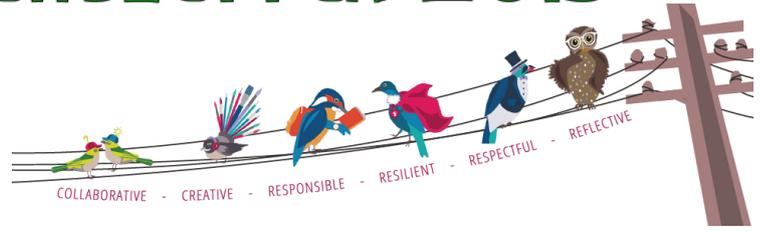




# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 2019



Meadowbank School  
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28 February 2019

Dear Parents and Caregivers

It is hard to believe that we are almost half way through term one. Time is flying by very quickly and it has been great to see our children enjoying the many outdoor activities that the beautiful summer weather has had to offer.

This week's newsletter advertises plenty of events that are coming up before the end of this term so make sure you get the key dates in your calendar so you don't miss out.



Phil Toomer - Principal

*Click on the picture above to view the video*

Throughout this newsletter there are a number of digital hyper links (video content, google forms, etc). We will be increasing our use of digital content over time to showcase the great learning that happens at Meadowbank School and to streamline some of our communication. Please take the time to make sure your e-mail details and App alerts are up to date and that you have liked our Facebook page.

On a personal note, I have really enjoyed getting around the school each day and I am certainly getting up to speed. Meadowbank is a vibrant school and I just love being a part of it!

## SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Our assembly timetable this year will be very similar to last year.

We have approximately 25 assemblies throughout the year and these are timetabled well in advance (see key dates on the newsletter). All classes will have one presentation assembly this year and there will also be a number of special assemblies to mark certain occasions.

Our year level learning presentations / showcases will happen throughout the year and these will be at separate times in varying locations. Your child's classroom teacher will inform you of these throughout the year.

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board have had their first meeting for 2019. Meetings are open and they are held in the Senior School Staffroom commencing at 7.00pm.

- Policies for review in Term 1 include:-
  - Swimming Pool;
  - Finance and Property Management.
- Meadowbank is one of approximately 700 schools which use School Docs Policies. Parents can access these policies by going to [www.schooldocs.co.nz](http://www.schooldocs.co.nz)  
  
Community Username : meadowbank  
Community Password : gully
- With elections happening later in the year; we welcome parents who may be interested in standing for the Board to come and sit in on our meetings to get an understanding of what is involved.

# PARENT EVENING - THURSDAY, 21 MARCH

Join Sarah Aiono from Longworth Education and members of the Leadership team as they discuss the school's **Learning through Play** journey. The evening will cover:-

- ◆ Our vision for learning through play;
- ◆ Research and Evidence;
- ◆ Developmental stages of 3-7 year olds;
- ◆ Curriculum Coverage;
- ◆ Q & A sessions

This event will be held in the Bruce McLaren Hall, Meadowbank School commencing at 7pm until 8.30pm - to book a space please book on [goo.gl/TLPuDH](http://goo.gl/TLPuDH) to register to attend this free event.

# ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL

An increasing number of students are arriving late for school - it may only be 5 to 10 minutes, however this disrupts the whole class as the roll has already been taken and the lessons are underway.



Please ensure your child arrives at school in good time to begin class at 8.50am. If they are late, they are required to sign in at the school office.

# SCHOOL CHARGES

Thank you to everyone who has made payment towards their school charges so far this year. Can we please ask that if you do pay by internet banking please add your child's name as the reference so we can reconcile the correct account. *Thank you*

## STANDARDISED TESTING

- Year 3 to 6 students are now completing our annual NZ Council Educational Research Progress and Achievement Tests. If you were schooled in NZ you may well remember PATs.
- The tests used are:-

- Reading Comprehension	- Year 4 to 6
- Reading Vocabulary	- Year 4 to 6
- Listening Comprehension	- Year 3 to 6
- Mathematics	- Year 3 to 6
- Spelling	- Year 4 to 6
- Punctuation and Grammar	- Year 4 to 6
- Standardised Test of Reading (STAR)	- Year 3
- While PAT tests have always traditionally been a pen and paper test, this year we have completed the Mathematics and Reading Vocabulary test online. The benefit of this is that they are adaptive, meaning the computer selects the questions for each student based on their response to the previous question. It ensures all students have some success, while providing a well targeted test with a good level of precision.
- Once the results are back, teachers analyse data looking for individual, year level and school wide strengths and weaknesses, as well as trends. This will impact on what and how teachers teach.
- Teachers will be happy to share results with you at the end of the term at Parent / Teacher Interviews (3 & 4 April).

## EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM (EOTC)

During Term 1 the Year 5 & 6 classes have several experiences related to and extending their learning in environments outside of the classroom. These end up being highlights for children in their year's learning and include:-

- **Waterwise:-**  
Opportunities during term 1 & 2 for Year 6 students to learn to sail on Optimist yachts, to kayak and to extend water safety knowledge.
- **Year 6 Camp:-**  
Annually our Year 6 students spend several days at an outdoor pursuits facility. Later this term classes go to Lakewood Lodge near Huntly.
- **Year 5 EOTC Week:-**  
Students will spend a week doing a variety of one day experiences including Bigfoot Adventures, Point to Point Walk, Bivouac Making and Water Safety.



Last year through fundraising we raised money towards new Kapa Haka uniforms. Thank you to everyone who supported these fundraisers through buying Village Press Oil and Calendars & Cards.

Our Kapa Haka group look amazing!

## GARDEN TO TABLE

Room 20 enjoyed their Garden to Table morning today in the kitchen with Mrs Crews.

On the menu was .. ...

Raw Energy Salad

Orzo with Broad Beans & Basil

Watermelon granita with Yoghurt & Bananas (which were grown at school!)



## MARCH



- 1 Year 6 Waterwise commences
- 5 Year 5 & 6 Swimming Sports - Glen Innes
- 8 Room 14, 15, 16 Assembly presentation
- 10 Top Schools - Churchill Park School
- 11 Year 3 & 4 Hilton Brown Swimming  
(until 22 March)  
FOMS Meeting - 7.30pm - Senior Staffroom
- 13 Year 6 Camp Meeting - Room 28 @ 5.30pm
- 14 Year 1 trip to Okahu Bay
- 18 Year 5 EOTC Week
- 19 Year 6 & 6 Zone Swimming Sports
- 20 BOT Meeting - 7pm - Senior Staffroom
- 21 Parent Evening - 7pm - Bruce McLaren Hall
- 22 Room 12 & 13 Assembly presentation  
FOMS Disco - Year 1 to 3 @ 4.45pm  
FOMS Disco - Year 4 to 6 @ 6.15pm
- 26 Year 6 Camp - Lakewood Lodge  
Year 5 & 6 Summer Field Day
- 28 Year 1 & 2 Swimming Sports

## COLLEGE RIFLES

2019 Junior Rugby / Rippa Registrations are open down at College Rifles on Wednesday, 20 March from 4pm – 6pm for our Muster Day. We will have lots going on including games, activities, water slides, Sausage Sizzles, Mr Whippy and some special guests... the NZ Blackferns. So come down & have some fun at your number one local community Rugby Club...College Rifles.

## PHOTO ORDERS

Last day tomorrow to order your child's class and individual photos - all details on how to order are on the envelope previously sent home with your child.