



Banks Avenue School



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

NEWSLETTER

18 November 2015

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

Number 34

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

Thursday 26 November	Kids in Town
Friday 27 November	Kapa haka children performing at school for local kindys at 1:30 pm
Friday 27 November	MUFTI DAY – wacky dress, wacky hair day – gold coin donation
Tuesday 1 December	Junior Module Athletics – postponement day 4/12
Thursday 3 December	Family Celebration Evening from 5:00 pm
Tuesday 8 December	New Entrant Parent meeting 1:45 pm – 2:50 pm by invitation
Thursday 10 December	Junior Module Fun Day
Thursday 10 December	Transitional Cathedral – Christmas Carols @ 10:00 am – Team Miro
Monday 14 December	Year 6 Prize Giving - 7:00 pm at Shirley Intermediate School
Tuesday 15 December	Junior Module Carols at 2:30 pm
Wednesday 16 December	Final Assembly 12:00noon. Children dismissed at 12:30 pm

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>

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

Or notify us via our website: <http://www.banksave.school.nz/absences.html>

If your child arrives at school after 9:00 am they must check in at the office. This saves a lot of phone calls for unexplained absences in order to ensure the safety of all our children.

Dear Parents and Whānau

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

A special big Banks Avenue School welcome the following children and their families who joined our school community this week.



Morsal
Rm 5



Le Bron
Dudlev

Have you been onto our school website lately? The website reflects admirably things that are happening at Banks Avenue. Look under *the latest news* tab on the right hand side to find out what we have been up to.. Most of the photos you will see on the website have been taken by our media team. Take time this week to log on and have a look – I think you'll be impressed.

<http://www.banksave.school.nz/>

Learning Celebrations

On Thursday evening, 3 December, we have a Learning Celebration evening. This is the chance for:

- Parents to visit classes and have chance to chat informally to class teachers.
- Parents to meet and mix with other parents.
- Us to showcase groups of children performing for you.
- Some end of year fun.

Parents are invited to come along and set up a picnic on our field area. Children will be performing from 5:00 - 5:30 pm.

At 5:30 pm classrooms will be open for 30 minutes. This is the chance for parents to chat informally to teachers and to see work that children have completed in the last term. All children who visit their rooms with their parents will get a chit for a treat.

Once the performances are finished there will be a number of fun activities for children to participate in, e.g., face painting, pony rides, jeep rides etc. Most of the children's activities are free, however, there may be a small charge for some items, e.g., a balloon animal, candy-floss or ice blocks. There will also be

a coffee van for parents to buy a drink from and the PTA will have sausages for sale.

We are hoping for some extra help on the evening: Face-painting- is there a parent or older sibling who has some artistic skills who would be willing to face paint? We will provide the equipment but we need some manpower.

Candy-floss maker: We will provide all the equipment but we need a parent (or grandparent) who is willing to operate the candy floss machine for an hour.

Sausage sizzle: our PTA would like the names of any parents who would be happy to be rostered onto the sausage sizzle table for ½ an hour or more.

If you are available to help with any of these activities please complete the form at the end of the newsletter.

A huge thank you to Liz Hunton for bringing her beautiful ponies once again. Also many thanks to the Smit family for bringing their jeeps again. We really appreciate your extra support!

North East Zone Athletic Sports

Forty-six of our children represented Banks Ave School yesterday at the North East Zone Athletics held at the Rawhiti Athletics Club. All children competed well. Placings are as follows:

- Pafuti achieved 1st place in the 50 metre sprint event.
- Kieran achieved 1st place in the 50 metre sprint event.
- Jekita achieved 1st place in the shot put and discus events.
- Olivia achieved 1st place in the discus event.
- Jordan L achieved 3rd place in the 50 metre sprint event.
- Meika achieved 3rd place in the 50 metre sprint event.
- Keiran achieved 3rd place in the long jump event.
- Braden J achieved 3rd place in the 80 metre sprint event.



Congratulations to Pafuti, Keiran, Jekita and Olivia who will represent Banks Avenue School in the Canterbury Athletics on Wednesday 2 December.



School Social Worker

We have just been assigned a new school social worker, Tanya Hay. Parents are welcome to contact Tanya to do a self-referral. Her email is tanya.hay@standforchildren.org.nz. Tanya can also be contacted on 027 423 0649.

Future Focused Teaching & Learning

Below is a link to a short snippet (6 minutes) about the key features in innovative learning environments (ILEs).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0LEyR8odM64>

This week I have also sent home invitations, to parents of Year 3 students, to come to open mornings in Dudley block. Please return your booking slip with your preferred time slots as soon as possible (before Friday) so I can roster you into our timetable.

Staffing 2016

Scott Bradley has been appointed as a permanent teacher in Team Miro. Scott is currently working at Linwood Avenue School in a collaborative teaching space. One of Scott's strengths is in being able to incorporate e-learning into his class programme. We are thrilled to welcome Scott to our Banks Avenue team. Scott will take up his position when we return in 2016.



We have also appointed Karen Morganty into a fixed term position for 2016. Karen will also be working in Team Miro. Those of you who have had children in Karen's class know how caring she is and what an effective teacher she is. We are thrilled to have Karen with us for another year.

'HOT SHOT' LEARNER'



Shaqieq in Dudley is our 'Hot Shot' this week.

She is a great thinker with her Maths.

Well done Shaqieq. 😊

Student Well-being Survey

At the beginning of this term all Year 4-6 students completed a well-being survey. The data we gather from this will help inform some actions and next steps in 2016. The survey was broken into five sections: *school wide climate and culture, teaching and learning, community partnerships, pro-social student culture and strategies* and finally *aggressive student culture*.

Below are examples of the questions or statements children were asked to respond to:

At school we celebrate good things students do.

I feel safe at school.

Students have a say in what we do at school.

Teachers care about how I feel.

At school I am taught to say or do if other children are being mean or bullying me.

My parents and whānau always feel welcome at school.

I always feel safe when I am going to or coming from school.

Students treat each other with respect.

I can say how I am feeling when I need to.

Do other students say mean things about your family or culture?

This survey identified many things that we are doing well at Banks Avenue but it also has given us some direction with next steps in 2016.

As part of positive behaviour for learning we will be:

- Building on and embedding our school vision and values.
- Developing and following a set of school expectations and rules.
- Building in more opportunities and ways to celebrate children making wise choices and displaying our school values.
- Providing and reinforcing with children a range of strategies to use with bullies.

In 2016 we will be seeking ways to acknowledge and celebrate our diverse cultures, e.g.,

- Signage around the school.
- Topics that reflect culture.
- Aspects of class programmes aligned to culture.

Engaging with whānau and our community will be a focus, e.g.,

- Community consultation.
- Parents area / room developed.
- Use of community agencies to support families.

Board of Trustees Update

Karen Elliot sadly, has resigned from the Board of Trustees. Karen has been a valued Board member and we have fully appreciated her efforts. Many thanks Karen!



At last night's meeting the Board co-opted David Campbell to the Board. The Board is currently made up of six parents and two staff; Aaron Reid, BOT Chair, Kirk McKay, Deputy Chair and Finance, Trevor Wilson, Noella Gould, Glenn Bongartz, Toni Burnside, Principal and Helen Stowers as staff rep. Board profiles are available on our website.

<http://www.banksave.school.nz/meet-our-bot.html>

Attendance

At this time of the year we are looking closely at our school data and how well children have progressed and achieved throughout the year. We also look at children who haven't made the progress we would hope. There is often a strong correlation between attendance and achievement. Children need to be at school regularly, more than 95% of the time, to have a chance of making steady progress. Children who are away regularly are not just missing out on learning they are also missing out on the chance to keep positive relationships going with other children. Judging whether a child is sick enough to warrant staying home from school can be a tricky job. Do you have family guidelines for how sick your child needs to be to stay home from school? One parent I spoke to said only in cases where it was very evident the child was sick would they stay home. For a minor headache or a tummy upset they would usually get the child to school with the message that if it got worse to let the teacher know and then the family could be contacted. Do you have an expectation that if they are home sick they need to stay in bed or be tucked up on the sofa – not on their play stations or outside after 3:00 pm?

We want all of our children at school, achieving, experiencing success and having positive relationships with their peers. We rely on and appreciate parents making sure children are here, on time, ready for learning.

If your child is away for a justified reason please let the office know before school starts. Thank you for your support!

Parent Wonderings

Do you have any on-going questions or wonderings about how things work at Banks Avenue? A parent recently mentioned that there were several things that they were unsure about and didn't know the answer to (in relation to school practices). This prompted us to think that there could be lots of parents in our community with similar questions.

When do parents need to report to or sign into the school office?

- If a parent is picking up a child in school time, e.g., for an appointment, then they must report to the school office first.
- If a parent is in school helping, e.g., mentoring, providing parent help, then they need to sign in at the office. At that stage they will receive a guest name tag. When they leave they need to report to the office and sign out and return the name tag. This is a health and safety precaution.
- For any school events, e.g., assemblies, maths mornings, parents do not need to report to the office.

Can parents walk through the staff carpark?

As a safety measure we have red lines marked in the staff carpark – this is to remind children they cannot walk through the carpark, however parents with or without their child are welcome to walk through.

Are children allowed to ride scooters in the playground?

All children should get off their scooters and walk as they come through the gate. Again this is about health and safety – we don't want any little dots bowled over by a speeding scooter.

If you have a question you would like an answer to or maybe just a wondering then either jot it on a piece of paper and put it in the drop box in the foyer or email it through to office@banksave.school.nz. We will publish questions and answers in our newsletter.

Team Miro Learning Fee/ Family Accounts

Students in Team Miro have had a number of learning activities this year. Instead of paying for each activity individually parents have been asked to pay \$15.00 per term. As the year is quickly winding to an end we need to ensure that all outstanding debts are settled. Statements are coming home next week to families who still owe money. Please settle accounts as soon as possible.

If you have any questions or queries about your family account, please contact Colleen at the office.

School Policies

This term we are reviewing one policy - Improving Educational Outcomes for Māori Students. Parents can view and give feedback on this policy by logging onto:

<http://banksave.schooldocs.co.nz/>

Our logon is *banksave* and our password is *banks*

On the home page you will see a link through to 'what's under review this term?' Follow this link through to the policy under review. Feedback can be given by clicking the *policy review* icon in the top right corner

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Next meeting

Tuesday 15 December at 5:00 pm

In the Sky Room

All welcome



PTA NEWS & EVENTS

From Thursday we have a super new addition to the Lunch Online menu. As well as Sydenham Bakery you will be able to order from Pita Pit – a healthy and nutritious alternative to sandwiches, rolls and pastries. For \$3.50 you can choose from grilled chicken, ham, tuna, roast beef or falafel with lettuce and add sauces and extra fillings from 50 cents.

Lunch Online is available every Thursday. You can sign up at <https://www.lunchonline.co.nz>

At the moment we have about 70 orders each week and Banks Avenue School PTA receive a small kickback for each one. The PTA is always looking for volunteers to help get each order to the right classroom. If you can spare half an hour at 12:00 pm on a Thursday please contact Katrina on 021 899 141 or Wendy at wendypreston@clear.net.nz

Next PTA meeting:

Monday 7 December at 7:00 pm

TO BE CONFIRMED

in the staffroom

All welcome



Learning Celebration Evening

Please complete this form and return it to the office if you can help on Thursday 3 December.

Name:

Contact number:

Yes / No	I can help with face painting from	5:30 - 6:00 pm	6 - 6:30 pm	
Yes / No	I can operate the candy floss machine from	5:30 - 6:00 pm	6 - 6:30 pm	
Yes / No	I can help on the sausage sizzle	5 - 5:30 pm	5:30 - 6:00 pm	6 - 6:30 pm

"The more you know, the more you want to know."