



# CUST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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[www.cust.school.nz](http://www.cust.school.nz)

School's bank account number is 03 1592 0074218 00



Friday, 3 March, 2017 - Week Five —Term 1

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

### BOT AGENDA – COMMUNITY SURVEY

The Cust School BOT would like to invite members of the community to our presentation of our new charter next Tuesday night 7 March at 6:30pm in Room 6.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- Welcome and Introduction by BOT Chair
- Why did we conduct a review – setting the scene (Tim)
- The process underpinning the review (Tim)
- The results of the Review (Tim)
- The NEW CHARTER (Robert)
- Questions and answers (Robert/Tim)

Well it's been all go around here this week – a fairly manic start (I think everything that could go wrong – did!) but it settled down as the week went on.

**Playground** – the playground upgrade / development begun on Tuesday with a new swing set being installed – thanks to the PTA. This is just the beginning of the redevelopment, so watch out for other developments.

**Building** – this is progressing (not as smoothly as we would have liked!) The plan is: Room 1 will back in their class soon, with Room 3 going to theirs a bit later. In the end we will have extra teaching space in the junior classes, so we have short term pain for some long term gain. The children have been very resilient throughout all the disruption – new tape / fencing goes up and they ask why and get on with it. Soon everything will back to normal!

#### Music -

#### **CHRISTCHURCH MUSIC FESTIVAL: YEAR 5-8 CHILDREN**

One of the opportunities we like to give to our children, so they can extend themselves, is take part in the Christchurch Music Festival. This is held early in Term 4 at the Horncastle Arena, where school choirs join together (a mass choir) and perform a variety of songs. It is a really unique experience. We have participated in this in the past, depending on numbers. We are again offering the opportunity for our Year 5-8 children to participate in this and will be asking for a committed response from the children by next Tuesday. If you think your child would be interested, please encourage them to put their name down.

## **Our School Motto is: “BE YOUR BEST”**

There are many times throughout the school year, school week and school day that our children are given the opportunity to show this and a high percentage of time they do! We are lucky that the high expectations we have of our children in relation to “Being Your Best” is matched by the effort the children put in and their own desire to achieve well.

This is clearly evident at sporting events such as the Eyre Cluster Swim which was held last week. Over the last week we have had all children compete and participate in a swimming event. Last Friday our best senior swimmers competed against our other cluster schools in order to qualify for the Rakahuri Championships (to be held next Monday). We had some very good results, which are included later in this newsletter. From these we have approximately 20 children competing at the next level in order to qualify for the Canterbury Championships. Good luck.

It is also evident at the Junior Swimming Gala, where the children participated at different events. These children have had a great swimming season and have progressed incredibly well. They have, at times, seen the seniors swim and realise what they need to do to achieve success.

Thanks to all the parents who supported the above two events. Without your support we would not be as successful as a school.

Our ‘TIP’ for this term is –

- THINK**
- set goals
  - use knowledge
  - communicate

One of our goals is to incorporate this into our daily school life in a more meaningful way. As part of our Enviroschools project we are looking at ways we can visually represent these around the school. We have some ideas floating around – if you have an artistic aptitude we would love to hear from you.

## **THREE WAY CONFERENCES: MONDAY 6 MARCH / TUESDAY 7 MARCH**

### **REMEMBER SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 2PM ON THESE TWO DAYS**

At these conferences / interviews we have the opportunity to discuss your child’s start to the year, any testing / observations and setting of goals.

One of the things we get asked a lot is “How can we, as parents, help?”

Given the large amount of media coverage over the past years on children’s play, different parenting styles e.g. freedom parenting / free range parenting etc. and everyone wanting the best for their child I thought it would be appropriate to give a few ‘survival’ tips over the next two weeks, from our perspective, before parent interviews.

1. Ask questions – we need to ensure the children can articulate what they’re learning, what progress they’re making and what their next learning goals are. So as parents if you want to support this ask, “What progress have you made and how do you know?”  
This can be asked of the children and the teacher.
2. Keep them reading for pleasure – here is a simple truth: the more children enjoy reading, the more reading they’ll do; and the more they do the better they’ll develop literacy skills that are needed throughout all curriculum areas. Keep reading to them, make sure there are lots of books around, and remember libraries are free.
3. Put devices to sleep - kids can get to bed on time but remain online all night, so a curfew could be a solution: "At 9pm all the electronics go into the family basket, and they don't get opened until 7 in the morning." The internet means you're letting people into your children's lives you wouldn't let in the front door, and it's also using their precious time."

4. Don't be afraid to be mean – don't fear saying no to your children – it develops character. Children will react to no, it might bring on testing times, but remember kids get over it. When you are in control, when you make decisions, when you slowly start to let them make mistakes (let them solve their own problems, little failures now = big successes later on) they will become more self-confident and self-assured.

Maybe these ideas and others presented over the next few weeks are discussion points at the conferences / interviews.

School life continues to be busy so please keep an eye on emails, newsletters and our web site.

### **SCHOOL DONATION AND ACTIVITY INVOICES**

You will be receiving by separate email, and also a hard copy via your child, the 2017 School Donation and Activity Fee invoice. The Board of Trustees, at their last meeting, approved for this to remain at the same rate as 2016. An explanation of how this is used is included with the invoice.

We do ask that you pay your donation and activity fee by the 31 March either by cheque or through internet banking – Cust Board of Trustees ref School Donation 03 1592 0074218 00. Tax deductible!

If payment of any school activity is an issue, you are welcome to pay it off in smaller payments. Parents/caregivers are welcome to contact me for a private discussion on how we can help.

Regards  
Robert

### **ROOM ONE**

This week we have been talking and completing activities about water safety following on from our trip to the beach. Yesterday the children were very keen to show you what they have been working hard to master in the pool. Thank you to those who were able to come, watch and support. We will keep swimming next week, weather permitting, so please continue to send the children with their togs. Next Monday and Tuesday - 3 Way Conferences starting at 2pm. This is a time for us to be able to sit down and discuss your child's learning. Bookings are able to be done online. If these times don't suit, please come and see me.

Have a lovely weekend,  
Kennys

### **ROOM TWO**

Firstly, many thanks to all those who have helped out in R2 this week in my absence, and secondly well done to all our swimmers who gave a great exhibition of their 'aqua skills' at the Junior Swimming Sports on Thursday. It certainly helps having consistently lovely weather to make those big progress jumps!

With Russ becoming more mobile/independent as every day passes, I am looking forward to being back in the classroom next week, and it will be both informative and useful for us to share goals and recent assessments at our 3 Way Conferences on Monday and Tuesday.

Have a lovely weekend,  
Ros

### **ROOM THREE**

Kia ora koutou,

Thank you to everyone who was able to come along and support the children at our Junior Swimming Sports on Thursday. The children always love to have your support. With all the warm weather we have had, the children have been able to get lots of swimming practise in and the growth in their skills and water confidence has been quite noticeable. Thanks to everyone in the wider community who looks after the pool to make sure our children have access to such a great facility. Keep sending the swimming gear along until further notice. We will try to get to the pool as much as possible before the pool temperatures drop.

This week the children have been enjoying Sea Week with some fun art and writing activities related to this. Ask your child to tell you about what they have been doing.

Thank you for sending along an extra piece of fruit in your child's lunchbox for fruit time. This can be fresh or dried fruit or a vegetable such as carrot sticks, to keep them fuelled up for the morning.

We look forward to seeing you at our 3 Way Conferences next week. Please bring your child along for this. Pre-schoolers are welcome to attend. The purpose of these meetings will be to set goals, share ideas and help your child to feel good about their learning in Room 3.

Nga mihi nui,  
Carolyn and Kathryn

### **ROOM FOUR**

Kia ora

Another very busy week in Room 4 this week. This week the children have started their individual statistical investigations. The children had to choose a problem (Question), collect data and present their findings in a graph. The children then had to analyse their graphs and draw conclusions.

In writing we have been focusing on story starters and developing these starters into good pieces of writing using descriptive language. We have also started our reading programme. The focus for the first couple of weeks is summarising the main points in a story and practising the reading strategies.

I look forward to catching up with everyone at 3 Way Conferences next week.

Have a great weekend.  
Eddie

### **ROOM FIVE**

Thank you to Mrs Watson and Mrs Scott for holding the fort for me last week. The ALL programme will be underway before the end of the term and parents will be informed with regard to the children who will be part of the focus group in Room 5. The children have completed writing recounts and have been working on how to turn their sentences from boring to brilliant.

Another big THANKYOU to those of you who came to my rescue with copies of Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. I will be purchasing more copies down the track. Other children in the room are keen to read it too. Some reading groups are underway with their novel studies and should be bringing their novel home to read. They need to remember to bring it back to school each day for group discussion and novel work.

Hannah and I look forward to seeing you in our 3 Way Conferences next week.

Have a great weekend,  
Hannah & Linda

## **ROOM SIX / SEVEN**

This week Rooms 6 and 7 have been working hard on independent statistical investigations. These involve the children following a process to pose questions, gather data, and to graph and analyse their findings. These projects will be shared with you during our 3 Way Conferences next week, as well as through the children's e-Portfolio folders on their Google Drives. Your child can show you how to access these, and they would love your feedback on their work.

We have also been continuing to focus on Piko's TIPS for success through our reading unit. Setting goals, and making practical plans to reach them, is a crucial part of the learning process. Failing to meet those goals doesn't feel very nice, but again, is a very important learning tool. Please take the time to read through your children's work, our feedback, and discuss these with your children when you can.

Have a great weekend,  
Miriam Bell

## **CERTIFICATES**

- ROOM ONE:** Well done to Casey for showing success in Piko's Tips by using your knowledge to read with increasing fluency.  
Well done to Kate for showing success in Piko's Tips by using your knowledge to read with increasing confidence.
- ROOM THREE:** Great work awarded to Maddison for a huge improvement in swimming confidence.  
Great work awarded to Ava for a huge increase in confidence in swimming. Well done.
- ROOM FOUR:** Great work awarded to Bailey for a huge improvement in all areas of the curriculum.  
Great work awarded to Max for improvement in his reading skills.
- ROOM FIVE:** Student of the Week awarded to Takoda for great thinking in group and class discussion.  
Student of the Week awarded to Caitlin for being a well organised, focussed learner.
- ROOM SIX:** Student of the Week awarded to Anna for great thinking and data analysis on our Statistics Study.  
Well done to Alex for showing success in Piko's Tips for taking charge of her learning and 'being her best'.
- ROOM SEVEN:** Well done to Olivia for showing success in Piko's Tips. Congratulations on setting yourself a goal of completing your work to a higher standard and achieving this.  
Well done to Libby for showing success in Piko's Tips for excellent work learning how to set goals and manage your time effectively. Awesome skills in co-operation and sharing and caring.

## **PTA NEWS**

### **First Aid Kits**

The PTA are selling First Aid kits as a fundraiser.

Handy for the house, car, bach, boat, as a gift or just as a spare.

Great value at \$39.95, with \$12 from each kit sold going to the PTA.

A sample kit can be viewed at the school office and orders can be placed there or through [custschoolpta@gmail.com](mailto:custschoolpta@gmail.com) or message us on the FB page.

Cust School's PTA is an active group of parents and teachers who meet monthly on a Tuesday evening (3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month)

All Parents/caregivers are welcome to attend these meetings.

Our next meeting is Tuesday 21 MARCH at 7:30 pm in the Multipurpose Room.

Pre-loved uniform sales are available for a gold coin donation.

### **NZ Bulb Fundraiser**

This week your child will have come home with a bulb catalogue from NZ Bulbs. This is a fundraiser for the PTA, where we get back 20 % of the total order. Can you please complete the order form on the back of the catalogue and return it, with payment, to Kathryn Taylor or the office. You don't need to pay postage on the order. If paying by cheque, please make out to Cust School PTA. There is also an option on the form to pay by credit card. Any questions please ask Kathryn at [kathrynkingsbury@hotmail.com](mailto:kathrynkingsbury@hotmail.com). Orders must be in by March 31st.

## **Cust Community Cookbook**

In time for the Cust School 150th Jubilee in November, a PTA sub-committee are revising the 'world famous in Cust', Cust Community Cookbook. We will retain many of the old favourites from the 2004 version, but would like your help in submitting some more new and delicious recipes. In particular soups, salads, fish dishes, smoothies, sweets, GF, food intolerances and handy household hints. We can't guarantee that your recipes will all be published, but we will try our best!

Please limit recipes to up to 3 per family, and either email them through to Kathryn [atkathrynkingbury@hotmail.com](mailto:atkathrynkingbury@hotmail.com), or leave at the school office. Cut-off date for recipes is 1st May.

For more information/contact details:

Website: [www.cust.school.nz](http://www.cust.school.nz) (School Info Tab)

Facebook: Cust School Parent Teacher Association

Email: [custschoolpta@gmail.com](mailto:custschoolpta@gmail.com)

Cust School PTA Bank Account: 03 1783 0502131 03

## **REPORT FROM THE BOT CHAIR**

“Me mahi tahi tātou  
mō te oranga o te katoa”

*We all benefit when we work together*

This week, the Cust School Board of Trustees held our first meeting of the year. As per policy, the first action of the meeting was to elect our BOT Chairperson for 2017 and I'm pleased to report that I was once more given the mandate from the Board of Trustees to serve as BOT Chair, a mandate that I happily accepted.

We then spent some time hearing about and seeing the results of the initial academic testing this year. These results are, once again, exemplary, but what was most encouraging to hear and see was how these results align with the updated Charter and the plans for academic programmes for the coming school year. We also accepted and provided financial support for a proposal to increase the number of devices made available to students through leasing of chromebooks and purchase of iPads; more details to come.

We were presented with the Principal's report as aligned against the new school charter, a charter that was developed as a result of the Board of Trustee's efforts, collaboration and planning last year. We are looking forward to seeing the roll out and flow-on effect of this exciting document as it informs the direction and focus of Cust School in the years to come.

To that end, we would like to invite members of the community to our presentation of this document next Tuesday night the 7<sup>th</sup> of March at 6:30pm in Room 6. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- Welcome and Introduction by BOT Chair
- Why did we conduct a review – setting the scene (Tim)
- The process underpinning the review (Tim)
- The results of the Review (Tim)
- The NEW CHARTER (Robert)
- Questions and answers (Robert/Tim)

Tim Heidmann  
BOT Chair

## ICAS

While ICAS testing is some time away **it is time to get the enrolment of our students underway.** If you would like your child to participate, please fill in the form below and return the **form and payment** to the school office by Friday, 24 March. We need three or more entries for each assessment or the price becomes extremely prohibitive.

If you would like to find out more the website is [www.eaa.unsw.edu.au](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au)

All students entering ICAS testing receive a certificate acknowledging participation. Students are eligible for awards including High Distinction, Distinction and Credit Certificates and ICAS medals.

Sitting Dates for 2017 (Years 4-8)

- Digital Technologies 23 May
- Science 30 May
- Spelling 14 June
- Writing 12-16 June
- English 1 August
- Mathematics 15 August

Students will be given practice papers to work on before the tests, or you can use 'Practice Online'. Go to [www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/preparation](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/preparation)

Regards  
Robert Schuyt

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ICAS Competition Entry Form  
(to office with payment by 24 March)

NAME:.....

Year Group:.....

**Please circle the ICAS papers your child will be sitting.**

Digital Technologies	\$8.50	Science	\$8.50	Spelling	\$10.50
Writing	\$19.50	English	\$8.50	Mathematics	\$ 8.50

Payment attached / paid online (*please circle*)

Total \$.....

Westpac A/c Cust School Board of Trustees  
No. 03 1592 0074218 00

### UPCOMING EVENTS / IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 6 March – Rakahuri Swimming Championships  
Monday 6 March / Tuesday 7 March – Parent Interviews / Three Way Conferences  
Thursday 23 March – North Canterbury Swimming Competition  
Monday 27 March – Canterbury Duathlon  
Thursday 6 April – Canterbury Primary Schools Swimming Competition  
Thursday 13 April – Term One ends

## EYRE CLUSTER SWIMMING RESULTS

Freestyle (2 lengths – 50m)			
Boys 9 year		Girls 9 year	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	James Gartery	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Hannah Lawler
		3 <sup>rd</sup>	Harper McDonald
Boys 11 year		Girls 11 year	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Quade McLachlan	1 <sup>st</sup>	Ashleigh Lawler
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Archie Prain		
		Girls 12+ years	
		1 <sup>st</sup>	Harriet Thompson
Breast Stroke (2 lengths – 50m)			
Boys 9 year		Girls 9 year	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	James Gartery	1 <sup>st</sup>	Billie McLachlan
		3 <sup>rd</sup>	Harper McDonald
Boys 10 year		Girls 10 year	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	James Baggott	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Libby Thompson & Emma Stephenson
		=	
Boys 11 Year		Girls 11 year	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Quade McLachlan	1 <sup>st</sup>	Ashleigh Lawler
2 <sup>nd</sup>	George Riley	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Tinesha Benson
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Otto Densem		
Boys 12+ years		Girls 12+ years	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Harry Gartery	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Harriet Thompson
Backstroke (2 lengths – 50m)			
		Girls 9 year	
		1 <sup>st</sup>	Hannah Lawler
		3 <sup>rd</sup>	Harper McDonald
		Girls 10 year	
		2 <sup>nd</sup>	Libby Thompson
Boys 11 year		Girls 11 year	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Quade McLachlan	1 <sup>st</sup>	Ashleigh Lawler
2 <sup>nd</sup>	George Riley	3	Lauren Whittaker
		Girls 12 + years	
		1 <sup>st</sup>	Harriet Thompson
Open Butterfly Boys		Open Butterfly Girls	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Quade McLachlan	1 <sup>st</sup>	Harriet Thompson

## **FOUND AT SCHOOL**

Camera case, black with hama on it and purple ParkView Opticians glasses case.  
Can be claimed from the school office.

## **COMMUNITY NOTICES**

### **FOR SALE**

Chook food, Weston Milling - Peak layer approximately 6kg, approximately 9kg Bluff oyster grit. Offers over \$10 or exchange for a couple dozen eggs. Phone Blair on 0274389685.

### **FOR SALE**

Piano, Upright, Barnard of London, Excellent Condition both appearance and operating condition. It was tuned in 2013. Contact Blair on 0274389685 with offers.

### **FOR SALE**

Girl Guide Biscuits - \$3.50 Plain, Chocolate & Minis  
Please text or message Karen 0274840309 to order.

### **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S HOCKEY – COMES TO WAIMAKARIRI**

Vantage Black Sticks Women vs United States of America

2 test matches... 25 & 26 March, 3pm start at Waimakariri Hockey Turf, Coldstream Road, Rangiora.

Tickets from just \$5. Purchase tickets online at [www.blacksticks.co.nz](http://www.blacksticks.co.nz)

(Gate sales will only be considered if tickets are not sold out prior to game day).