

10 May WSS School Newsletter 2018

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Kia ora << Test First Name >> << Test Last Name >>,



West Spreydon School Newsletter

Thursday 9 May 2018

Roll: 329 Boys: 157 Girls: 172

Absences in the last two weeks: 77 Lateness: 41

Important Dates

May

- 11 Mother of all Clean Ups
Assembly Room 3
- 17 Winter Sport - Seniors
- 18 Pink Shirt Day
- 24 Winter Sport - Seniors
- 25 Assembly Room 11
- 28 Samoan Language Week
- 31 Winter Sport

June

- 1 Teacher Only Day
- 4 Queens Birthday - Holiday
- 5 Choir Practice
- 7 Winter Sport - Seniors
- 8 Assembly Room 13
- 14 Winter Sport - Seniors
- 15 Mufti Day - When I grow up
- 22 Assembly - Room 1
- 26 NZEI Meeting for Teachers
- 28 Winter Sport

29 Welcome Hui - Jared and Nicky

July

2 Dancing Like the Stars Evening

3 Student Lead Conference 3.30 - 7 pm

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5 Winter Sport - Seniors

6 Assembly Room 8

Hells Pizza lunch - Friends and Whanau

IMPORTANT HEALTH & SAFETY NOTES:

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

Dog waste

We have been seeing a lot of dogs in the school grounds during the weekends, despite signs around the school. Sadly they don't always pick up their dogs waste. Children are standing in it, taking it into the sandpit and classrooms. If you know anyone who bring their dogs to school could you please have a word with them.

Sickness

We have a bug going around. Symptoms are high fever and vomiting.

Eating plants

A student was dared by other students to put a mushroom from the ground in his mouth. We asked teachers to speak to their class regarding this emphasising that some plants are toxic if eaten. Could you please reinforce this with your child/ children.

Principal says...

I hope you have all had a lovely vacation, knowing full well that most of you didn't and that you juggled childcare and work responsibilities. For the children it is a chance to breathe and let off a bit of steam. I had some lovely days with our 4 year old granddaughter although she is exhausting. She loves playing card games, board games, climbing anything that has a foothold, biking, playing at parks, lunch time treats and endless rough house games with granddad. I came back to school for a rest.

Please do not organise private children's birthday parties through school. With the very best of intentions giving out invitations at school can exclude children unintentionally, or as we have seen, become a deliberate strategy to let other children know that they are not liked or not included. These arrangements need to be made privately please. We are always happy for you to bring a birthday cake for the whole class on your child's birthday so everyone can celebrate if that is what you would normally do.

Term Two

This is the term of the Kahukura Music Festival and Dancing Like The Stars which culminate in big public

performances at The Aurora Centre and Isaac Theatre Royal. It is a very busy term for teachers and students. There is a trip to Ferrymead, Jump Jam, Cross Country, Passion Projects, Wearable Arts and winter sports.

I laughed when I heard this morning that an Australian politician wants a review on teacher work hours and holidays. He thinks that we should be working 35 hours per week (at least) and dropping the vacations to what all other industries have. I don't think he realises that our contracts mean a minimum of 50 hours and call back days in weekends and holidays, and as the job is open ended, it includes any and all days in between. I'd vote for him, to be honest. His idea sounds fantastic.

School hours are 8.30 to 3.00.

That's a nice Segway into asking again that you do not send children to school before 8.30. You will need to make your own arrangements for childcare before and after school if you work. I have asked teachers to monitor this and to take further action if required. This is a health and safety issue.

Education Review

The government is asking for submissions from everyone in reference to the proposed changes to education in New Zealand. The potential for change is as radical as Tomorrow's Schools thirty years ago. This will affect you and generations to come. Please take the time to copy and paste the URL into your browser and complete the survey. Who knows? The voice that tips the balance and changes education just might be yours.

<https://conversation.education.govt.nz/>

Turn Into the Skid.

Do you remember doing your driver's licence and being instructed to turn into the skid? We were told that it wouldn't necessarily mean we would avoid a crash but that we had a better chance of controlling it. It's exactly the same with children. We can't avoid the big crashes with them as they mature, but we can control the final outcome and limit the damage to relationships. Attachment theory is a sound way of dealing with things like tantrums, anxiety, night terrors, refusal to go to bed, upset when you have to leave the child at school, refusal to follow instructions etc.

Remember that this is not a quick fix; it is about a relationship with your child that means more to them than anyone or anything else.

What do you do when your child has a tantrum?

*if you know your child then you will know what triggers him/her and you will be ready (bedtime, bath time, getting ready for school, turn off the tv, no more biscuits, doing the dishes....)

* Don't be surprised or shocked. You knew it was coming!!!

* Stay calm and in the Alpha role and maintain your ground

*MAKE ROOM FOR THE TANTRUM TO HAPPEN. Don't try to avoid it, punish it or let it spoil your relationship

* Reassure your child that you are here for him/her and that you can see that he/she is frustrated and it needs to come out.

When your child has calmed down completely and hopefully cried buckets of tears, comfort him or her. You will know when the tears have gone from rage, to the tears of futility (the realisation that there is no way I can manipulate my way out of this or change the outcome.) Those tears are the bees knees and the beginning of adaptation and resilience.

If the time is right talk about:

"Frustration is normal. Daddy and mummy get frustrated too. Here are some ideas for how you can let it out without verbal abuse or hurting yourself or others." If necessary, model an option. "Sweetheart I know you like to scream when you are frustrated. This is how mummy screams. Now you have a turn." If your child hits, kicks or bites find a safe way for him/her to express that on a punching bag or rubber ring. Where you can, normalise the feeling of frustration.

When you and your child are about to face the thing that triggers the outburst, have a calm conversation

well out from the event. E.g. "Daddy and I have noticed that when we tell you it is bed time you need some help. We are going to give you a 30 minute heads up, then 15 minutes heads up, then a 5 minute heads up. This will help you to get ready. Bed time is 7.30! For the last week or so we have noticed that you need about 15 minutes extra to get your frustration out and because we are not going to make bedtime any later, we will bring the time in by 15 minutes so we can help you to get the frustration out. Bed time is 7.30."

Stay calm. Don't be disingenuous, but suggest that kicking the cupboards, younger brother and appliances could cause harm and that instead you have prepared some pillows for the child to lie on and let rip.

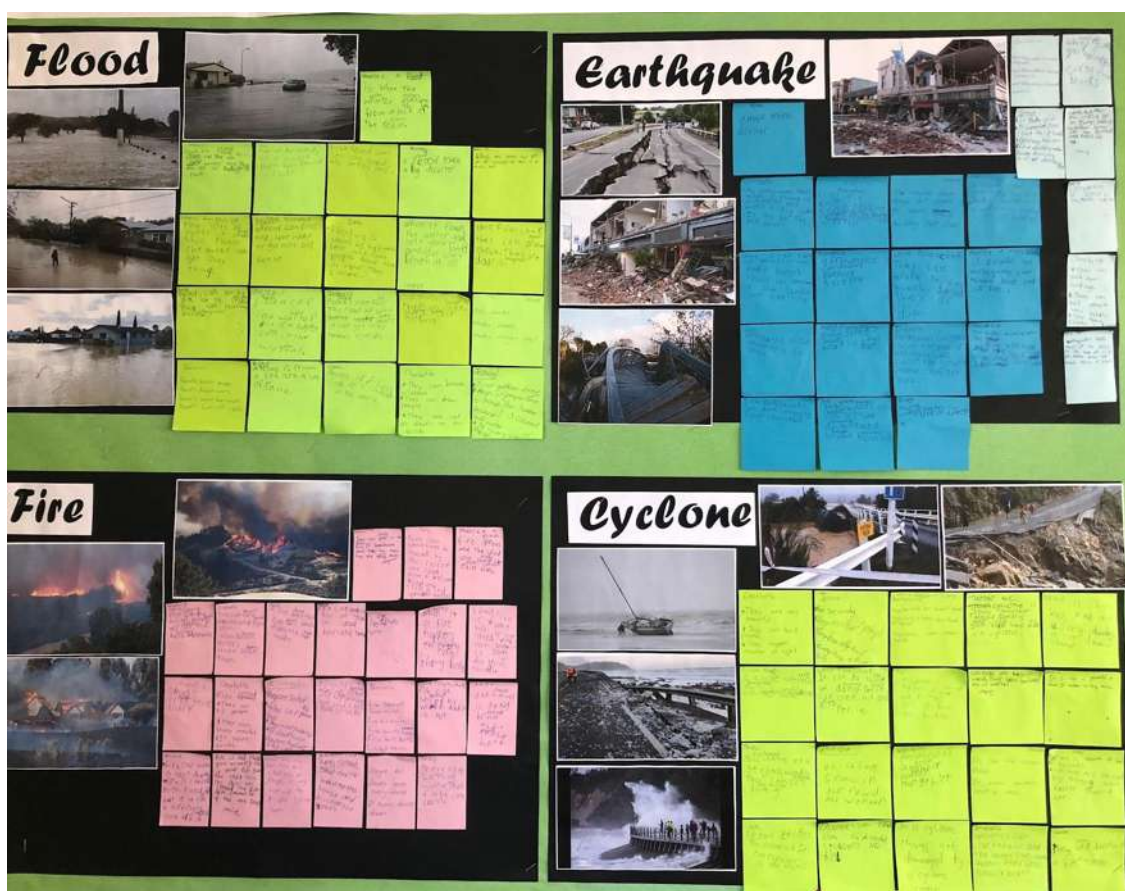
Dr Gordon Neufeld has spent his life studying how children's brains develop. The attachment approach is so simple but NOT EASY! The long term pay-off for you and your children is fantastic. Check him out on YouTube or get his books. No I do not get a commission!!!!!!!

Have a lovely term.

Marriene Langton

What's happening in Room 13

This term the Raupo team is learning about natural disasters. we are learning about how different natural disasters are created and how we can stay safe. We started by sharing our ideas of all the things we already know about natural disasters.



Term 2 Board Of Trustees Update:

Kia Ora School Whanau,

We hope this finds you well.

Here are some updates from the work of our school Board of Trustees that might be of interest to you.

Student Data:

On Monday the 30th of April we had our first Board meeting for term 2. The key item on the agenda was our student achievement data. In light of the new Labour government's decision to remove Overall Teacher Judgements (OTJ) and in light of the need to establish our school's curriculum, it was timely to start looking at our data and revising how we report children's progress. The report which was presented by Jared Fretwell and Maata Smith. The Board was assured that students at WSS are achieving, and in many cases thriving. Furthermore, where students are not yet achieving at their desired levels there was evidence that their learning was being accelerated as they progressed through the school or were provided with suitable interventions. Despite still having a small tail of underachievement, which is comparable to trends throughout New Zealand, we are excited to see a teaching and leadership team who are future focused and continually reflecting on their own practice in order to improve learning outcomes for all students at WSS. They truly reflect our Attitude, Achievement and Adventure (Triple AAA) values.

Strategic Goals:

Each meeting we try review a strategic goal, in this last meeting we reviewed our strategic environmental goal - *Build a school environment that connects our community, people, buildings and natural places, and tells the story of "us, our place and our future" in our local community.*

Cashmere High School (CHS) Zone:

Unfortunately the WSS BoT was not consulted directly in relation to CHS proposed home zone changes. Furthermore, CHS's short time-frame did not afford sufficient time for us to robustly discuss their proposal as a Board. We did however manage to write a very generalised letter that tried to reiterate the need for consultation, our desire as a Board to positively engage in dialogue that shapes the future of South West Christchurch and that WSS was one of the closest proximity primary schools to CHS. We also stated that such decisions cannot be made in isolation without knowledge of the bigger picture. If you do have strong views in support or against CHS's home zone process we would encourage you to use appropriate channels to voice these. One of these is emailing the Minister of Education, Hon Chris Hipkins at chris.hipkins@parliament.govt.nz. CHS will meet with the Ministry on the 16th of May.

Two of our board's long standing core beliefs' are that 'educational equality is key to democracy', and that 'education works best when our homes, school and local community work together in harmony'. This hopefully can be seen in the culture of our school, the way we collaborate with our neighbouring school networks, and the way our school families embrace the schools they move onto following their children's educational pathway.

We point you toward the open nights for our most local schools

Tuesday 22nd May	4pm - 6pm	Cashmere High Open Day
Thursday 24th May	6-8pm	Hillmorton High Open Night
Thursday 2nd August	6:30-8:30pm	South Intermediate Open Night

Click the following link for further information:

[Kahukura Community of Practice zoning for Cashmere High School Response](#)

Property:

Towards the end of Term 1, the delegated Property Committee, which consists of Simon Harrison, Paul Ferguson and Marriene Langton, met with the Ministry of Education and key design personnel to hear progress on the first steps in the design phase for Master Planning at WSS. Effectively this was the initial stages of the Canterbury Rebuild and Renewal process. It involved even more engineering reports.

...
numerous repair versus rebuild feasibility reports and possible property developments for the next 20 - 30 years. This is providing clarity about the short, medium and long term implications of any property works at WSS and we look forward to being able to share the next steps with you soon. Watch this space!

Education conversation

The government is currently consulting with New Zealanders about what they want to see education look like now, and in the future. This aligns with, and will help guide the government's programme of work in the education sector. If you haven't already done so, join the conversation and complete the survey via this [link](#) or <https://conversation.education.govt.nz/> by 31st May.

The survey consists of four questions (along with the usual demographic type questions) which you can answer in as little as 5 minutes; or you can take as long as you like.

Next Board Meetings:

In mid May along with the combined Kahukura Board of Trustees (BoT) hui on the 30th May.

We are also looking forward to our annual Board retreat 18th / 19th May where we will have governance (board) training with 'Sharp Governance' Trainer, Al Fone. This serves as a great opportunity to get to know all members better as we delegate the numerous roles, responsibilities and reflect on the different strengths and experiences we each bring to the position.

Our next standard Board meeting is scheduled for Monday 25th of June at 5:30pm in the school staffroom. Everyone is welcome to attend. You do not have speaking rights but this is a great chance for you to see what lies behind the scenes of a busy school.

Finally

We often look for glimpses when our school vision values and indeed beliefs come to life, and many of us believe we saw a glimpse of this recently at our school cross country. Seeing every student strive to do their best and helping one another to do this, staff arranging a safe and engaging learning environment, and families present to support and encourage not only their own children but many others. All with a good dose of fun on what was a chilly morning. We sincerely wish to thank all the staff, children and families we serve. It can be a difficult role in governance at times, but we benefit greatly in this role by having honest, kind and contributing people surrounding us. We don't pretend to be a perfect school, but we do think we have something special, thanks to our people sharing in and working for our vision, values and beliefs.

Nga Mihi

West Spreydon School Board of Trustees



Full School Cross Country Results

Year 1 Boys - 1st Troy Blackwell, 2nd Leo Craig, 3rd Atticus Payne and 4th Reed Herron
Year 1 Girls - 1st Melina Panapa, 2nd Sophia Hart, 3rd Toakase Funaki, 4th Sophie Tangney
Year 2 Boys - 1st Jono Day, 2nd Charlie Sparrow, 3rd Henry Ulutau, 4th Jack Burtenshaw
Year 2 Girls - 1st Mischa Jamieson, 2nd Ilithyia Devescovi-Preston, 3rd Muleya Moono, 4th Aleeyah Christie-Hilton



Year 3 Boys - 1st Finn Langrell, 2nd Finn Anderson, 3rd Taylor Curry, 4 Sebastian McKirdy
Year 3 Girls - 1st Millie Dumbleton, 2nd Alexis Orlita-Thorpe, 3rd Deborah Time, 4th Jasmine Eade-Hall
Year 4 Boys - 1st Ethan Cox, 2nd Jayden Sutton, 3rd Robbie Ballard, 4th Corey Fisher
Year 4 Girls - 1st Cosette Major, 2nd Molly



Harrison, 3rd Tessa Lloyd Mann, 4th Josie Jamieson



Year 5 Boys - 1st Toby Langrell, 2nd Conn Anderson, 3rd Jack Collie, 4th Arthur Cole
Year 5 Girls - 1st Rebekah Pratten, 2nd Rubybelle Ferguson, 3rd Sophie Hawken, 4th Olivia Winchester
Year 6 Boys - 1st Hudson Major, 2nd Fraser Ferguson, 3rd Jordan Sutton, 4th Charlie Herron
Year 6 Girls - 1st Amelia Quinn, 2nd Charli Tait, 3rd Sophie Harrison, 4th Eleanor Pine

Next Meeting

Friday 11 May, 9am 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



Keen to Help??

Are you wanting to help the school out in some way but time is limited / meetings don't work for you / don't want to become a Friends & Whanau member? We are wanting to establish a database of people who are eager to help with a variety of activities that may arise. This could be anything from baking to gardening to...well, anything! Please email wssfriendswhanau@gmail.com with your contact details. If you have any specific skills or have a preference of when you can help (eg evenings/weekends only) feel free to mention. Thanking you in advance.

Friday 11th May: Mother of all Cleanups

Parent help required between 9 and 11am. Please contact your child's teacher. Sorry, not suitable to bring preschoolers to as will be around water along the stream.

Gumboots for children a good idea too!

Friday 15th June: Mufti Day

"When I grow up I want to be..."

Let your imagination go wild and your wishes come true by dressing up for your chosen career.

Gold coin donation on the day.

Entertainment Book

Awesome value for money and the school benefits with \$14 from every sale of the book or app. See display book in the office if you need convincing.

<https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/93n4607>

Lucky Book Club

Brochures should be coming home with your child in the next couple of days.

Due date is Thursday 17th May.

The link is here: http://scholastic.co.nz/media/4142/nz_bookclub_318.pdf

The app is also available from the play store which makes purchasing really easy.



FROM POOL COMMITTEE

A big thank you to everyone for your support, fundraising and patience during our first season. It filled our hearts to see our children and community enjoying the pool. We feel so encouraged and are already preparing for next season!

To keep updated with the pool happenings please 'like' our Facebook

page, <https://www.facebook.com/westspreydonschoolcommunity/pool/>

Also a reminder that all pool enquiries are to go to pool@westspreydon.school.nz.

The Pool Committee consists of Mat Nieuwenhuijsen, Nicky Smith, Stacy Silich (school parents) and Olivia McGarry and Lauren Yannakis and Nick Yannakis (community).

Thanks again
The Pool Committee



Children qualified for Zones Cross Country are: Tobv Lanarell. Conn Anderson. Rebekah Pratten.

Hudson Major, Fraser Ferguson and Amelia Quinn.



Hillmorton High School | Te Kura Tuarua o Horomaka

OPEN NIGHT

Thursday 24 May | 6pm - 8pm



Tankerville Road, Hoon Hay, Christchurch 8025 | p +64 3 338 5119 | e admin@hillmorton.school.nz | hillmorton.school.nz



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