

Newsletter Monday April 27 2009

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome back to term 2. The staff and I hope you had a wonderful holiday with the children.

Another busy term has started and this includes the upgrade of the school library and the refurbishment of Room 6. The children who are working in the library will shift into their new room on Monday May 4 and then the contractors will begin to work in the library where we are getting new carpet, pin boards and painting.

This puts assemblies on hold for a while. We will keep you in contact about the next assembly date. We hope to have the library available for the Book fair in week three but if not we will look for an alternative. Thank you for your understanding.

Library Shift and clean up

We do require some support from anyone who can help this week as we box up the library books and sort out the storeroom. If you can help then please come to school at **1pm this Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday** to help with the transition. The more the merrier and please bring any cardboard boxes you have to help with the job.

Welcome to School

A special welcome to the following new pupils at Rakaia School. We hope your time here will be inspiring and celebrated to the full.

Tom Stapleton	Room 4
Olivia Bishop	Room 4
Marcus Bishop	Room 5
Richard Bishop	Room 2
Grace Bennett	Room 3
Niki Pesamino	Room 1
Keilani Stewart	Room 5
Taine Stewart	Room 3



ANZAC Day



Thank you very much to the children who turned out for the school at the Rakaia ANZAC celebration. Special congratulations to Amanda Hamilton-White and Cody Elvy who came second and third in the essay competition. The school and myself appreciated the children support and attendance. Well done also to those from the scout and cub troop who looked fabulous in their uniforms.

Breakfast with Mr Ellis

I have been successful in getting breakfast (Weetbix) supplied for school and I would like to invite pupils to have breakfast with me once a week starting this term. Invitations will be issued for Wednesday morning sessions where the children and parents if they wish can have breakfast and talk about school and what is happening. Breakfast will be at 7.45am. I am very grateful to Sanitarium and Fonterra for this opportunity.



Trampolines are almost in:

We are very grateful to the School Support group for buying the school trampolines. Graeme Cameron dug the holes in the holidays and we appreciate his support as well. Thank you also to Paul Stockdale for organizing the work and to Outdoor Adventure Sports for the supply of these trampolines for the children. All in all a team effort.

Some reminders

- The two senior rooms, Rooms 1 and 2 start the final part of their swimming tuition next Monday May 4. The children will need their togs and towels.
- Manual training for Years 7-8 starts this Wednesday April 29.
- Sausages will still be available on Friday however numbers are getting very low and we will need to review the need in the school. Orders should be at school on Thursday but will be accepted on Friday.
- Book week will be held during week three of the term, May 11 -15. A book fair will be held in the school as well as a dress up day on the Friday. The children will need to start to think of their characters and costumes.
- Music Festival practice for Rooms 1 and 2 on May 21st.
- Young Leaders Day Year 7-8 May 26- Information to follow.

Ashburton Aquatic Centre Submission to the District Council.

As you will be aware, the council has proposed a delay to the building of the Aquatic Centre until 2015. The council is reasonably committed to building this facility but not for some time. The current planning is at an early stage and seems to be moving at a slow pace. There are several projects that the council wants to move forward with; our proposal is that the aquatic centre be first on the list.

Our current community pool is on its last legs and it would seem irresponsible to have such a delay to a much needed community resource. Given that our youth will be the rate payers of the future, we feel it is important that they have a say in when the aquatic centre is built.

We would like all Mid Canterbury families who would use the aquatic centre to sign a submission based on the above information, asking the council to put the construction of the aquatic centre at the top of the list in its district plan.

Most school children use the current community pool for swimming instruction and if this were to be removed as an option, there would be significant children who would not be able to access swimming lessons. This poses a real life danger to Mid Cantabrians where water is very close to us all.

Thank you for your support,

Mid Canterbury Principal's Association.