



# Banks Avenue School



"Learning today to succeed tomorrow"  
*Kia mau ki ngā akoranga, kia tau ai āpōpō*

## NEWSLETTER

24 June 2015

Hi, kia ora, goeie dag, haileo, jou sanh, goedendag

Number 18

Phone: 03 385 4163, fax: 03 385 6581 email: [office@banksave.school.nz](mailto:office@banksave.school.nz), website: [www.banksave.school.nz](http://www.banksave.school.nz)

Thursday 25 June  
Monday 29 June  
Wednesday 1 July

**Friday 3 July**

Sunday 5 July

11-12 July

Monday 20 July

**Friday 21 August**

Thursday 27 August

Shirley Area Music Concert – Matinee & Evening  
PTA meeting – 7pm in the staffroom – all welcome  
Reports go home

**Last day Term 23 – children dismissed at 3:00pm**

PTA Family Portraits

PTA Hip Hop Fun Classes

Term 3 begins

**Teacher Only Day – school will be closed for instruction**

PTA Quiz Night

*Banks Avenue School trip / event postponements and or cancellations will only be heard on  
NEWSTALK ZB 1098AM and CLASSIC HITS and viewed on our website: [www.banksave.school.nz](http://www.banksave.school.nz)*

**SCHOOLGEN LINK:** <http://schoolgen.co.nz/schoolgen-schools/banks-avenue-school-christchurch>

**If your child is absent from school, for any reason, please let our school office know using one on the following options: Phone: 385 4163 / option 3 text 027 422 8032 email: [office@banksave.school.nz](mailto:office@banksave.school.nz)**  
**If your child arrives at school after 9:00am they must check in at the office. This saves a lot of phone calls for unexplained absences to ensure the safety of all our children.**

Dear Parents and Whānau

Ngā mihi mahana ki a koutou – a warm welcome to you all.

### Kind Words Kind Actions

In term 3 we will be having a general focus across the school on *using kind words and kind actions* to others. In our restorative conversations we have with children, we often refer to this term as it is a bit more explicit than referring to our current school values of *respect and empathy*. In a recent restorative conversation I had with a group of children I asked *'who is the kindest person in your class?'* It is lovely to recognise these students who were identified by their peers as being kind.

Room 16: Savanna, Rylee and Dallys

Room 10: Sofia

As next term progresses we will be recognising children across the school in assemblies and in our weekly newsletter for using kind words and kind actions. Keep an eye out to see if your child is recognised.



### Feedback on Values

Many thanks to all of the parents who have returned their slips to me or who have been on line (school website) to help identify key values we should be focusing on as a school. Here is a collation of those responses to date. It is not too late for you to go on to our website to have a say.

Respectful (9) Hauora (8) Confident (7)  
Excellence (6) Empathetic (4) Honest (3)  
Responsible (3) Collaborative (3) Innovative (3)  
Problem solver (2) Can-do attitude (2) Caring (2)  
Independent (2) Empowered (2) Integrity (2)  
Enthusiastic Kind Persevering Resilient  
Adaptable Well-rounded Inclusive

As New Zealanders and as a bi-cultural nation it also appropriate for us to be looking at how we could be incorporating some Māori values and language into our school values. Two potential values are: *manakitanga* (Mana – self worth Aki – how self-worth is generated- tanga – treat others as you would like to be treated) respect (creating self-worth in others), giving of yourself. Whanaungatanga -the relationship that develops as a result of manakitanga – the strength of the group – see people as people not just their role i.e. working collaboratively and collectively.

This will continue to be an area that we develop as a school over the next six months.

## Learning Conversations

Early next term, week 2, parents will be invited to come to school to meet with the teacher and their child to discuss their last six months at school. Parents will have the opportunity of booking an appointment slot on line or through a paper version. **PLEASE** ensure that bookings are made in the allocated time frame as it becomes very difficult for our office administrators to change and amend bookings once the timetable has been drawn up.

In our meetings at school and at Board level we are having in depth learning conversations at the moment as we look at our mid-year data and the implications for our programmes for the rest of the year. This year we have introduced a new assessment tool across the senior school, e-asttle. We are excited in anticipation that children will be able to articulate their learning and next steps in relation to this tool.

## Shortened Lunch Hour

A HUGE thank you to the many parents who responded to a prompt in last week's newsletter about the possibility of introducing a shortened lunch hour. This was the most feedback I have received on any query and it showed a genuine concern from parents. One parent made a valid comment that it would cost an extra \$22 a week in childcare for the extra hour and a quarter each week. All parents who responded noted how difficult it would be for working parents who already have a large degree of organisation involved in picking up children daily.

This proposal also generated good debate at the BOT level last night.

We realise it would not suit those parents who work or who have other children to pick up from neighbouring schools so thought that if we provided supervised child care from 2:45 – 3 in the school library each day then those parents who have no flexibility with their timetables would not need to worry. However, to consider this we would need to have an idea of how many children that would involve. We could not cater for more than 80 children on a daily basis therefore before we make a final decision I am asking that parents who would need this childcare facility for 15 minutes each day to respond on the bottom of this newsletter. This will give us another layer of information with which to be able to make a final decision.

Your feedback is very welcome and appreciated and will impact on our final decision.

## Social Worker in School

If you have any concerns, issues or stresses that you think a social worker could support you with then please ring Fiona 027 423 0649

## Learning Experience Fee

Team Miro ask for \$15 a term for a learning experience fee. This money pays for extracurricular activities that the children get linked to learning, e.g., strike percussion and Science Alive. In the junior school (Team Totara and Team Kahikatea) children are charged separately for each event (as it occurs) so therefore we don't have a problem with children getting an experience and not paying. Thanks to all the parents who always pay for these events promptly.

The learning experience fee for the seniors is \$15 per term. We currently have sixty children who have participated in term 1 and term 2 events but who have not paid the learning experience fee; thus we have paid out of school funds \$1800 to cover these children. We cannot afford to do this, money from the Ministry of Education does not cover these extracurricular events!

These families have received invoices and will be receiving another reminder from Becks Searle, the team leader. We ask that you pay these outstanding amounts before the end of term 2. Those children who have outstanding amounts owing from term 1 and term 2 will not be able to participate in any further extra activities until the previous debts have been paid. The next planned event is on the second day of term 3 so that is why it is urgent for these families that we start with a clean slate for term 3. If parents have arranged to pay weekly amounts through automatic payments then we have no concerns as we know all costs for school will be covered by the end of the year.

As always if you have any questions or queries in relation to school accounts come into the office to see Colleen.

## Choir

Belinda Walsh has been working with a large number of our children in our school choir. Our choir is performing tomorrow afternoon and tomorrow evening in the Shirley Schools Area Music Festival.

Last week our children had a practise at Shirley Intermediate and a group of parents accompanied them. It was very pleasing when two separate adults commented on how well—behaved our students were and how proud they were of them.

*Well done to our awesome choir and well-done to Miss Walsh for all of your efforts!*

## Whakatauki

Whaia te iti kahurangi ki te tuahu koe me he maunga teitei.

Aim for the highest cloud so that if you miss it, you will hit a lofty mountain.

# 'HOT SHOT' LEARNERS



**Daniel from Room 16 is a good all rounder. He is very caring and has excellent manners and behaviour. Daniel is a top reader who puts 100% effort into learning his weekly spelling words. He is well deserving of this honor.**

Well done Daniel! 😊

## Lunch Room 11

I am thrilled to invite these children to share lunch with me tomorrow. These children have been displaying our school values in and out of the class.  
*Sasha, Hayley, Sam K, Sam E, Michael, Caitlin and Lucv*

## Kapa haka Update

Extra Kapa haka poi practice.  
The extra Kapa haka poi practice which was scheduled for the Sunday 12 July is now being postponed for a later date. More information regarding this will be out in the new term.



## Cultural Festival

The Cultural Festival is coming up in Term 3 from 31 August to 4 September. We are waiting to hear when our school is performing. More information will be out about this as soon as possible.

## House Keeping / Reminders

### Lunch On-line

Remember lunch on-line every Thursday. Orders must be in by 8:30am. Go to:  
<http://www.lunchonline.co.nz/> to place your order.



## PTA News and Events

This week is all about answering the burning question of 'What is a PTA' and 'What is its' purpose'. But first of all here's a fun fact... Did you know that the first known PTA in New Zealand was formed in 1906 in a primary school in Hokitika? That's over 100 years of parents/caregivers and teachers all over New Zealand working together to contribute to the development of children in schools! Pretty impressive huh?

So what is a PTA? In short, a PTA is a group of parents/caregivers who come together to support their children's education with links to school staff as well as members of the Board of Trustees (BOT). It is a non-profit organisation and the work the PTA does is completely voluntary. The purpose of the PTA is to create closer relationships between the home and the school for the benefit of the children and gives parents/caregivers a voice within the school. They also form a link between the school and the wider community.

Here at Banks Avenue School, the PTA has a strong focus on fundraising events (such as the always successful discos, calendars and Entertainment Books). Money raised from events like these is used to purchase extra items/services for the school that the children will directly benefit from. The children are always at the centre of everything that the PTA does.

Although fundraising is a strong focus for us, other purposes of the PTA include:

- To achieve a mutual understanding of the schools goals.
- To act as a forum for parents and teachers to formally discuss areas of interest.
- To assist the school with activities where parent involvement is needed.
- To provide a channel through which parents can voice their concerns.

Above all, our PTA exists to ensure that the children of Banks Ave receive the best education that we can possibly give them, an education that fosters their physical, intellectual and mental wellbeing.

Want to know more? Please feel free to give me a call/text on 022 681 5545. I may not be able to answer straight away but will get back to you a.s.a.p.

Cheers,  
Jen Dellabarca  
Chairperson of the PTA

# PTA QUIZ NIGHT

Get your mates together for a fantastic night of competition, fun, fab prizes and a super raffle.

Date: Thursday 27 August  
Time: 7:00 pm  
Where: The One Good Horse, Parklands.  
Cost: \$40 for a team of 4.

Tables are limited so be in quick!  
Tickets on sale from the uniform shop  
2:45pm Monday 22 June – Friday 26 June.

**If you, or anyone you know, can donate for the prizes and raffle please contact me.**

This week's questions...

What are a group of Rhino called?

Which planet is closest to the Sun?

In the Star Wars films which two actors have played Obi Wan Kenobi?

Who wrote 'A Brief History of Time'?

How many players are there in a netball team?

Answers to last week. Four – 2, 3, 5 and 7. E. Metropolis. Hazelnuts. Andrew Lloyd Webber

Contact – Wendy Preston 021 117 7336 and  
[wendypreston@clear.net.nz](mailto:wendypreston@clear.net.nz)



Once a week, on a Thursday at 2:30pm, we have a coffee van in the junior school area for any parents who would like to come early, buy a coffee and sit around for a chat with other parents.

**Family Portraits** – Sunday 5 July – flyer with more detailed information coming home today with the newsletter.



**Hip Hop Dance Lessons** – 11 and 12 July in the school holidays. . Ring Jen on 022 681 5545 to book your child / children in.



Next PTA meeting:

*Monday 29 June at 7:00pm  
in the staffroom  
All welcome*



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Next meeting

*Wednesday 29 July at 6:30pm  
in the Sky Room  
All welcome*



## Are you getting our tweets?

Text **follow banksaveschool** to **8987** To get all those important updates!

### *We want to know what you think!*

#### **Shortened Day – Child care needed from 2:45 – 3:00pm**

Please return this slip to the office if you need your child / children to be supervised daily if we shorten the school day (decision not made yet).

Family Name:

Number of children that would need supervision:

***“You must learn a new way to think before you can master a new way to be!”***