



# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 2019



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

14 March 2019

Dear Parents and Caregivers

The year is now in full swing and we have a packed newsletter to prove it. Our fortnightly Newsletter generally covers information, news and dates for the diary. Our school and learning highlights are included in Meadowbank Marvels which is distributed on alternate fortnights. Make sure your e-mail details are up to date to ensure you receive the mail out!

## PROPERTY & PLAYGROUND UPDATES

There is a lot of work happening behind the scenes with our property at the moment. The design of the new classroom and admin block is developing in detail and it is exciting to see the possibilities that these spaces will have to offer for our children's learning.

One space that we are particularly excited about will be the Makerspace. This will be a creative, multi-purpose area where children from across the school can design, prototype, tinker, discover, make, craft, code and create using a range of high tech and traditional tech equipment. The FOMS team are focusing their efforts this year on raising funds to resource this space. We will also be raising funds this year to enhance the indoor and outdoor areas beyond the standard Ministry of Education specs.

I have previously mentioned that the Mandarin Room will be relocated to make way for the new building. At this stage we are planning to move this building at the end of April.

Once the Mandarin Room has moved we will be able to upgrade the Senior School Playground. We are currently appointing a Year 3 and 4 student committee who will lead this project. Over the next few weeks they will be consulting with the children on the Senior Side to discover what they would like to see in their new playground. We look forward to them delivering a stunning playground that the senior children love!



*Click on the picture above to view the video*

# PAID UNION MEETING

You will be well aware that the Teachers Union (NZEI) has been negotiating with the government for almost a year now to secure better pay and working conditions. The government's most recent offer did not improve much at all so union members are attending meetings next week to consider their next steps.

Our teachers will be splitting their attendance at various meetings so that school is able to remain open. Please note that classes will remain operational but there will be a few buddy class activities next week while teachers attend meetings.

# 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.

# PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent-Teacher Interviews will be held over two nights; Tuesday, 2 April and Thursday, 4 April in the Bruce McLaren Hall (except our New Entrant classrooms). Having pupils attend these interviews is one of the strategies we use to achieve our vision to empower the learner and to increase their responsibility for what is achieved - it is essential that pupils attend.

A separate note will come home tomorrow on how to make your booking.

# 2019 SKI TEAM RECRUITMENT

The Meadowbank School Ski Team is looking for skiers to represent the school at this year's North Island Primary School Snow Sports Champs at Whakapapa.

Please contact Sarah Phillips via [meadowbankskiteam@gmail.com](mailto:meadowbankskiteam@gmail.com) for more information.

Recruitment video: <https://youtu.be/5Ucp0FqSCc8>

Info sheet: <http://bit.ly/MeadowbankSkiTeam>

Expressions of interest: <https://goo.gl/forms/823GIPGEIABjMrCg2>



# TOMORROW'S SCHOOL REVIEW

You may have heard or read about the 'Tomorrow's Schools Review Task-force Report' that is currently in the consultation phase. It is no exaggeration to say that this report proposes the most significant changes to education in New Zealand since the current system was introduced in 1989.

This is a very significant review, particularly for a school such as ours which is performing very highly and already has very strong governance.

The taskforce is seeking views from the sector and the public. The below excerpt is from their website:

## Public consultation meetings:-

The Taskforce is now holding public consultation meetings around the country until Wednesday, 27 March. We really encourage everyone to come along to these events and discuss the future of our schooling system. The full schedule is now available on our website (Freemans Bay School, 21st March) <https://conversation.education.govt.nz/conversations/tomorrows-schools-review/have-your-say-today/>.

**An online survey:** This canvasses opinions on each of the 32 recommendations, is now available here: <https://consultation.education.govt.nz/tsr/survey2019/> and will remain open until 31 March 2019. It will be available in Te Reo and other languages within the next week. A free 0800 number for oral submissions: call 0800 FOR TSR (0800 367 877) to leave your thoughts on the future of our schooling system.

# YEAR 5 & 6 SWIMMING SPORTS

Thank you to the many parents who came along and supported the senior swimming sports last week. It was a great day for our students. From this event we will have a team represent our school at the upcoming Zone Swimming Championship on 19 March.

# SCHOOL APP UPDATE

An important change for our Apple app users.

Apple has changed the rules of its app store and this will affect our school app for users. Apple is removing apps from the app store that are not directly owned by the app developer. This process will begin from April this year. Our app developer SchoolAppsNZ has notified us that they will need to change our current app over to the newly compliant app SchoolAppsNZ at the end of March.

Once this happens, you will need to install the new app - SchoolAppsNZ, once you have done so, you can select Meadowbank School from the list and continue to use our app in the same way as you have been using it.

The app will give you an alert when it is ready for update so there is no need to do anything until this happens.

We have been told this update will be very straight forward.



# FOMS

A couple of exciting events coming up ... ..

Friday, 22 March

Kiwi Beach Disco - Bruce McLaren Hall  
\$10 per person payable at the door

Year 1 to 3 - 4.45pm - 6pm

Year 4 to 6 - 6.15pm - 7.30pm

Friday, 26 April

Harbour Conservation Cruise

9.30am to 12noon

\$49 per person - order your tickets through Kindo.

Tickets are limited to 80 places only.



April School Holiday bookings are now being accepted.

A great variety of trips and days are planned for the upcoming holidays.

- > Puppet Workshop
- > Lego Movie2
- > Art Party
- > Kiwi Valley Farm visit
- > Trip to Devonport
- > African Drumming Day
- > Detective day

For further information

☎ 09 520 3739 or 021 1767069

E-mail: -

[clubmeadowbank@meadowbank.school.nz](mailto:clubmeadowbank@meadowbank.school.nz)



## MARCH

- 18 Year 5 EOTC Week
- 19 Year 5 & 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 (until 28)
- Year 5 @ Summer Field Day
- 28 Year 1 & 2 Swimming Sports

## APRIL

- 2 Year 3 & 4 Swimming Sports
- Parent-Teacher Interviews
- 4 Parent-Teacher Interviews
- 5 Year 6 Camp Assembly Presentation
- 8 FOMS Meeting - 7.30pm - Senior Staffroom
- 12 Final Day - Term 1 - school closes @ 3pm
- 15 Club Meadowbank Holiday Programme

## TE REO PARENT LESSONS

Carlin Shaw is running parent Te Reo Māori lessons on Tuesday afternoons in Room 4 at 3.15pm.

If you are interested in attending please email [cshaw@meadowbank.school.nz](mailto:cshaw@meadowbank.school.nz)

## 2019/20 ENTERTAINMENT BOOK

2019/20 Entertainment Book is coming soon ... you can purchase now and get bonus Early Bird Offers.

[www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/  
orderbooks/954w53](http://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/954w53)

You can order a book or digital version. Your membership contains valuable 2-for-1 offers, special rates and up to 50% off on activities, dining, shopping travel and leisure.

All proceeds raised will be going to our new Senior Playground.