



CUST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Friday, 31 March, 2017 - Week Nine—Term 1

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

It is great to have the opportunity to visit classes more regularly than in the past few years and assist (some would say interfere) with the teaching and learning that occurs.

There is fantastic work happening throughout the school which we should be very proud of.

A goal for every child is how do I improve what I am doing? What is my next step? These are the questions I ask the children in my classroom visits and am able to give feedback on their learning. Most children want to improve but there has to be some degree of self-motivation in order to do this. Asking – how can I present my work better/differently? Have I put examples in my work to help explain what I am doing? Is there a 'so what' part to my work? Am I able to complete this work on time?

It is important the children learn the skills needed and get opportunities to practise these – lots of practice!

One focus of this practice is in writing. We have developed a school goal based around this and it ties in well with our Puketeraki (Rangiora) Community of Learners goal. In a nut shell we want to improve boys writing, which our results, and local and national results, show is quite low. We have a number of initiatives happening within the school to support the teaching and learning in this curriculum area, which is further enhanced by some professional development within our local schools. Each teacher, this week, had the opportunity to participate in some professional development based around literacy. It gives staff the opportunity to:

Care Collaborate Communicate Create

- Care about the children in all schools
 - Share what we are doing
 - Value what is best
 - Discuss what it could / should be
 - Plan how to make changes
 - Create "what it will be"

These initiatives improve student learning through improved classroom practice. We also have our Learning Support Programme occurring. **WHAT IS THIS?**

The Board of Trustees provides additional teacher staffing and teacher aide resourcing to support children with their learning at Cust School.

The Learning Support team works with both small withdrawal groups of children and in classes providing support for individuals or groups of students.

Children who participate in Learning Support programmes have been referred to the Learning Support team by their classroom teachers. Students are assessed using a range of methods and suitable programmes to support the children are developed.

These might include:

Oral language support – designed to increase the spoken word knowledge and foundation of young children

Phonological awareness – designed to increase children's knowledge of sounds and letters

Soundcheck – a programme designed to build correct sound to print connections, or letter / sound relationships

Early Words – a programme designed to support children with the acquisition of the all important high frequency words to kick start their early reading

Reading support – offered across a range of year levels to support students develop their decoding skills and understanding of print

Agility With Sound – offered with students from Y4 to support their acquisition of reading skills

Writing support – offered across a range of year levels to support children develop their writing skills

Spelling support – specifically targeting children's recording of sound to print

Mathematics support – in-class support of students with the acquisition of mathematical concepts, particularly focusing on the number strand

Motor skills programme – designed to help with the development of gross motor skills, co-ordination, balance, cross-patterning and building up muscle tone

Handwriting programme – designed to assist children with developing their fine motor skills to support the acquisition of handwriting skills

BE YOUR BEST - Swimming season is over but we do have 11 children representing Cust School at the Canterbury Primary Schools Swimming Championships next Thursday. Good luck.

A few reminders:

**CUST SCHOOL MUFTI DAY
PYJAMA OR DRESS AS A PARENT DAY
FRIDAY 7 APRIL**

FUNDRAISER FOR LEUKAEMIA AND BLOOD FOUNDATION.

This year a large number of members (10 or so) from the Cust Volunteer Fire Brigade are doing the sky tower stair challenge on May 13 to raise money for this charity. They will climb 1103 stairs. (51 floors)

The money that we raise from this mufti day will be donated to help LBC.

**IMPORTANT: IF WE RAISE OVER \$500 ON THIS DAY, MR SCHUYT WILL,
ON THAT AFTERNOON, SHAVE ALL THE HAIR OFF HIS HEAD!**

POLICY REVIEW

Policies for review -

1. Recognition of Cultural Diversity (instructions)

1. Visit the website <http://cust.schooldocs.co.nz/1893.htm>.
2. Enter the user name (cust) and password (piko).
3. Follow the link to the relevant policy as listed.
4. Read the policy.
5. Click the Policy Review button at the right hand top corner of the page.
6. Select the reviewer type "Parent".
7. Enter the password "pin".
8. Enter your name (optional).
9. Submit your ratings and comments.

SCHOOL DONATION AND ACTIVITY INVOICES

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

ROOM ONE

Next week, as part of our 'All About Me' unit, we will be talking about what happens between 0 and 5 years of age. Could the children please bring a photo of themselves as a baby for our 'Can you guess who this is?' game and their pre-school Profile to share with the class. We have been working on questions this week and this will continue into the coming weeks. Time is the topic we will be learning about in Maths next week.

The lovely Margaret Alpin will be taking the class next Monday to Friday as I will be away.

Have a lovely weekend,
Kennys

ROOM TWO

Another busy week in R 2 with lots of research about life 150 years ago, finishing off our current Maths unit on number, a variety of writing activities and some sketching as well. The children are enjoying having another teacher in the classroom and are all working hard to 'be their best'!

Unfortunately Harry Mehrtens has misplaced his glasses (blue/black) so if found please return to Room 2 or the office.

Next week we are planning on starting a measurement unit on time for Maths, and getting creative with making a mural to show all our learning about life in North Canterbury 150 years ago.

Have a lovely weekend,
Kara and Ros

ROOM THREE

Kia ora koutou,

On Monday Kathryn and I attended a literacy workshop at Oxford Area School. This was a great opportunity to meet with other local teachers, sharing ideas around best practice in reading and writing. We look forward to another opportunity in Term 2. Thanks to Mrs Rout for taking over in Room 3 for the day.

Our classroom is nearly ready for us to start setting up in preparation for the shift out of the multi-purpose room. We're hoping to spend some time there before the end of the term so that the children know where we will be after the holidays. We'll let you know more about this closer to the time. Thank you for your patience with this. It will be great to have the storage space and resources of the classroom back!

Reading has continued this week as usual. In Writing we have been focusing on using descriptive language and Maths continues with number and measurement.

Thank you for your support with the litter free lunches. There are some great new "bento" style lunch boxes which really take the hassle out of this. They have lots of compartments which separate food and keep it fresh.

Have a great weekend.
Nga mihi nui,
Carolyn and Kathryn.

ROOM FOUR

Hi All,

This week in Room 4 we have been continuing on with our reading unit and looking at comprehension questions. The children have been reading journal stories and then having a series of questions to answer about the book. In Writing we have been writing myths based around the school cultural narrative. The children are putting the finishing touches to these and once these are ready we will display for people to read.

In numeracy the class are continuing on with their number unit. I have divided the class into three groups addition and subtraction, multiplication and division. We are not moving children through to the next group until they have mastered the operation they are working on. We want them to retain and master the skill before moving on. Too often children will be shown the strategy, they will practise it and then when we come to review it during the year they will have forgotten it.

Well done to Billie who competed at the Canterbury Primary Schools Duathlon on Monday. I hear it was very wet and you did amazingly well.

Remember to pop in any time for a chat about your child's learning.

Eddie Foskett

ROOM FIVE

This week Hannah, Eddie and I attended an ALL(Accelerating Literacy Learning) course in View Hill. It was a worthwhile day working alongside other teachers in the district and discussing and planning strategies to accelerate children's writing. We have returned with some new ideas to try out.

In the classroom the children are completing their Maori legends and will choose one for publication which will be shared with you.

In Maths we are applying our number strategies in problem solving using subtraction and in topic the children have begun presenting their researched information about the Haast eagle.

The children have also begun new novel studies which will take them through to the end of the term. Some of the novels will need to be read at home. These will be due in on Wednesday, 12 April. If you have any queries or concerns please don't hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards
Linda & Hannah

ROOM SIX AND SEVEN

This week Room 6 & 7 have begun transferring our fabulous descriptive writing skills to a new context - reselling our cultural narrative, 'The Legend of Pouakai'. It's a fairly harrowing tale, but we are focusing on making sure that our words add detail and depth to the tale, without getting caught up in gore. We are also exploring the process of retelling traditional stories using a range of digital animation tools, which is a learning curve for all of us!

This week has also seen some children beginning jobs in new class, school, and community 'employment' positions, earned by means of application letters and CVs. This has been a really valuable exercise in a number of ways, not least in seeing the importance of resilience (and proofreading!) in a real context. Many of these positions are short-term contracts, and we intend to repeat the process throughout the year as opportunity arises.

Have a great weekend,
Miriam and AnnMaree

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, 5 April	Board of Trustee Meeting
Thursday, 6 April	Canterbury Swim Competition
Friday, 7 April	Mufti Day
Thursday, 13 April	Sausage Sizzle
	End of Term One
Monday, 1 May	Term 2 starts

WEEKLY CLASS AWARDS

- Room One: Great work awarded to Liam. I really like the way you are listening, looking and following instructions. Well done.
Well done to Danielle for showing success in Piko's tips. You are a great writer Danielle.
- Room Two: Student of the Week awarded to Xavior for making great contributions to class discussions – awesome questions and answers.
Student of the Week awarded to Oscar for all round focus and effort in all classroom activities. Awesome!
Student of the Week awarded to Elizabeth for great effort and improvement in handwriting and presentation. Keep it up.
- Room Three: Excellence awarded to Izzy for great decoding skills and increase in fluency with reading. Well done.
Excellence awarded to Ruari for fabulous reading skills. Keep up the good work.
- Room Four: Student of the Week awarded to Aidan L. for improvement in his numeracy skills.
Student of the Week awarded to Tynisa for writing a wonderful Myth.
- Room Five: Student of the Week awarded to Esther for showing very good comprehension in her novel study.
Student of the Week awarded to Libby for a great google slideshow on her Harry Potter novel. This showed good understanding and use of ICT.
- Room Six: Well done to Emily for showing success in Piko's tips for being a great example of "Be Your Best" – aiming high, seeking new knowledge and applying it.
Student of the Week awarded to Kendra for an outstanding C.V. and job application.
Ka pai
- Room Seven: Student of the Week awarded to Piper for showing excellent focus working on independent reading activities.

LITTER FREE LUNCHES

There are many different options to enable you to send your child to school with a litter free lunch. These include bees wax coated reusable wraps, washable containers or lunch boxes with separate compartments. A local business called Phuny Bento has a large range of options to help with this. Their website is www.phunybento.co.nz I have negotiated a special 15% discount for Cust School families. You can enter 'school' in the discount section to access this online.

Carolyn Smith

PTA News

End of Term Sausage Sizzle Thursday 13 April

The PTA will be holding a sausage sizzle for students (and staff)

Sausages are \$2 each and must be **pre-ordered**. If your child brings money on the day, we cannot guarantee that they will get a sausage as the children/people who have pre-ordered will be served first.

Gluten free sausages are available on request.

Please supply own GF bread.

Orders need to be into the office by *3:15 pm Tuesday 11 April*

Please put money into a sealed envelope and write on the front:

Name, Room and Quantity required (for each student in the family), then write the total cash amount enclosed.

Disco

This year we will be holding our junior/senior disco's early Term 3.

We are looking for a small group of parents who would be keen to organise these. You will have the support of the PTA and assistance from the person who has organised them in the past. If you are interested, please contact us through the gmail.

NZ Bulb Orders

The last day for submitting your bulb orders is Friday this week. Please hand in to the office or Kathryn Taylor ASAP.

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

All parents/caregivers are welcome to attend these meetings.

Our next meeting is Tuesday 16 May at 7:30 pm in the Multipurpose Room.

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

For more information/contact details:

Website: www.cust.school.nz (School Info Tab)

Facebook: Cust School Parent Teacher Association

Email: custschoolpta@gmail.com

Cust School PTA Bank Account: 03 1783 0502131 03

Cust School
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
to be held at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 5 April 2017

1. Apologies

Order Paper

2. The Chairperson makes the recommendation that the following be accepted unless suspended:

3. Minutes

Minutes of the previous Board of Trustees meeting.

4. Correspondence Outwards

4.1 That the Correspondence outwards be approved.

5. Correspondence Inwards

5.1 That the Correspondence Inwards be approved.

6. Principal's Report (Curriculum)

6.1 That the Principal's Report be received.

- Curriculum Goals
- Student Achievement
- Uniform

7. Documentation & Self Review Report

7.1 That the Documentation & Self Review Report be received.

- Communication / Policy Review
- School Docs 1/3

8. Personnel Report

8.1 That the Personnel Report be received.

- Appraisal
- Teaching Positions

9. Property Report

9.1 That the Property Report be received.

- Block 1 Modernisation

10. Finance Report

10.1 That the Finance report be received.

10.2 That the accounts be received.

- Monthly accounts January / February

11. Health and Safety Report

11.1 That the Health and Safety Report be received

- Hazard Register

12. Staff Representatives Report

12.1 That the Staff Representative's Report be received.

Date of next meeting: 7 June 2017

COMMUNITY NOTICES

OXFORD AGRICULTURAL & PASTORAL ASSN. 112th ANNUAL SHOW Showgrounds, Bay Road, Oxford on Saturday, 1 April 2017.

RSA POPPIES – ANZAC DAY

You will have received an envelope with some poppies in that we distribute on behalf of the Cust-West Eyreton RSA. Please return the envelope with your donation per poppy, or any unwanted poppies to the school office. It would be appreciated. Thank you.

3SANS EQUESTRIAN HORSE BASED AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

I'm looking to offer riding lessons and other horse based activities to a maximum of 4 children (per day) from 3pm -6pm. This will be a trial run over the next two months as I have been accepted for an internship on a horse stud in Canada from end of May – October. However if this is successful and I have children interested in continuing when I come back I will start up again in October. I will meet the children at 3pm at Cust School and walk with them to my place (5 minutes walk from Cust School) where I have two reliable horses that they can learn the basics of handling, caring for and riding a horse. I will provide afternoon tea for the children.

I have been studying natural horsemanship for at least 10 years and I would like to pass on my knowledge. I am interested in and have a good understanding of barrel racing, Cowboy Challenge and roping. Over the years I have learnt lots of games, puzzles and problem solving techniques based around horsemanship. I feel these skills have benefitted me in many aspects of my life and feel they could do the same for your children.

The cost will be \$30 for the 3 hour period per child. Both boys and girls welcome.
If you have any further questions please contact Amy on 0220992249.

CENTRE CLEANER REQUIRED AT CUST/WEST EYRETON PLAYCENTRE

We are looking for someone to be our cleaner for 2 hours a week (1 hour on 2 separate days) starting from Term Two 2017. This would suit a local person with an eye for detail. For more information and a job description, please ring Fiona on 03 310 2159 or email daveandfi@clear.net.nz

SURFKIDS

Childrens Surfing Programme.

Learn the skills of Surfing in a fun, safe environment. All equipment provided and professional instruction from Aaron Lock and team. For kids 8 - 14 years.

Sundays 10am to 12pm until 30 April

April Holidays : 18 - 21 April, 24 - 28 April, 10am -12pm

Cost \$30 per day or \$135 for five. Bookings essential.

Venue :Sumner.

Call Aaron on 0800 80 SURF (7873) or register online at www.surfcoach.co.nz

ST MARGARET'S COLLEGE OPEN DAY

12 Winchester Street, Christchurch

Time: 10:30am to 1:00pm

Principal's Address: 11:45am

For further information: 03 353 2563 or enrol@stmargarets.school.nz