



Banks Avenue School



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

NEWSLETTER

18 February 2015

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

Number 04

Phone: 03 385 4163, fax: 03 385 6581 email: office@banksave.school.nz, website: www.banksave.school.nz

Friday 20 February	Junior Module Flower Show – 11.45am – 12.30pm
Monday 2 March	PTA meeting 7:00pm in the staffroom – all welcome
Friday 6 March	Junior Module Reading Session
9 – 20 March	Aquagym for Team Kahikatea
Wednesday 1 April	Last day for Term One for the children
Thursday 2 April	Teacher Only Day

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

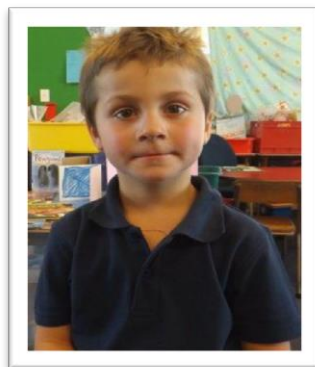
SCHOOLGEN LINK: <http://schoolgen.co.nz/schoolgen-schools/banks-avenue-school-christchurch>

Dear Parents and Whānau

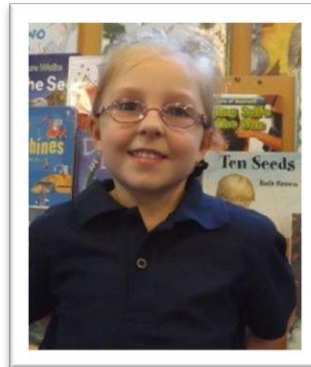
A big Banks Avenue School welcome to the following children and their families to our Banks Avenue School community.



Caleb Hazeldine
Rm 9



Bryden Gray
Rm 9



Sofia Hunter
Rm 10

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

Our newsletter this week does not look quite as flash as usual as Colleen Lucas, our office administrator, is away and she is the one who makes our newsletter look so attractive each week.

Board of Trustees

On Tuesday night we had our first Board of Trustees meeting for the year. Our Board of Trustees work very hard in the background governing Banks Avenue School.

Our board members are:

Aaron Reid – Chairperson, Helen Stowers - Staff Representative, Toni Burnside – Principal, and Kirk McKay, Karen Elliot, Trevor Wilson, Noella Gould, Glen Bongartz, Shannon Rogers,

At this week's meeting the BOT discussed last year's student achievement across the school and ratified this year's targets and Charter. There is a copy of our Charter in the school office. Parents can also access it on our school website.

Our Kapa Haka Group – change of time

We have trialled Tuesday morning for our kapa haka practice but this has not been successful. We have many children not arriving on time thus missing out on most of the session. In light of this Matua Maaka has kindly changed his timetable so we can now revert to a Friday afternoon from 1-2pm (half an hour of lunch and half an hour of school time).

Te Matatini – National Kapa Haka contest and celebration

All children in Year 4-6 who are in the kapa haka group have now received information about attending this fabulous cultural event. In order to help with planning please get permission forms back as soon as possible before the 24 February.

Tweet Contest

Many thanks to all of the families who responded to our tweet contest. The correct answer to the question “when is the next PTA meeting?” was March 2.

Congratulations to the winners who have been notified.

Remembrance 22 February

This year the anniversary of the Christchurch earthquake falls on a Sunday. In recognition of this day, each team will be planning a small ceremony at school for Friday 20th February.

There is a larger community remembrance event planned for the Medway Street Bridge on Sunday. All families are invited down to share in the *River of Flowers* from between 12:30 and 1:30pm. There will be a minute silence at 12:51pm. There is also a free barbeque for families.

Wheels Day

If you have a child in Team Kahikatea or Team Miro they may have brought home a permission slip to participate in wheels day. Please get this back to the office as our first wheels day is Friday 20 February.

School Accounts

All children should have brought home a family account last week. I found one in the playground after school so I know that at least one didn't arrive home. If you haven't seen your account contact the office for a copy.

School Uniform

This is just a gentle reminder to parents about keeping high expectations with our uniform. No children should have nail polish on, jewellery needs to be limited to studs or sleepers (in ears only), watches. Cultural necklaces and tattoos should not be visible (real or otherwise). Your support is always valued!

A Distraction

This baby bird (Skipper) was found in the playground by some children and handed in to the office. Our very lovely office ladies have cared for it for a number of days, feeding it, taking it home after school and even getting up in the middle of the night to feed it. What a lovely tweet to have in the office!!!



Flower Show Friday

Our junior school has their annual flower show on Friday. A separate notice has gone home with details.

AquaGym

Today Year 2 - 3 students received notification of the cost of swimming for 2015 being \$68.00. Last year, the costs were much lower because the school received money from a Red Cross grant. Several factors are contributing to the cost of swimming tuition for our school.

AquaGym is our preferred provider for junior classes, however their rate for swimming is much higher than the council run pools. Year 4 -6 students swim at Jellie Park, which is further to travel, so the transport costs to get there are higher and more time is spent out of class (We need swimming pools in the eastern suburbs). Additionally, Jellie Park can provide a survival programme for older students.

This year, travel to AquaGym will be on Red Buses as their tender was the most competitive. The cost for travel has thankfully been subsidised by \$12 per child.

Parents who take their children to swimming lessons will know that the cost of ten group lessons

over 10 weeks is \$165 so in comparison our prices are still much more reasonable.

We hope you will continue to support our swimming programme even though it is a bit dearer.

How old should a child be before they walk to school on their own?

Our staff has just had a series of interesting and heated conversations about children coming to school as young as 6 unaccompanied. One staff member argued that legally children cannot be left at home under 14 without being supervised so in theory all children should be accompanied. This would not be a realistic expectation however it does remain good food for thought as to when children are considered responsible enough to come unaccompanied. Considering the hazards of our roads and the proximity to Dudley Creek parents need to consider carefully when their children walk to school without an adult and how they will prepare children for this big responsibility.

Maybe there is a parent or a group of parents who would like to get a *walking school bus* organised? This is where children meet at pre-designated spots and follow a set route to school under the supervision of adults. Children can join the bus at several points along the way. If you think you'd like to organise this come and see me and we'll put a plan into place.

Whakatauki

Tangata ako ana i te whare, te turanga ki te marae, tau ana

A person who is taught at home, will stand collected on the Marae (meeting house grounds)

A child who is given proper values at home and cherished within his family, will not only behave

well amongst the family but also within society and throughout his life.

PTA NEWS

Next meeting:

Monday 2 March

7:00pm in the staffroom

All welcome

Second Hand Uniforms – the shop will be open from: 8.30 – 9:00am

2:45 – 3:15pm

On the following days:

Friday 27 February

Friday 13 March

Friday 27 March

Shorts & T-shirts \$5.00 each

Sweatshirts, trackpants & polarfleeces \$10.00 each

Dresses \$15.00 - \$25.00 each

Look for the sign off the car park near the office back door.

CASH ONLY – NO EFTPOS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Next meeting

Tuesday 17 March at 6:15pm

In the Sky Room

All welcome



Banks Avenue School is staying open and during 2017 we will be moving to our new site in our local area.

"If we sow seeds of kindness, we may enjoy a perpetual harvest"