



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 2018



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

2 November 2018

Dear Parents & Caregivers

The saga between the Ministry and teachers over conditions of work continues. Over the past week I heard two presentations from the Minister of Education, Chris Hipkins talking about his take on the current state of primary schools in New Zealand. The first in Wellington at the NZ Principals' Conference was received very differently to his presentation to Auckland Principals. At the latter he was given a hard time by an audience suffering much more from the staffing crisis.

TEACHER STRIKE ACTION - MONDAY, 12 NOVEMBER

With all classroom teachers being members of the NZEI and therefore withdrawing their services on Monday, 12 November, 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. 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. Please contact club Meadowbank directly to book your child.

☎ 021 176 7069 or ✉ slawrence@meadowbank.school.nz

ARE YOU LEAVING?

We are well into planning and organising for 2019. One of the key matters we need to know are student numbers. Obviously all our Year 6 students move on - most are going to Remuera Intermediate, with others going to about 10 other schools.

However, it is knowing the numbers from other levels which are essential to us in planning staffing and balanced class rolls. If your children are in New Entrants to Year 5 and are leaving, be it overseas, around NZ or elsewhere in Auckland, we need to know. This will ensure that we prepare all the necessary paperwork for your child's new school and we can balance our 2019 class numbers.

Please contact Carlene ☎ 520 3739 or
✉ ccallinan@meadowbank.school.nz

PERFORMING ARTS EVENING - THURSDAY, 8 NOVEMBER

Parents are invited to an evening where our various performing arts groups will share their capabilities. The groups include:-

Room 21 video introduction / Senior & Junior Kapa Haka / Olivia Kay (Dance) / Year 4 Monologue Finalists / Pasifika Dance / Charles Deng (Piano) / Chinese Dance / Tweeters Choir / Mary & Sophie (Dance) and Teacher Items

Our evening will commence at 6pm in the Bruce McLaren Hall.

LIONS' CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Each week we award one junior student and one senior senior student the Citizenship Cup. Over a year approximately 60 students are recognised.

Each year the Remuera Lions' Club presents two Citizenship Awards (one boy / one girl) to all schools in the Remuera area.

Congratulations to the following two Year 6 students on being selected as the 2018 Meadowbank Citizenship Award recipients:-

- > Emma Lawson-Smith - Room 33
- > Cassian Hayward-Slaterry - Room 27

They will be presented their awards at a special ceremony next week at Dilworth School.

PROPERTY DEVELOPMENTS

- ▶ The tendering process for the demolition of the current Admin Block and conversion of Room 17 - 19 to be a temporary Administration facility has begun.
- ▶ Following school closure on Tuesday, 18 December the demolition begins. The process will take approximately 2 weeks and will disturb asbestos material, so you will see contractors in white suits with breathing masks.
- ▶ For the days Tuesday, 18 to Friday, 21 December, Club Meadowbank will be moved from the Hall and the demolition site onto the Junior Campus on Kelvin Road.
- ▶ The 2019 school year will start with the site of the former Admin block being a fenced bare piece of land. Ministry officials tell us the new build will commence sometime between April and July.

LEGO TABLE

Our request from the last Newsletter was answered by two families. First off the mark was Andre Vos (father of Ritchie - Room 34) who also runs the local Hire-a-Hubby franchise. We are looking forward to seeing this brand new addition in our new 2019 Reception classroom in Room 5.

PRINCIPAL APPOINTMENT PROCESS

- ♦ On Wednesday, the Board shortlisted candidates for an interview.
- ♦ They have selected 5 who will be interviewed next Saturday, 10 November.

FOMS MATTERS

- ♦ Last week's Halloween Disco was an outstanding success with massive numbers of children coming as witches, ghouls, wizards etc.
- ♦ The Christmas Ham promotion has ended and 100 hams were sold.
- ♦ Don't forget ice block Fridays - \$2 each or three for \$5 sold at both school gates.
- ♦ The next FOMS meeting is scheduled for next Wednesday, 7 November at 7.30pm in the Senior School Staffroom.
- ♦ The FOMS are looking for massive parent participation (particularly from Junior school mums and dads) on **Saturday, 24 November** to help give the Lorax Garden / Playground some revitalisation.

NEW RECEPTION CLASSROOM

- ♦ Due to the building programme on the Senior Campus, 2019 will see three Year 3 classrooms being based on the Junior site.
- ♦ In order to help accommodate these additional children we will be moving the Reception Classroom from Rooms 1 & 2 to Room 5, the large downstairs room in the old block.
- ♦ We have had contractors doing some enablement work. This has included:-
 - Installing café blinds and rubber matting outside Room 5 to enable indoor / outdoor flow in all weathers.
 - Upgrading the toilets and providing a better link between the toilets and the classroom.
 - Converting an old storeroom into a new cloakroom for the new class.
 - Providing better access from the road to the classroom including safer steps from the front gate, and an easier, pushchair friendly access via the lower gate (hopefully to be completed this weekend).
- ♦ Additionally we have been making some changes to the old Dental Clinic enabling us to relocate special tuition programmes currently using the side rooms off Room 5 into one of three spaces in the Clinic. This has included a new deck, doors, carpet, blinds and heating.

ATHLETICS PROGRAMME

The culmination of our Physical Education athletics programme will result in the following events:-

- Wednesday, 14 November - Year 3 to 6 Athletics Sports Day, Mt Smart Stadium
- Tuesday, 27 November - Year 5 & 6 Zone Athletics Sports at Mt Smart Stadium
- Tuesday, 11 December - New Entrant to Year 2 Athletics Sports (venue to be confirmed)

We welcome our usual strong parent support at these events.

NEW ENTRANT SWIMMING PROGRAMME

The Hilton Brown Swimming team returns to work with our six New Entrant classes from Monday, 16 November to Friday, 7 December. This is a great programme involving ten lessons in small groups at a very reasonable price. The \$52 needs to be paid prior to the start of the programme.

PARENT HELPERS' MORNING TEA

We would like to invite parents/caregivers who have helped on a regular basis in the school / classroom to morning tea on **Thursday, 22 November, 2018 @ 10.30am** in the Bruce McLaren Hall, Waiaatarua Road, Remuera.

We would like to express our thanks for your assistance during 2018.

RSVP to Pauline Milliner ☎ 520 3739 Ext 713 or email pmilliner@meadowbank.school.nz

UPCOMING Events

NOVEMBER

- 5 Year 3 Spelling Bee
Room 30, 31, 32 trip to Mangere Mountain
- 6 Year 4 Monologue Speech Finals
Year 5 trip to Rangitoto
- 7 Tottenham Hotspur visit
FOMS Meeting - 7.30pm
- 9 Room 34 & 35 trip to Mangere Mountain
Year 6 trip to One Tree Hill
- 10 Principal Interviews
- 12 TEACHER STRIKE - SCHOOL CLOSED
- 13 Visiting Teachers from Hong Kong
- 14 Senior Athletics Sports, Mt Smart Stadium
- 16 Year 5 & 6 YCT Chinese Exams
- 19 Year 6 Monitors' Trip, Rainbows End
Year 2 Parent Showcase
- 21 Board of Trustees Meeting
- 22 Parent Helpers' Morning Tea
- 28 Year 2 trip to Auckland Museum
- 30 Year 6 visit Selwyn College for Showcase

WALKING SCHOOL BUS

If you are interested in being part of a walking HOME school bus or you have a child in Year 4 to 6 and would like to be part of a independent walking home pod please email

Natalie Stewart for further details.

marknatalie.stewart@gmail.com

CHESS TOURNAMENT

Well done to our chess team who participated in the National and Champions Trophy last weekend. Thank you to **Jordan Chu** for his help in getting the team ready.



"I'm proud to roll up my sleeves and serve my community."



STEVE HOOD
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Barfoot & Thompson