



# CUST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Friday, 9 July, 2021 - Week Ten —Term 2

**BE YOUR BEST**  
**Kia Rawa Pai**

## ***CUST CONNECTS - WHANAUNGATANGA***

**CONNECT – SCHOOL CONNECT – COMMUNITY CONNECT – YOURSELF CONNECT - CULTURE**

### **FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK**

Greetings to all the kura families

Tēnā koutou e ngā whānau o te kura

I wish everyone an enjoyable and restful holiday. As previously communicated, I am on sabbatical next term and leave the management of the school in the capable hands of Eddie and his team.

Hence I have left the **“most interesting”** article to last. Enjoy...

### **SCHUYTING FROM THE HIP #5**

#### **A SENSE OF ENTITLEMENT**

Everywhere you look, the world is increasingly being geared toward children. Some parents and teachers take pride in treating their children like mini adults and empowering them to make choices. Ask almost any current grandparent and they will agree — children these days have too much power. I want to suggest that we shift the balance back – we as adults (parents and teachers), **need** to be in charge.

When it comes to life (and work), I'm all about keeping things simple. When it comes to parenting and teaching, however, **taking the easy way out** can have some hard-knock consequences down the road.

No one wants to listen to the whining, the crying, and complaining, and we all want to spare our children as much heartache as possible. We want to give them every advantage in life, and minimize the bumps in the road for all involved. Unfortunately, our overzealous attempts to pave the way result in **spoiled, self-entitled children – who can be disrespectful, can't accept no, blame others and feels the rules don't apply.**

I'll be the first to admit that I've been guilty of many of these things; I think we all are from time to time. And it's not that any one of them on occasion is going to create a self-entitled child, rather it's an accumulation of many over time that can be problematic.

Do you do any of these things as a parent? Did your parents?

### **1. Making multiple meals**

No one wants to see their child go hungry or eat to the drone of complaints every night, but parents who make different meals for everyone are doing no one any favors -- especially themselves.

### **2. Buying siblings birthday gifts when it's not their birthday**

Sure, it might avoid some fighting or moping when all of the gifts go to one child, but that's what birthdays are about -- one person's special day.

### **3. Rewards for everyone**

Giving kids a reward just for playing on a team (participating) is more than just a waste of money, it takes away the significance of a real reward when they actually earn one someday. Sure, it's easier than seeing them cry if they don't get one, but they have to learn about losing and winning sometime.

### **4. Never telling them they're wrong**

Sometimes their friend/teacher/another adult is in the right, and your child is wrong. It's that simple, though some parents refuse to acknowledge this and look to blame anyone but their own child. Or in a school situation, absolutely believing their child without coming to hear the "real" story -- children do manipulate and they do miss important details.

### **5. Not making them do jobs**

Yes, it's easier to just do it ourselves often, but they're not learning anything if we do. It may take an hour of whining for a 10-minute job, but the lesson is worth it.

### **6. Bribing them**

This is my most common infraction --dangling something in front of them to make them obey. Then I wonder why when I ask them to do something simple they say, "What will you give me? What's in it for me?" A sense of service is a value to be nourished.

Within the home, school and the community we (as parents and teachers) all want to raise children

who are capable of making competent decisions and able to problem-solve on their own. This is difficult if we haven't given them chances to succeed — and fail — at choices and decisions as they were growing up. The key is to balance the power you give them with the responsibility that comes with it.

But there is a difference between empowering our children and putting them in charge. We do our children a disservice when we put them in charge. Children need to know how to express those feelings respectfully. Their decisions may not override our decisions. We have the power to make the tough decisions. As our children navigate the world, they must be bound by our family and school rules and values.

Children need to see the consequences of their actions and learn to serve others — these two lessons will make sure that empowered doesn't become entitled.

**The attitude of a child with a false sense of entitlement is, “I am, therefore give to me.”**

I think it's important to keep in mind that parents and kids get some powerful messages in our society. One of the most prevalent is, **“The more you give your child, the better parent you are.”** Children are also led to believe they're entitled to receive.

Commercials, TV shows, movies, and their friends at school all tell kids, “This is the new thing. This is what everybody's getting. If you don't have it, you won't be cool.”

So, it's easy for you as a parent to feel obligated to give to your child—and pretty soon, your child will grow to expect it. This can lead to parents giving much more than their kids need—and sometimes, more than their family can really afford.

Children also get a false sense of entitlement by being overly praised for things, and rewarded for tasks that they should be doing as a matter of course. There's nothing wrong with rewarding achievement and excellence, but it becomes a problem when you reward mediocre efforts.

Let's give them the gift of the power to think for themselves, to be self-confident and to learn respect for others. They will learn from this, a remarkable respect for themselves.

**This concept is interesting from an education perspective where “child-centered learning” has created a “learn whatever you want environment, within a flimsy curriculum, without challenge and without carefully curated teaching.” NOT AT CUST!!!**

**We have a structured curriculum, where teachers teach – with a skill set of knowing what, how and why, high expectations and a culture of BE YOUR BEST – leading to engaged and well-educated children, who have built disciplinary or content knowledge which powerful and is critically important to future learning.**

## **CLASS AWARDS**

- Room One: Well done Scott for showing success in Piko's tips – be INDEPENDENT – for an awesome attitude throughout Term Two and completing work to a high standard.  
Well done Danielle for showing success in Piko's tips – be INDEPENDENT – for an awesome improvement in basic facts results from Term One to Term Two.
- Room Two: Well done Amelie for showing success in Piko's tips – be INDEPENDENT – Amelie you have been so kind including others at playtimes! Thanks for being so thoughtful!
- Room Three: Well done Amelia for showing success in Piko's tips – be INDEPENDENT – for showing great independence in her I.T. skills to complete her Matariki Slideshow.  
Well done Sam for showing success in Piko's tips – THINK – for super retelling and making a diorama for his Dr Seuss story.
- Room Four: Well done Scarlett for showing success in Piko's tips – be INDEPENDENT – it is great to see your growing self-confidence and resilience.  
Well done Jaxon for showing success in Piko's tips – be INDEPENDENT – great reading and writing Jaxon – keep up the good work.
- Room Five: Well done Olly N. for showing success in Piko's tips – THINK – I am impressed with the goals you have set for yourself and the steps you are already taking to achieve them. Well done Olly.
- Room Six: Well done Kaitlin for showing success in Piko's tips – be INDEPENDENT – Fabulous organisation and leadership skills during enterprise.
- Room Seven: Well done Cayden for showing success in Piko's tips – THINK – for a massive improvement in his reading skills.  
Well done Elise for showing success in Piko's tips – THINK – for being a helpful member of Room 7.

## **CLASS NEWSLETTERS**

### **ROOMS ONE AND TWO**

Kia ora whanau,

What a terrific term we have had in Rooms 1 and 2! It was so nice to visit the Cust Preschool on Wednesday and share our picture books that we have been working so hard on this term - our students were so kind to the preschoolers and made us all proud. The preschool cookies are also still a hit. Thanks for having us to visit Amy.

Thanks to all the parents who took the time to meet with us both on Monday or Tuesday to discuss your child's progress this term. It has been a really enjoyable term and we are thrilled with the progress the students have made in and out of the classroom.

We hope you have an enjoyable and relaxing two weeks!

Ngā mihi,  
Rupert and Shannon

### **ROOM THREE**

Kia ora,

It was lovely to catch up with everyone at 3 - Way Conferences this week. Many thanks for your time and support, remembering it takes a team effort to grow our children to their best potential. It has been a busy week finishing units of work – Matariki, Novel Studies and Geometry to name a few, and the children have enjoyed sharing their group legends and pepehas. Lots of exciting things to look forward to next term, so have a lovely restful, fun holiday,

Keep warm,  
Nga mihi nui,  
Linda and Ros

## **ROOMS FOUR AND SEVEN**

Kia Ora Whanau

Thank you to everyone who turned up for the learning conversations on Monday and Tuesday. It was a great chance for both teachers in the Junior hub to let parents know where their children are at with learning and to reset new goals for Term 3.

Next term we welcome Caroline Verhey into the Junior hub. Caroline has been working at Cust School during Term 2 in a variety of classes including Room 7. Caroline will be teaching in Room 7 on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for the term. This is to allow Eddie to be in the office as Acting Principal while Robert is away on sabbatical. Eddie will be teaching in Room 7 on a Monday and Friday.

The Junior hub are also excited to welcome Margaret Pharazyn onto the team. Margaret is going to be working with individual children on reading skills.

Over the holidays allow your children to get healthy and have heaps of fun with them. Have a great break and we will see everyone at the start of Term 3.

Kennys and Eddie

## **ROOMS FIVE AND SIX**

Rooms 5 and 6 have spent the last few weeks finishing off their novel studies. The finished products are fantastic, and have served as a great tool to practice time-management skills, as well as essay writing, presentation, and reading perseverance. The students have been given a grade and specific feedback about their next steps that they can apply in the future.

Last week, we also had our Enterprise Market Day. The support from our community was amazing, as were the products that the students made. There are some great photos of the event showing on the office screen, including some of Mr Foskett falling victim to the 'Torment the Teacher' dunking machine. Altogether, we raised \$1871.40 - fantastic work, team!

We look forward to a fun and eventful Term 3 after a restful break.

Miriam and Eleanor

## **CUST SCHOOL PTA, PRESIDENT'S REPORT JULY 2021**

It is with great pleasure that I present my President's Report for the Cust School PTA for the Year 2020/2021, ending March 31.

This year has obviously thrown a lot of curveballs to many with the COVID-19 Pandemic. Numerous PTA meetings had to be rescheduled because of this, and our focus for fundraising changed. It was decided that it was more important to look after our Tamariki and their whanau, than to land multiple fundraisers on families, some of whom were struggling to make ends meet.

In saying that, we did have 3 main fundraisers which brought in significant income for the PTA. The bulb fundraiser being one of these. The bulb fundraiser was to initially raise funds for the Year 8 hoodies. That was done with ease and since there were more bulbs to be sold, the PTA took it on. We just kept going back to the Flower Farm in West Eyreton for more, as demand for the lily bulbs was so high! It was a great time for the PTA members to get to know each other better while fossicking through sawdust for bulbs! It was also successful in bringing in money from the community and afar, so school families got a reprieve!

The other main fundraiser in 2020 was the Annual Disco which, as usual, was a hit with the Tamariki. This year's theme was a 'scary' theme to coincide with Halloween and there were many witches and goblins seen lurking around the West Eyreton Hall!

The Annual Easter Raffle came back in 2021 after not being able to hold it in 2020 and was our most successful yet.

## **Fundraising highlights for the financial year (to 31 March 2021)**

- Bulb fundraiser - \$5,612.36
- School Disco – \$709.88
- Cookbooks – ongoing sales. Have made a total profit of \$6064.66
- Second Hand Clothing Sales - \$171
- Easter Raffle - \$2900 approx

## **Other events / activities**

- PTA catered a 'Thank you. You are awesome' lunch for the teachers for all their dedication towards learning, and wonderfulness over lockdown
- New sandpit toys were purchased
- PTA shouted the students to a free ice block after Cross Country
- Free movie night with treats
- Purchase of new Kapa Haka uniforms
- New Parents morning tea
- Free sausage sizzle and ice block for the students at the end of the year
- Free hot cross buns for Easter

## **Early's Rd Speed Concerns**

The WDC installed new signage for adhering to the 40km/h speed limit past the school, a new pedestrian island and extension to the pathway going to the Pre-school. Many thanks to Robert and Yo for their work in getting this actioned. Such a great initiative for the safety of our tamariki, now and in the future.

## **Building Work**

It has been very exciting seeing the demolition of Room 4 and the building of the new classroom block. We can't wait to see the finished product and for the Tamariki to move into their beautiful new classrooms. It is hoped that the PTA may be able to contribute some funds towards landscaping around these new rooms.

## **Pea Straw Carting**

In March, members of the PTA and Friends of the PTA, helped on 2 occasions to cart pea straw for the Gillespie's. Much fun was had and the irrigation was a welcome relief after a big morning straw carting! From this the PTA will receive a donation to go towards some concrete art at the school.

I would like to welcome Victoria Traynor, Casey Toon, Nerissa Thompson, Fran Rae and Karen Gilby who have joined the PTA Committee this year.

The time and effort put in by our other 2020/2021 PTA Committee members also needs to be acknowledged – Anna Riley (Treasurer), Natasha Donoghue (Vice-President), Sophie Brown (Secretary), Rowan Walton (Vice-Secretary), Nikki Denley (Honorary Audit Reviewer), Natalie Kearns, Mitzi Taylor, Alisa Thompson, Wendy Bourne and Robert Schuyt. Your help and support has been invaluable, and nothing is ever a problem with you all around. Thank you.

I would also like to thank and acknowledge Sonya Smith, Yo Lawrence, Nikki Denley and Wendy Bourne, who all resigned during 2020. Your support and dedication over the years has been invaluable and we can't thank you enough.

A special thank you goes to Robert, who is at every PTA meeting, is always supportive of the Committee and who does an amazing job as Principal at Cust School. Our Tamariki are so incredibly lucky having him at the helm.

Thank you to the Board of Trustees for your continued support of the PTA and for attending our meetings with Board updates.

Thank you also to all the Parents and Caregivers who have helped us and supported us and our fundraisers over the past year.

Becoming involved with the PTA is a great way to meet other parents and to be part of what is happening in and around the school. We are always looking for people to join the PTA. If you are interested, please get in touch with one of our Committee members.

Nga mihi  
Kathryn Taylor, President, Cust School PTA

### **FORTH COMING EVENTS TERM THREE**

Monday, 26 July	Term Three commences
Monday, 9 August	St John Lessons
Tuesday, 10 August	St John Lessons
Wednesday, 11 August	Board of Trustee Meeting 7pm NC Cantamaths
Thursday, 12 August	Fish and Chips
Tuesday, 17 August	PTA Meeting
Tuesday, 24 August	Ski Trip – (Information home Week One Term Three)
Thursday, 2 September	Fish and Chips

Please check newsletters and school calendar for further information and updates.

## **COMMUNITY NOTICES**

### **WAIMAKARIRI LIBRARY**

This weekend, Saturday 10 July, 10am to 2pm, Sunday 11 July, 1pm to 4pm, we are hosting a Massive Book Sale at the Kaiapoi Library, with great books at great prices for everyone: Adult fiction and non-fiction \$1, Large print books \$1, Young adult and children's books \$0.50, and some premium books at marked prices.

New activities this year include daytime, and evening activities to give kids the chance to get creative in the school holidays. Children and their families will have an opportunity to enjoy two weeks of Dinomite Kids Fest fun with this year's Dinosaur themed activities, including: Dino Story times, Dino Craft, Dino Mystery Trail, and a Dino Puppet Show.

Families will also have the chance to join the North Canterbury Railway Club with their fantastic Thomas and Friends model trains. Just the activity for young children to operate, and drive Thomas and some of his Friends around the large model railway, at only 50 cents per go. There will also be some diorama kits to buy for \$10.00 for kids to take home and create.

The majority of the libraries' Kids Fest events are free, except for one key event with Brendan Dooley, who is fast becoming one of the World's Top Young Magicians, and is described by The Press as "A New Generation Of Talent Already Snapping The Heels Of Established Acts. Tickets are available at all Waimakariri Libraries, for the shows at the Rangiora Baptist Church, and Oxford Town Hall, \$5 per ticket.

Families can register for these events at any Waimakariri Library. For more information check out the Waimakariri Libraries' Facebook page, or go to the Kids Fest Website: <http://www.kidsfest.co.nz/>

For more details about the Waimakariri Libraries Kids Fest events go to: [libraries.waimakariri.govt.nz](http://libraries.waimakariri.govt.nz)