



## SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 2018

Meadowbank School  
68 Waiaatarua Road, Remuera, Auckland 1050  
Phone: 520 3739  
www.meadowbank.school.nz  
principal@meadowbank.school.nz

9 August 2018

Dear Parents and Caregivers

The past fortnight has been a busy time with a wide range of activities and events. We have had:-

- Parent - Teacher Interviews
- Jiangbei School Exchange (Ningbo, China)
- Trips to the Zoo and Corbans Art Centre
- Visits from a Beekeeper and an Author
- Sports Exchange
- Trips to the Depot

### TEACHER STRIKE ACTION - NEXT WEDNESDAY, 15 AUGUST

With all classroom teachers being members of the NZEI and therefore withdrawing their services next Wednesday, the Board of Trustees had no alternative but to close the school on Health and Safety grounds.

To find 2-3 relief teachers for sicknesses is difficult enough but finding 36 relief teachers would be impossible.

It was heartening for teachers to see that the TV3 News Hub poll showed 80% of respondents supported the teachers' strike. Another poll by market research company, The Navigators, found

- > 85% agreed there is a teacher shortage.
- > 83% believed teachers need a pay rise.
- > 82% believed a pay rise would help address the teacher shortage.
- > 91% believed teachers needed more support with students with additional learning needs.

The Meadowbank teachers have appreciated the support that they are receiving from our parent community. Club Meadowbank is offering a child care programme \$45 per person - 7.30am to 6pm or \$35 per person - 7.30am to 3pm. There are still a few places available. Speech and Drama recreation programme will still be on as per normal. Children are to go straight to the Music Room.



We have attracted quite some publicity in relation to this wonderful programme. Many of you will have seen the articles in the Saturday Herald a couple of weekends ago.

Some other matters include:-

- > Meadowbank School becoming a model school for the programme. There is a financial benefit related to this, and it also means that we will host numerous visitors wishing to explore developing the programme within their schools.
- > We do host regular visitors. Last week we hosted a large group from Titirangi Steiner School. Next week we host Dubai's Minister for Food Security.



## Parent-Teacher Interviews

- > It was great to see the hall full of Mums, Dads and children last week.
- > Teachers are currently following up on commitments made at the interviews.
- > If any parents missed the opportunity for an interview and you would like to catch up with your child's teacher, then please email them directly to arrange a suitable day/time.

## Enrolments for 2019

Just a further reminder about this special day for enrolling your child who turns 5 between December 2018 and December 2019. School tours will leave the Senior Staffroom at 9.30am and 2pm on Tuesday, 28 August.

Knowing the names and accurate numbers of children assists us with planning and staffing, and with lobbying the Ministry for additional requirements. If you know of families with 4 year olds who intend to come to Meadowbank, please ask them to contact the Senior School Office - 520 3739.

Due to printer delays, enrolment packs will now be sent out next week.

## OUT OF HOURS USE OF SCHOOL GROUNDS

We frequently receive requests from our parents and our wider community about using our school grounds and facilities out of school hours. We also have neighbours and community who casually use our grounds / fields / courts as the neighbourhood playground.

Generally speaking our wider community are respectful of school property and as a result we are not like many schools around Auckland which have high fences and gates keeping people out. Yes we do have small amounts of litter, some dog owners who do not clean up after their pooches and the rare occurrences of graffiti and vandalism - but thankfully these are rare. Also most of our after hours users act as good security.

So what is available to use:-

1. **Hall and Classrooms** : There is a cost in using / hiring these. This relates to power, heating, cleaning, use of toilets etc.
2. **Courts / Covered Court / Fields / Playgrounds** : These get widespread community use from general play to sports teams, and it's free. But there are a couple of rules:-
  - School Teams and Club Meadowbank have priority with before and after school use.
  - If anyone wishes exclusive use, the area concerned needs to be booked through the office, and for this there is a nominal cost. If you don't book you may need to share the covered court, the fields or another area with other groups.
  - There is to be **no food** consumed on the covered court.



REMUERA  
INTERMEDIATE  
SCHOOL  
Reliability Integrity Service

Year 6 students who will be attending Remuera Intermediate School next year will have a special morning visit on **Thursday, 30 August** (9am until 11am) to enable them to gain some familiarity. Students will travel as a group by bus.

Parents who are interested in accompanying their child on this visit will need to make their own way and meet them at 9.20am at the St. Vincent Avenue entrance. Children who have committed to attend another school will remain at Meadowbank School.

# COMMUNICATION / COMMUNICATION PLAN

- › Firstly, it was very pleasing to read parent feedback in the Board survey with regards to communication. Whilst not perfect, it did show overwhelming positivity.
  - Parents felt well informed and could easily access information (only 5% disagreed).
  - Parents felt well informed about their children's progress (again 5% disagreed).
  - Parents felt that teachers collaborated with them to help their children succeed (2% disagreed).
- › Things that we did well included:-
  - Speaker presentations.
  - The schoolwide use of SeeSaw.
  - The School App.
  - The Newsletter and communication in general.
- › Areas some felt needed working on included:-
  - School Reports. As the Ministry settles on alternatives to National Standards, these will change.
  - Reporting Systems. Related to children's presence at interviews. Just an awareness we will not change the current interview process, but parents can (and often do) arrange another time for a 1:1 meeting with their child's teacher at a later date.
  - The approachability of some teachers. If you have a concern, please talk to the AP/DP responsible for the class level.
- › As in the plan, Facebook has been introduced. Have you checked it out?
  - We already have 100+ likes.
  - The boomerang bags are the most followed item.
  - Our reach is 2,100.

Our Boomerang Bags have been a huge success at our local Countdown, so much so that we need to replenish our supply.

If you can sew and have some spare time please contact either:-

Jane Butel 📧 [jbutel@meadowbank.school.nz](mailto:jbutel@meadowbank.school.nz) or  
Moira Blair 📧 [mblair@meadowbank.school.nz](mailto:mblair@meadowbank.school.nz)

We are also in need of some more fabric. If you any unwanted fabric or old curtains etc. that we could use to make our boomerang bags, please drop these off into either school office.



## SIGN IN / OUT PROCESS

A friendly reminder that if you need to take your child out of school during the day for whatever reason, please ensure you sign them out at the school office.

If your child arrives to school after the 8.50am bell, they must sign in at the school office.

This process is to ensure the safety of all our students.

"Selling Meadowbank homes since 2001."



**STEVE HOOD**  
m:021 911 606

Barfoot & Thompson

# SPORTS MATTERS

## ZONE GYMNASTICS

Once again we excelled in the Eastern Zone Gymnastic Championships.

Teams : Year 6 Girls - 1st and 3rd / Year 6 Boys - 2nd  
Year 5 Girls - 1st / Year 4 Girls - 2nd / Year 3 Girls - 2nd  
Individual : Year 6 - Julie Qian - 1st / Zach Lambert - 3rd  
Year 5 - Sophie Pomfrett  
Year 4 - Olivia Sue - 3rd  
Year 3 - Mia Zhang - 3rd / Mads Lawson-Smith - 1st

We look forward to our team competing in the Auckland Champion of Champions on 13 September.

## NORTH ISLAND SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS

Following trials at Snow Planet the following students have been selected to represent us at the North Island Ski Championships at Mt. Ruapehu commencing 27 August

Rowan Phillips	Oliver Poppelwell	Eden Murdoch	Emma White
Josh Aitkenhead	Keira James	Louis Worsnop	Olivia Bethell
Isaac Phillips			

## SENIOR SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY, TUESDAY, 14 AUGUST

Once again we return to College Rifles for the Year 3 to 6 Cross Country. From this day we select the school team to represent us at the Zone Cross Country on 18 September. Children will walk to College Rifles. We look forward to strong parent support.

## YEAR 5 & 6 WINTER SPORTS FIELD DAY - TUESDAY, 21 AUGUST

The grand finale to the winter sports programme is where the 20 plus schools in the Remuera zone get together in field days for Football; Netball; Rugby, Hockey. We look forward to successes for our teams.

Netball	-	Year 5 and 6 A & B teams will play at Auckland Netball Centre, Stonefields.
Rugby	-	Shore Road fields, Remuera
Hockey	-	Lloyd Elsmore Park, Pakuranga
Football	-	Acers and Barcelona teams - Western Springs Football Club, Seddon Park
	-	Celtics and Girls teams - Fergusson Park, Onehunga

## UPCOMING DATES ... ..

August

10	Room 21, 22,23 Assembly - 2.15pm
	Room 4,9 trip to Corbans Arts Centre
14	Year 3 to 6 Cross Country
15	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED - Teacher Strike Action</b>
20	Year 4 trip to Howick Historical Village
	Year 2 & 3 Dog Safety Programme
21	Year 5 & 6 Winter Sports Field Day
24	Room 12,13 Assembly - 2.15pm
27	North Island Ski Champs
	Y6 Parent Puberty presentation - 3.15pm
28	2019 Enrolment Day
30	Year 6 visit Remuera Intermediate

