



CUST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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School's bank account number is 03 1592 0074218 00

Friday, 2 June, 2017 - Week Five —Term 2



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

TEACHER ONLY DAY:

Thanks for your support as we held our Teacher Only Day today. We haven't had one for many years and I know the staff appreciate the opportunity to work together without distractions. We spent most of the day on our new focus – Learning with Digital Technologies.

There will be an opportunity for you to find out more, have your say and be involved when we hold the parents evening on Monday 19 June, 7pm, in the Multipurpose Room.

IT'S ALL ABOUT ATTITUDE:

I must admit I really enjoy this term (not because of the weather!), as there are a few events that happen that show the true character of different children – we see positive attitude at its best. We saw this at last week's cross country – the junior children put in a huge effort in their races (it was the best I have seen for a number of years) and the senior children helping out the juniors as they ran (great sense of family.)

Our Tip this term is "Be Independent" and one of the things we have talked to the children about is Being Confident (giving things a go / stepping outside your comfort zone / having a positive attitude). It also includes being resilient and being organised. At school, we provide many opportunities for children to do this through class work, speeches, homework, sport etc.

When thinking about this TIP (Key for Success) and having observed children in different settings (for over 30 years), I have 3 groups of children I admire:

1. Naturally talented – there are children who are naturally talented at particular things. They can be talented in music, sports, maths, languages but also in social aspects and they are able to use this talent to achieve exceptionally well. You look at them in awe as they effortlessly run, swim, draw, problem solve, lead, learn new concepts etc.
2. Journey(men/women) – these are children who might not be gifted but absolutely try their hardest. They work hard and put in their best effort to achieve their goal. It is harder for them to achieve well, but they do because of their attitude – they show effort and determination.
3. Lastly, and I think I admire these the most, are the children who are never going to be great at a particular thing e.g. cross country – they struggle to do it because of some diffability, but you never hear them complain about it and there are never any excuses from them or their parents. They give things a go even when they know it's going to be very hard. Through their positive attitude, they show resiliency in the face of adversity, and independence, not relying on others – they just do it.

IT'S ALL ABOUT ATTITUDE:

A positive attitude will also allow you to view challenges as opportunities rather than threats. People with negative attitudes think, "I can't..." or "I doubt..." They might blame others, look for excuses or think everything is against them. In contrast, each time you act from a positive attitude, your self-confidence is enhanced, your ability to achieve is proven, and you know you can succeed.

So how can we help our children... one way might be....

Do you.....Compensate for weaknesses?

Most of us get our confidence not from compensating for weaknesses, but on playing to our strengths.

Children can't always avoid their weak areas, but by focusing on building a positive attitude and looking at strengths we build self-efficacy and confidence.

Next time you're tempted to make an excuse for your child why they can't do something consider instead making sure they do it but with a goal to finish it confidently. Make sure they have a positive attitude - their sense of confidence and competence / achievement will return. *Call me old fashioned but opting out of something because it is too hard or you don't want to do it, is not a valid excuse.*

*Note: I am not talking about genuine sickness or injury but I have never heard of a child having a serious accident at a cross country race or at a speech competition.
Give things a go – be positive, no excuses!*

CROSS COUNTRY:

This Thursday we had a number of children compete at the Eyre/Oxford Cluster Cross Country (schools involved: Cust, Swannanoa, West Eyreton, Oxford and View Hill). The results below are a testament to how fit our children are and their motivation to "Be Your Best". From these results, there are approximately 20 children who will compete at the North Canterbury Cross Country Championships. I often get comments from other schools about how well our children do at this (and I understand parents often comment to other parents about this too.)

To set the record straight our children do not run 5km each day! They do daily fitness and this varies depending on our specific programme needs. Fitness is a priority for Cust and the reason it is a priority is that it has two major benefits:

1. Improves the health of the children.
2. Improves learning (fit children can concentrate better!)

There is an expectation and culture where the children from day one of their schooling are involved to some degree. Our children are fit and active, both outside and inside school and we will continue to promote this.

Results (Top 10)

Year 5 Girls

Billie McLachlan 1st
Hannah Lawler 7th
Sophie Bell 8th

Year 5 Boys

Harry Smith 2nd
Hugh Chapman 10th

Year 6 Girls

Katie Parris 6th

Year 6 Boys

James Baggott 6th
Aiden Lapslie 8th

Year 7 Girls

Tinsha Benson 1st
Holly Frost 2nd
Lauren Whittaker 3rd
Paige Packham 7th
Caitlyn Hey 9th

Year 7 Boys

Year 8 Girls

Emily Smith 2nd
Alice Reid 6th
Anna Nalder 10th

Year 8 Boys

Quade McLachlan 1st
Harry Muir 7th
Harry Gartery 9th

Mid-Year Testing:

At this time of year we conduct mid-year testing. This involves a range of different assessments on Reading/Writing and Maths. From these results we will create reports on the children which you will receive later this term with their portfolios, followed by parent interviews in the last week of term. This also provides us with useful data in which to prioritise our learning support programme. I will also report on any trends we find in Term Three.

Included in this newsletter is the updated Cust School Uniform Policy as approved by the Board of Trustees. This is also on our web site.

Regards
Robert

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, 5 June

Wednesday, 7 June

Tuesday, 13 June

Wednesday, 14 June

Thursday, 15 June

Monday, 19 June

Tuesday, 20 June

Wednesday, 21 June

Friday, 23 June

Queen's Birthday

North Canterbury Cross Country

ICAS Writing

ICAS Spelling

Court Theatre

Digital Technologies Parent Evening

PTA AGM

Canterbury Cross Country

PTA Movie Night

Wednesday, 28 June
Friday, 30 June
Monday / Tuesday 3 and 4 July

Friday, 7 July

BOT Meeting
Reports / Portfolio's Home
Parent Interviews / 3 Way Conferences
North Canterbury Winter Tournament
Term Two Ends

SCHOOL DONATION AND ACTIVITY FEE

It would be appreciated if outstanding payments could be cleared as soon as possible.

If you would like to talk about any of this, or we have made a mistake, or make an arrangement for part payments please contact Jennifer or Robert. Thank you.

ROOM ONE

This week the senior children started Jump Jam and Rooms 1 and 3 started Junior Jump Jam in the Multi-purpose room. For us it is a combination of exercises to help learning, P.M.P., eye tracking and movement to music.

About half the class have returned their characteristics sheets – thank you. I would appreciate it if the rest could be returned by the end of next week please. Next week we will start talking about families and there will be a 'Our Guinness Book of Records' sheet for your family to fill in. A bit of fun!

As there are a lot of coughs and colds around at the moment, I would appreciate it if each family could provide a family sized box of tissues, for the class to share. Thanks.

Enjoy the long weekend,
Kennys

ROOM TWO

Goodness, what a lot to pack into 4 days! We have completed our unit on Maori myths and challenges (we hope you enjoyed the recordings and videos sent home on seesaw earlier in the week) and apart from working on our Pouakai drama, have now moved onto learning about persuasive writing, and writing and presenting arguments. As a method of learning the process/structure of an argument we use the 'hamburger' model - ask your child if he/she can explain this for you.

Also this week we have completed our current number unit and for the next couple of weeks will be studying fractions. Remember sharing out the oranges for afternoon tea, setting the table and cutting the pizza can all be authentic ways of bringing fractions into home. Have a go!

Next week we hope to complete our drama and share it with you all by seesaw. Please let me know if this is not working for anyone so I can reset it.

Have a lovely holiday weekend,
Ros

ROOM THREE

Kia ora koutou,

Wow, we are mid-way through the term already! The children certainly have been busy.

On Friday students reflected upon the cross-country races held last Thursday and wrote a recount on how they feel it went. Look out for these in their portfolios that will be coming home in a few weeks' time.

For Maths we have all been learning about $\frac{1}{2}$'s and $\frac{1}{4}$'s of shapes, and the groups have started their new objectives: +/- to 10, skip counting in 2's & 5's and sharing objects equally to make $\frac{1}{2}$'s and $\frac{1}{4}$'s.

In writing we are continuing with our Persuasive writing. The writer's workshop has also been looking at similes this week to make writing more descriptive and have written the following poem:

I AM...

I am as cold as ice, (Mrs. W.)

I am as white as a cloud, (Scott)

I am as tall as a giant, (James J.)

I am as hot as lava, (Quayde)

I am as happy as a My Little Pony, (Ruari)

I am as sharp as a knife. (James T.)

Have a fantastic long weekend!

Nga Mihi Nui,

Kathryn and Carolyn

ROOM FOUR

Kia ora

Another very busy week in Room 4. In numeracy we started our number unit. The focus of this unit is the four operations with some children getting extended into decimals and fractions.

In writing the class have started writing persuasive arguments. Children will be starting their speeches in the next week or two. In reading the class are continuing with their novel studies. These are due next Friday and once marked I will send them home for the children to share. In topic this week the class have been learning about how Cust was used by the local Maori people.

On Thursday I took about forty runners to the Eyre Cluster Cross Country down at the Cust Domain. The weather was awesome and the children ran really well. It was a great day and we had a lot make it through to Rakahuri being held next Wednesday at Loburn Domain.

Nga mihi nui,
Eddie

ROOM SIX AND ROOM SEVEN

This week Room 6 and 7 have been working hard on writing with persuasion. We have practised using adverbs and strong verbs to make our readers feel emotion when they read our opinions. We have also realised the importance of adding detail to flesh out our writing, and using evidence to back up our thoughts. This has led to discussion about what 'evidence' actually is, and what makes an information source reliable. It appears that some of our children feel very strongly about cross country, fidget spinners and all sorts of issues, but it has been tricky at times finding experts that agree with them!

We have also been working away on our reading assignments. Some children have taken personal research to the next level, and are creating ways to use their learning to make the world a better place - great to see! Some other children are working on novel studies on 'Wonder' or 'The Book Thief'. During our next cycle, these options will reverse, giving all children an opportunity to complete both options.

Have a great (long!) weekend,
Miriam Bell and AnnMaree Schuyt.

CERTIFICATES

- Room One: Excellence awarded to Fleur for being so organised and using her initiative. Well done Fleur.
Great work awarded to Liam for mastering his first sounds jigsaw and being able to write a few words from memory. Well done Liam.
- Room Two: Student of the Week awarded to Walter for great speed and accuracy in facts to 20. Awesome.
Student of the Week awarded to Ruby for fabulous work in Maths. Go Ruby.
Student of the Week awarded to Xavior for great speed and accuracy in facts to 20. Awesome.
- Room Three: Excellence awarded to Finlay for super fluency and comprehension in reading. Well done.
Well done Sam for showing success in Piko's Tips for growing in confidence and resilience. Way to go!
- Room Four: Great work awarded to Max for improved reading skills.
Great work awarded to Connor L. for continued improvement in his reading and writing skills.
- Room Five: Great work awarded to Kaitlin for improving her ending in her argument and achieving 97/100 in her times tables.
Great work awarded to Maddie for super progress in her reading and comprehension. Well done.
- Room Six: Great Work awarded to Harry M. for great research work on 1800'2 New Zealand.
Great Work awarded to Oli for awesome effort and engagement in all curriculum areas.
- Room Seven: Excellence awarded to Ribh for being very organised, listening, asking questions then working independently with focus.

PTA NEWS

Cust School PTA Art Competition

Create an artwork that represents one of the following topics:

«Celebrating 150 years of Cust School

«School theme for 2017: Looking at the Past - “Ka mua, ka muri” Walking Backwards Into The Future.

3 Sections

Junior School (Years 0-3)

Middle School (Years 4-6)

Senior School (Years 7-8)

One winner (and one highly commended) from each section

Winners will have their artwork made into cards for the PTA to use.

Winners will also get a free ticket to the Cust School Disco

Drawing has to be done on A3 size paper (you can get this from the teacher).

Write your name and year group on the back.

Please hand drawings into your teacher (or the office).

Competition closes Friday 30 June

Junior/Senior Movie Night: Friday 23 June, Multipurpose Room

Junior (Years 1 – 4) movie starts at 5:30 pm.

Senior (Years 5 – 8) movie starts at 7:30 pm.

Bring your own bean bag or floor cushion.

\$5 covers entry and a goody bag.

We will let you know the movies closer to the time.

Uniform – Merino Jersey Option

As an alternative to the polar fleece tops, the children are also able to wear a red merino jersey.

If you are interested, go to the website for Merino Wool for School for more information or to order.

<https://www.merino Wool for school.co.nz/>

<https://www.facebook.com/merino Wool for school>

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

If donating items, please leave them at the school office - clean and in good used condition (no stains or holes). Remove the name tags.

If purchasing items, pay at the office. Please relabel these items.

ENTERTAINMENT™ BOOK

The eldest child in each family was given an envelope to take home last term offering you the opportunity to purchase the 2017/2018 Christchurch Entertainment™ Memberships. Please refer to the letter inside for further information.

A sample book is available to view in the school office. Still only \$65 giving you over \$20,000 of value.

Contact Kate Powell 027 229 5026 for further information.

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting is Tuesday 20 June at 7:30 pm in the Multipurpose Room.

This will also be our AGM. All Parents/caregivers are welcome to attend.

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

FISH AND CHIPS, AMERICAN HOT DOGS – Thursday, 8 June

All orders need to be in the office by 9.00am. No late orders as we will not be going down to the hotel.

SUSHI – Thursday, 15 June

Please Note: No orders are taken for this and occasionally there may not be sufficient made to fulfil all orders. It would be a good idea to ensure your child has other food in their lunch box that day.

CUST SCHOOL WEBSITE

Check out the school website www.custschool.nz/ for regular updates.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

POINT OF LAY CHOOKS FOR SALE

Brown Shavers at point of lay \$25 each.

Please contact George Riley for orders on 3125969 or 0272004143.

WORK AVAILABLE

At Horticulture farm in West Eyreton up to three mornings a week preparing vegetables for the market. Suits school hours. Contact Lia on 3125-500.

O M G THEY'RE TEENAGERS ALREADY!

Do you find yourself worrying that your teen or tween is not ok?

Dr Sue Bradshaw, from 298 Youth Health is an expert on teenage and pre-teen behaviour. She'll talk about what's normal and what's not and the signs you need to look out for.

Have your questions answered at this empowering seminar.

Wednesday, 21 June, 6.30 – 8.30pm at the Kaiapoi High School Cultural Centre Te Kohiko, 85-97 Ohoka Road, Kaiapoi.

CUST COMMUNITY NETWORK AGM

Wednesday 14 June 7.30pm Cust School Multi-purpose Room

Come along to the CCN AGM to hear about the three bins proposal for Cust village and a potential rural recycling drop-off facility from guest speaker Kitty Waghorn - Waimakariri District Council. Join us at the Cust School Multi-purpose room for a cuppa and ask all your questions.

For information call Kirstyn on 021 312 230

MIDDLE YEARS TOOLBOX PARENTING COURSE (6-12 YEARS)

Monday 19th & 26th June, Monday 3rd July (break over school holidays) then Monday 24th & 31st July, Monday 7th August

7.30pm – 9.30pm

Rangiora (**venue to be confirmed**)

In six sessions over six weeks, this small group course is designed to help you stay connected, teach skills and build memories. The six sessions are bursting with great advice, humour and encouragement. You will be given insight into the particular challenges and unique opportunities that the middle years (6-12 years) bring, and you will gain tools for confidently handling the challenges that arise along the way.

\$75.00 per person \$110.00 per couple. Need a subsidy? Just ask.

For more information or to register phone Miriam 021 1578244 or email gmfoulds@clear.net.nz

CUST SCHOOL

Uniform Policy



Cust School - Uniform Procedure

At Cust School we have introduced a compulsory uniform. This will enhance the sense of school community, an important ingredient in creating an effective learning environment.

Students are expected and encouraged to take pride in their uniform and general appearance. If a parent has philosophical objections to their child wearing the uniform options available, they are free to apply to the Board of Trustees for a dispensation. Financial advice and support is available from the principal to parents who have concerns about clothing costs.

Purpose: -

- * To establish a sense of identity, equality and pride within the school population.
- * To provide a visual recognition of allegiance to Cust School.
- * To clarify the exact requirements of the compulsory school uniform, so that parents and teachers have a common understanding of standards and methods of enforcement.

Guidelines

All students are required to wear clothing that falls within the following stated options:

- * The school colours are red and navy
- * All clothing is to be named
- * The manner in which the uniform is worn, is subject to school enforcement

The uniform is available from The Warehouse.

Merino jerseys are available from www.merino Wool for school.co.nz

The PTA has some second hand uniform items for sale.

No jewellery is permitted except for wristwatches, a plain stud or keeper in each pierced ear. No rings are allowed. No students may wear make-up, coloured nail polish, or stick-on tattoos.

Hair must be clean and tidy, and kept off the face.

If a student has a legitimate reason for not wearing part of the uniform, parents are asked to supply a note stating the reason and the estimated time frame of the breach.

If a student breaches our dress code without such a note, we take the following steps:

1. The student is asked by the teacher to explain the breach.
2. Second breach, we send a letter home reminding parents of their obligations regarding the uniform.
3. After a third breach, the principal is notified and parents are invited by phone to attend an interview to discuss uniform requirements.
4. After further breaches, we invoke our formal discipline plan.

Uniform

Boys (summer and winter)

Plain red polar fleece vest or jersey / Plain red merino jersey

Plain navy shorts (knit or cotton drill/cargo)

Plain navy track pants

Red polo shirt (short or long sleeved)

Red skivvy

The Cust School logo is optional for polar fleeces, skivvies and polo shirts. (The logo is available from the school office).

Practical, flat-soled shoes/boots, or sandals in terms 1 and 4

Blue or white sports socks (preferably)

Navy full brimmed sun hat or bucket style sunhat in terms 1 and 4 (Named)

Sports: navy shorts and red polo shirt and optional navy and red sports jacket (available from Mainland [Uniforms](#)).

Girls (summer and winter)

As above, plus:

Plain navy culottes or blue gingham culottes

Navy shorts (cargo shorts okay)

Blue gingham dress with white collar and zip front

Note: our blue gingham has a red stripe to match other parts of the uniform.

Navy tights

All uniform items must be clearly named. The manner in which the uniform is worn is subject to school enforcement.