested in school board elections.

Location: Hornby High School, CHCH, Thursday 11 April, 6.00pm

Attendance is FREE. All welcome. RSVP to: Ishelfley@nzsta.org.nz

Kōrari - a programme that provides you with governance training to help you understand the role of school boards of trustees.

For more information contact us on 0800 782 435.
Neighbours Day Aotearoa 2019

This year Neighbours Day Aotearoa celebrates its 10th anniversary with a 10 day campaign encouraging and celebrating ‘all things’ neighbourly.

From March 22-31 people are encouraged to organise activities with their neighbours. Big or small, every connection we have with our neighbours makes our neighbourhood and our community more friendly, fun and safe. It can be as simple as introducing yourself to your neighbours, sharing a cuppa, maybe swapping seeds or books, or even assisting by mowing their lawn. Or you get all your neighbours together for ‘clean up the hood’ working bee or neighbourhood BBQ.

Encouraging better connected neighbourhoods and more everyday ‘neighbourliness’, neighbours can be stronger and more resilient, significantly enhancing the wellbeing of individuals, family/whanau and the wider community. We know that stronger neighbourhoods can be part of the successful antidote for many social issues within Aotearoa.

Mid Canterbury Newcomers Network, Mid Canterbury TimeBank, Neighbourhood Support and Ashburton District Welcoming Communities have several activities and promotions planned. All of our organisations work in different ways to help people reduce social isolation. Neighbours Day Aotearoa plugs right into our core values, and we want to make it a success in the Ashburton district.

To find out all the details log onto their Facebook pages. Competitions begin on the 18th March.

Activities and promotions planned include:

- Media and Facebook posts celebrating the event- be part of the competitions and see the activity going on. The Ashburton Courier will have special profiles so look out for these in the paper.
- Meet your Neighbours Postcard: Special postcards will be distributed throughout the district which will help you break barriers by making knowing your neighbours a Bingo-like game.
- Hoops Subway Shout, special edition: celebrate with your neighbours by winning a free Subway platter.
- T-Shirt competition: tell us how you plan to celebrate the event and get a chance to win a unique T-shirt. We have 4 to give away across the district.
- Best Neighbours Day activities competition: The 3 best activities will win awesome prizes!

How can you help promote Neighbours Day and help us to show how welcoming and neighbourly the Ashburton District is.

1. Join us on facebook and take part in the competitions, share with others and even comment. Let’s be loud and proud about what we are doing to show neighbourliness. All the organisations noted above will be sharing regular posts highlighting what is going on and giving ideas for people to get involved.
2. Encourage people that are planning activities to register their event or activity on the national Neighbours Day website. Registering and publicly sharing an event or activity, no matter how small, puts people in the draw to win a $100 prezzy card or limited edition Neighbours Day Aotearoa t-shirt. Neighbours Day Aotearoa website. www.neighboursday.org.nz
3. Encourage people to have a go at filling in the Meet your Neighbours Postcard. This is a great opportunity for neighbours to start up conversations and learn about each other. Please help us by letting people know where they can get postcards from and maybe even actively encourage your workmates to give it go with their families. Some of you that attended the steering group meeting on Wednesday have copies of the postcard to share with others 🥰

Free public speaking course for those new to New Zealand

Seeking expressions of interest from members of the community. Please pass onto others in the community and your workplaces who might find this helpful.

The Hakatere Multi Cultural Council (formerly Mid Canterbury Newcomers Network) has teamed up with the Ashburton Toastmasters club and Welcoming Communities to provide migrants in the Ashburton district a free public speaking course.

Oral communication is a part of daily life. We interact with others through speaking. Yet speaking to more than one or two people is hard for most people. And it’s twice as hard for migrants in a new country.
Getting through job interviews, doing presentations, talking with strangers on social gatherings, dealing with service providers and government agencies - all of these require speaking coherently and confidently.

This course will teach participants to speak about themselves, to introduce others, to think on their feet and answer questions, and even to evaluate other speakers. It will help participants to gain confidence and communicate clearly.

The course will run on Wednesdays every couple of weeks (starting April) at a central location in Ashburton. There will be 8-10 meetings, each from 5pm to 7pm. Places are limited and we are looking for migrants.

To express interest in participating please go to https://tinyurl.com/PublicSpeakingAshburton2019, or email newcomers@saferasghburton.org.nz, or phone/txt 027 220 8791

Adult Beginner Learn to Swim Classes

Seeking expressions of interest from members of the community. Please pass onto others in the community who might find this helpful.

EA Networks Centre and Welcoming Communities have teamed up to provide adults with Learn to Swim Classes. We want to know how much interest there is and hopefully be able to provide this opportunity.

It is open to all adults (+18 plus) and we would love some of our newcomers to take up the opportunity. There will be a cost involved but WC will subsidise this. The amount subsidised will be dependent on the level of interest.

Learn about:

• Safe entry into the water
• Gaining water confidence in and under the water
• Introduction to floating and propulsion

Class days and time: Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday at 6pm for 30 minutes.

Class dates: School Term 2: 29th April - 5 July 2019 (10 lessons)

There will be a cost at a subsidised rate. This will be determined by level of interest.

Minimum class numbers 3 per class. Maximum class size 5 per class.

Register interest (including preferred day) through the EA Networks Centre Facebook page or at the EA Networks Centre reception by 12th April. https://www.facebook.com/EANetworksCentre/

Those interested will be contacted if classes go ahead.
Trott’s Garden Shakesperience
31st March 2pm-5.30pm wet or fine
$25 with a complimentary glass of bubbles
$20 under 18 years
Tickets available from Bennett Bros or EA Centre page.
The Big Little Theatre Company will be presenting a delightful afternoon and early evening celebration of late summer and Shakespeare’s work. This promises to be a very special evening to spend walking around this exquisite garden whilst being entertained with live music, dance, song and of course Shakespeare’s ‘best bits,’ being brought to life by Big Little Theatre Company actors.

‘Fairies use flowers for their charactery’
William Shakespeare.

The Big Little Theatre Company

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EA NETWORKS CENTRE
Kids Duathlon & Triathlon
Sunday 24 March 2019
First race to start at 8.30am at the EA Networks Centre.
We are pleased to announce that a lucky spot prize winner will receive a BIKE at the prize-giving, all thanks to Wheel Asia!

DISTANCES:

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To enter, visit EA Networks Centre Reception - Entry Fee $25

Phone 03 303 4522 • eanetworkscentr.co.nz
School Sponsors

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