



**Kia ora tatou katoa - hi everyone**

**No 2**

**15 February 2018**

**WELCOME** to Zac Cotes-James, Zachary Woodward and Bella Pritchard who started school in Room 10 this week.

### **IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

*As a part of the BOT's financial review and audit process we look at our expenses and income. Currently the school provides all the ICT devices that the children need. The cost of the leases for the all the children's iPads, laptops and chromebooks is \$22,000 the school receives \$13,000 in its MOE funding tagged for ICT. There is a shortfall of \$9,000 and this does not include the other costs associated with ICT - subscriptions, technical support etc.*

*All the income from the school donation goes towards leasing iPads, laptops and chromebooks for our students. The BoT feels that providing the IT equipment like this is better for families than the Bring Your Own Device option as it ensures*

- *Equitable access for all children*
- *Guaranteed up to date equipment (3 year leases)*
- *Better management of cybersafety*
- *Insurance and repair issues are the school's*
- *Sharing of devices is "WE-learning" individual devices is "I-learning"*
- *A cost effective approach for families*

*The school donations we receive at the moment do not fully cover the shortfall in ICT funding so the BoT are setting the donation for 2018 at \$80 for one child and \$100 for a family. As part of the review we looked at what other schools request for their donations and we compare favourably with similar schools even after the increase (which is the first for over 10 years).*

*The BOT strive to keep costs at a minimum for our families and we look forward to the continued support with your donations so that our children can get the most from their schooling.*

*Your school donation is voluntary and also tax deductible.*

### **PARENT/TEACHER/CHILD INTERVIEWS - \*\*\* SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 2PM \*\*\***

**Tuesday 27 February and Wednesday 28 February**

Teachers have sent home forms that each child and their families can fill in together. These need to be returned by Friday 23 February so the teachers have time to read them through. Research show that teachers knowing and understanding each child is vital for that child's learning and wellbeing. We look forward to everyone attending.

Online bookings will open on Monday 19 February. Please go to [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz) and enter the code **cb5fq**. Then follow the easy on screen steps to book a time with your child's teacher. We would love everyone to attend with their child/ren.

### **BIKES IN SCHOOL**

<http://bikeon.org.nz/bikes-in-schools/> Check out the above website or just Google "Bikes in Schools".

The school is really excited about this venture that will benefit the children and families of the school in so many ways. Feedback from the principals, teachers, parents, cycle skills providers and students of the schools that have introduced the programme state that it;

- *Raises the confidence, self-esteem and resilience of pupils through a fun activity*
- *Delivers health and wellbeing outcomes for the pupils (and staff)*
- *Provides an opportunity to self-manage risks within a safe environment*
- *Instils the habit of using an environmentally friendly form of transportation*

- Results in the children and extended family biking more often
- Pupils gain knowledge, skills and confidence to ride safely outside the school area

This is backed up by independent research by the Eastern Institute of Technology who tracked the impact of Bikes in Schools at 3 schools for two years through testing, surveys and focus groups with parents and teachers.

As well as the obvious benefits there is a wider social and community imperative to get our children and families cycling. It is this next generation of children that will need to be living and working differently, with sustainability and with the environment in mind. Cycling more is one tangible way of doing this.

The Christchurch City Council have a Cycling Strategy which includes the following;

*Why we are investing in cycleways*

*Christchurch already has a strong cycling community – it helps when you’re a mostly flat city – but there is still more we could do to encourage people to travel by bike. Using a bike to get around has some really great benefits, both for the individual and for the city.*

**Healthier and more productive people**

- *Research shows that people who travel by bike take fewer sick days and active children are able to focus better at school.*

**Stronger local communities**

- *People who travel by bike tend to stop to shop more often and spend more money over time. They also save money on their commute, which can be used elsewhere.*

**Reduced congestion**

- *Congestion costs people time. It only takes a small number of people using different transport options to make a significant difference to traffic flow.*

**Reduced cost for ratepayers**

- *A large proportion of road funding goes towards fixing the wear and tear that motor vehicles cause to roads. As a lightweight vehicle, the contribution of cycles to this damage is negligible. They also take up less room, reducing the need to build new roads as the population grows.*

**SCHOOL ACCOUNTS**

**These accounts will be coming out to families next week, however, we do encourage you to sign up to Kindo through the School Website - please see attached sheet. Pay for all school activities, donations and Friday lunches. It’s open 24/7, has account items loaded as they come up and is our preferred method of payment. Choose to pay as you go, add funds to your school account in advance, use internet banking, account2account, PoLi, or Visa/Mastercard/American Express/China UnionPay (fees apply). A receipt will be sent to you for every transaction.**

**To register your account - all you need is the email address which matches that held by the school (usually Caregiver 1).**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

21 February	Botanical Gardens visit - Piwakawaka and Weka
23 February	Big Day Out, Jellie Park
<b>27 &amp; 28 February, <u>2pm Finish</u></b>	<b>Parent/Child/Teacher meetings</b>
16 March	Dance performance @ Casebrook Intermediate Hall (prob. 1pm)
6 March	Playhouse Theatre
13 April	Cross Country

***Kia kaha te menemene - keep smiling***

***Paul***

**‘BIG DAY OUT’ PARENT HELPERS - Jellie Park, Friday 23 February, 10am - 2pm**

We **NEED MORE** adult helpers on the trip to Jellie Park to help assist with monitoring the children. If you are able to assist please return the slip below as soon as possible.

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*I can help supervise the swimming at the Big Day Out on Friday 23 February:*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

My Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Is in room: \_\_\_\_\_