

West Spreydon School Newsletter

Thursday 8 March 2018

Roll: 334 Boys: 163 Girls: 171

Absences in the last two weeks: 109 Lateness: 48

Important Dates

March

12-23 Small Sticks School programme

13 Oderings Garden Show

School Assembly Rm 5

20 Zones Swimming

30 Mar-3 April Good Friday—Easter

Tuesday School Closed

4-5 Senior Pasifika Street Art

6 School Assembly Rm 12

13 Last Day Term 1

30 First Day Term 2



IMPORTANT HEALTH & SAFETY NOTES:

Please call (03 338 8184) or text (021 034 7056) if your child is absent.

Chicken pox in the school

Principal says...

I have loved this week so far. I have had two days at camp watching the children working with each other and with their teachers. Our teachers are exceptional creatures. They are so creative and caring and able to bring out the very best in the children.

The parents are also working very hard in the kitchen, on the beach, at the camping ground and in the forest. We have laughed so much. Last night it was the Chubby Bunny Marshmallow Challenge for new teachers and new camp parents. I laugh so hard I forget to take photos. Jason was crowned 2018

winner with Matt a close second.

A few children aced the level 6 Challenge of Adrenalin Forest. What I love is that they are not the usual suspects and quite often are the steady achievers who stick to the job. A couple of boys were absolutely precious when Stacy had to be rescued from a great height. They stuck with her, calming her and encouraging her to push through it. So cute.

I appreciate being able to see the children in a totally different environment and watch the magic unfold. Some children have coped so well with changes and the unknown. Yesterday they were out in the rain and coping well. Apparently children don't dissolve. The bike riders came back caked in mud and the children who ate huhu grubs still had their appetite for afternoon tea.

The usual wallies left the tent flaps open after being told repeatedly that the rain would get in. There was some emergency loaning of gear and swapping of tents last night as I left. The joys of camping and children learning to take a little responsibility for their own wellbeing! Thank you to everyone who has made the camp such a fabulous success.

Our special thanks to Tom and Margaret who are generously sponsoring our school so we can ensure no child misses out on the fantastic experiences we have at West Spreydon School.

Zone

If you have any questions or concerns about the implementation of the West Spreydon School zone, please contact duane.major@westspreydon.school.nz.

Concern/Questions/Complaints

The Senior Leadership Team and the Board of Trustees are always open to hearing your ideas and opinions. Please follow our complaints / concerns process. We cannot respond to Facebook unless there is a breach of cyber safety and we need to contact the appropriate authorities.

Thank you for your understanding.

Last week we farewelled the Stewart family who are planning on living in Kolkata for the next 3-5 years. They will work with Freeset in a slum area of the city. Asher and Maia will attend an international school there based on the Cambridge system. We will miss them very much and have to settle for FaceTime and Skype to maintain our connection with them. Summer helped to coach the rhythmic gymnastics team and Aaron has been a worker on the pool and playground and helping out with sound systems. Aaron is a serial practical joker and I won't miss that!!!!

Whaea Nicky Thorne will be away for the next few weeks recovering from glandular fever. She is not happy about having to leave her class at a time

when routines and expectations are being established. I don't think she'd be happy to be sick anytime to be fair. Maata has offered to teach the class for the next couple of weeks and while that makes it a lot harder for the leadership team to do what we have to accomplish, it is the better solution for the children. Maata knows her onions and happily, teaching and learning.

We will re think the options when we know how Nicky is doing. Our love and thoughts are with her as she "rests" her way back to health.

Year 2019 dates

Our board of trustees are considering 2019 dates for the school year. The parameters are mandated by The Secretary of Education. Our Kahukura principals are looking at starting 4 February and finishing 20 December. You are welcome to email me or Duane with your opinions. The board will make the final call.

School Costs

We don't want any child to miss out on school experiences. If family finances cause you a headache, please talk to us so we can help with sponsorship and a plan for you to pay off a little at a time or to contribute what you can afford. If we don't know there's a problem, then we cannot help. It's not an option for students to stay at home as this is all part of the rich learning that we offer at this school.

Enjoy the last weeks of summer.

Year 5/6 Camp Celebration





West Spreydon School Board Of Trustees

We had our first meeting of the year on the 26th February.

The first thing we did was to welcome Tim Haywood and Brigette Riddle onto the board as co-opted members, both have a background in law and add a lot of strength and skill.

Then we delegated the various roles and sub-committees for the year, before we got into the bulk of the things to discuss.

The main topic of the night was finalising the implementation of the new home zone, that comes into effect today, March 8th.

It has been one of the most talked through and difficult topics encountered.

It has balanced relationship and community concerns, classroom and learning, the impending rebuild and renewal, statistics and data, values and vision, ministry legislation and the list goes on.

The board team has sought the best information possible, and has acted in genuine concern, engaging both their head and hearts, while holding the responsibility for the big picture governance role.

Our school is currently built for 288 and after the property renewal project eventually it will be built for 325. By the end of the year it is anticipated that our roll will be 360.

The resulting decision which you will see in the formal letter has been extraordinarily difficult to arrive at.

There will be no out-of-zone enrolments this year.

This has been a board decision and therefore the best communication pathway is directly through our Co-Chairs Duane Major

(duane.major@westspreydon.school.nz), Paul Ferguson

(paul.ferguson@westspreydon.school.nz)

Duane and Paul
Co-chairs West Spreydon School Board of Trustees

Please click this link to see the [Zoning Enrolment Scheme Letter](#)

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Kia ora West Spreydon School whanau

SICKNESS

We have started early this year. Already staff and students are away with Strep throat and a student has Chickenpox.

Chicken Pox

<https://www.kidshealth.org.nz/chickenpox#toc3>

chickenpox is a common childhood illness caused by a virus

- * it is very easy to catch
- * most cases of chickenpox are mild and children get better completely

- * your child needs to see a doctor if he/she have a very high fever or are very ill, particularly if he/she becomes very drowsy, or are breathing fast or vomiting a lot
- * children with chickenpox need to stay home from school

- * * chickenpox can sometimes cause serious complications

Strep Throat <https://www.healthline.com/health/strep-throat>

The severity of strep throat can vary from person-to-person. Some people experience mild symptoms like a sore throat, whereas other people have more severe symptoms including fever and difficulty swallowing. Common symptoms of include a:

- * sudden [fever](#), especially if it's 101°F or higher

- * sore, red throat with white patches

- * [headache](#)

- * [chills](#)

* [loss of appetite](#)

* [swollen lymph nodes](#) in the neck

* [trouble swallowing](#)

SUN SAFETY

Our school is designated a **SUN SMART SCHOOL**. All students must have a school regulation hat (with a brim to cover front of face and back of neck) Could you please ensure they have sunscreen in their bag and know how and when to apply it.

NO PARENT CARS INSIDE SCHOOL

Please do not bring your car into the school grounds before, after and during school time. This includes groups tutors, after school classes, pool users, parent helpers etc. We do not have the car parks or space for other vehicles and there are valid concerns about the risks to students.

PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Concerns have been brought to our attention regarding parking outside school when dropping and picking up students. Cars are parking on yellow lines, over drive ways, unsafe u turns and an altercation with a cyclist. I will pass these concerns over to our Polices education officer to follow up on. Traffic wardens will take a photo of the offending car and a fine will be sent. The school has no control over this. If you have any queries you need to ring Land Transport.

HAZARD Identification and Management (We need your support at all times)

If you notice any hazards around the school, please notify Maata (021 022 63903) or the office immediately so it can be managed. Together we can be a lot more effective in keeping our children safe.

CROSSING THE ROAD

Please encourage your child/ren to use the pedestrian crossing to cross the road. Road patrol is on 8.30am to 8.55am and 3pm to 3.15pm

Thank you

Maata Smith

Deputy Principal

Next Meeting

Monday 12 March, 7pm in the staff room. All welcome.

Email: wssfriendswhanau@gmail.com

Bank details

For all Friends and Whanau run fundraisers the bank account details are:

West Spreydon School PTA

12-3482-0034345-00



Fundraising Results

A big thank you to all who purchased monogrammed swim bags and to Divine Monograms for fulfilling our large order. A total of \$489 was raised (woo-hoo!) Together with funds raised from last years Entertainment Book sales, Friends and Whanau purchased supplies to fit out the pool changing sheds and held a working bee to complete the work.

Hangi Help

Each year Friends and Whanau are responsible for not only purchasing ingredients for the scrumptious pudding but whipping up multiple servings ready for the next day's feast. Thank you to Chris P, Wendy Q, Cath F, Nicki S and Donna C for this years delicious dessert.

A BIG shout out to all who volunteered in vege prep and serving at the hangi too. Thank you for your time and effort.

Excitement on camp.



Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.

MailChimp.