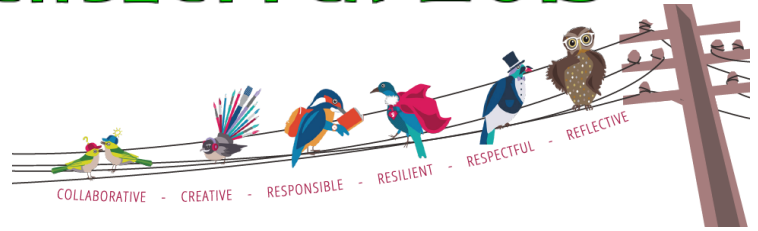




# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 2019



Meadowbank School

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11 April 2019

Dear Parents and Caregivers

As we come to the end of the term I have been reflecting on my first 50 days here at Meadowbank School. I have continued to be impressed by the friendliness, talent, energy, creativity and cohesiveness in our school. It has been busy as always, and it has been great seeing the children fully embrace the many learning opportunities they have had throughout the term.



*Click on the picture above to view the video*

I have really enjoyed meeting so many committed and supportive parents. Whilst we are a very big school, I have had a real sense that there is a tight community feel. You have made me feel very welcome.

Our staff have worked extremely hard this term to provide the very best learning opportunities for your children. Casting your eye over the list of highlights below will show just how much work has gone into this term:-

- |                                   |                                 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| > Junior School Teddy Bear Picnic | > Chinese New Year celebrations |
| > Weet-bix TRYathlon              | > Swimming lessons and sports   |
| > Waterwise                       | > School Fono                   |
| > Whanau Hui                      | > Top Schools                   |
| > Kelly Tarlton's trip            | > Stepping Out                  |
| > FOM's Disco                     | > Year 5 EOTC                   |
| > Year 6 Camp                     | > Interschool sports            |
| > Play based learning workshop    | > Parent Teacher Interviews     |
| > Pacific Eats                    | > Offsite Enviro Days           |

These events are all in addition to an action packed curriculum that is delivered week in week out.

The holiday break will provide an opportunity for everyone to recharge the batteries and get ready for term 2. Enjoy the Easter break and we look forward to seeing everyone back again on Monday, 29 April.

A reminder that if you are away at the commencement of next term; please advise the school office through the absentee link on the School App.

## STAFF NEWS

As you will be aware, **Moira Blair** has been appointed Principal of Three Kings School starting next term. We have started the recruitment process for a new Deputy Principal and this will continue over the next month.

The appointee will likely start towards the end of next term. We will be splitting Moira's duties between **Matt Aukett** and **Jane Butel** until the new Deputy Principal is appointed.

**Matt Aukett** will oversee Year 4, 5 and 6 and **Jane Butel** will oversee Year 1, 2 and 3.

**Libby Patterson** (Room 35) will be leaving Meadowbank School at the end of this term. We have been very fortunate to secure an experienced and talented teacher, **Brooke Lewis**. Brooke will be starting in Room 35 from term 2.

**Michele Hucker** (SENCO) has been appointed to an RTLB role. **Carlene White** will be taking over the SENCO role from term 2. Carlene has previous experience as SENCO at Meadowbank School.

We also welcome **Annie Bennett** to our New Entrant team. Annie will be initially teaching in Room 5 before starting our next New Entrant class in Room 4.

In other staff news, **Kelly Kay** will be taking maternity leave at the end of this term for the rest of 2019. Finally, congratulations to **Michelle von Detten** who welcomed a baby daughter earlier this term.

## SCIENCE-A-THON

Our annual Quiz-a-thon will be a Science-a-thon for 2019. It will be held over the first four weeks of Term 2, culminating with the test day on Friday, 24 May.

Students will be learning Science based questions and gathering sponsors for the first 4 weeks of term 2. The Science-a-thon has two purposes:-

1. To improve the general knowledge of children.
2. To raise money towards the makerspace and admin block resources.

We are aiming to exceed our last year's effort of over \$32,000.

## NZEI UPDATE

The teachers union (NZEI) have released the results of the latest teacher vote. The outcome was a decisive NO to the offer that the government put to members. Our teachers will now be attending meetings in week two of term two 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 classes while teachers attend meetings.

One of the proposals that will be considered is further strike action, the proposed strike day is for Wednesday, 29 May. We will let you know if this date is confirmed in due course.

## GUMBOOT DAY

Thank you to everyone who participated in wearing gumboots to school today. We raised \$554 for Mike King's "I am hope" supporting kiwi kids mental health.



# BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS

The BOT elections are approaching quickly and the election for six parent representatives will be held on Friday, 7 June 2019.

Despite some of the recent media coverage, the role of school Boards of Trustees is still very relevant, and the recommendations from the Tomorrow's Schools Review have not yet been adopted. It is vital to the ongoing success of Meadowbank School that an effective Board is elected in June.

If you are interested in finding out more, please come along to one of our monthly Board meetings. Our next meeting is on Wednesday, 1 May 2019, at 7.00pm in the Senior Staffroom.

The New Zealand School Trustees Association is also planning a forum for people interested in joining a Board, to be held at Epsom Girls' Grammar School early next term. Please contact the Anna Thornburn for further details ([✉ anna.thornburn@oceaniahealthcare.co.nz](mailto:anna.thornburn@oceaniahealthcare.co.nz))

# DEWEY DRESS UP DAY & BOOK EXCHANGE

On Friday, 3 May we will be holding our annual Book Dress Up Day. The theme this year is, 'Dewey Decimal Dress Up' which is the system used to order the books in the Non-Fiction section. Each year group has been assigned a different Dewey number to dress up as. These are:-

## New Entrants/Year 1

398 which includes Fairy tales, myths, legends, nursery rhymes, princesses and dragons.

## Year 2

500 which includes wild animals, science, insects, birds, reptiles, fish, dinosaurs.

## Year 3

600 which includes pets, farm animals, doctors, nurses, dentists, firefighters, astronauts, robots, food, baking and toys.

## Year 4

700 which includes sports, arts, crafts, origami, music, circus, film stars, movies, dance, magicians.

## Year 5

800 literature which is any fictional book character, poetry, Shakespeare, plays.

## Year 6

900 which includes famous people and history.

This year we will also be hosting a Book Exchange. On *Monday, 29 April, Tuesday, 30 April and Wednesday, 1 May* children will be able to bring in a book from home in exchange for a token. On *Thursday, 2 May*, children will be able to use this token to select a 'new' book to take home. Please bring in your book to exchange to your child's classroom.

We look forward to seeing the children dressed up in their Dewey Decimal costume.

# SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Early next term we will be trialling children purchasing books for themselves from Scholastic Book Club.

Your child will bring home a pamphlet and you will be able to order through the online ordering system LOOP. Further details will follow next term. All books purchased will help fundraise for new books for our school Library.

# FOMS

Our FOMS team have been hard at work this year and there is a real energy and excitement amongst the team. From my point of view, it has been really amazing to see a committed group of parents who work together to build community spirit and resources for our school. They have already made over \$15,000 and the year is only just getting started.

Their big event next term is the “Lost in the Meadow” event. They are looking for volunteers and sponsors for this. Please check out the link on their Facebook page ...

<https://www.facebook.com/friendsofmeadowbankschool/>

This year, their fundraising is focused on resourcing our new building which includes:-

## Makerspace Tools and Resources

Our makerspace will be a space where students and teachers come together to create, invent, prototype, design, tinker, explore, discover, code, build, craft, draft, draw and more. Students can work individually or collaboratively using a variety of high and low-tech tools and materials.

Some tools include:-

- > CNC cutter
- > Vacuum former
- > Hard materials tools

Latest digital technologies for new classrooms include:-

- > Interactive, touch screen technology
- > 3D printer
- > Virtual reality equipment
- > Video editing and animation resources

Upgrade furniture in classrooms and in the staffroom above Ministry of Education basic standard.

Enhancement of exterior landscaping and seating.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### APRIL

- 12 Assembly - Celebrating Whanaungatanga  
Final Day - Term 1 - school closes @ 3pm
- 15 Club Meadowbank Holiday Programme
- 26 FOMS Conservation Cruise
- 29 Term 2 commences  
Pōwhiri  
Book Week
- 30 New Entrant Parent Meeting

### MAY

- 1 BOT Meeting - 7pm
- 3 Book Dress Up day  
Singing Assembly
- 7 Sports Assembly - 1.30pm
- 13 FOMS Meeting - 7.30pm - Senior Staffroom

## 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.

We do have a small supply of books in the school office if you would like to purchase a book before the holidays.

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