

01<sup>st</sup> March 2018

*Dear parents, caregivers and community,*

**A WARM WELCOME TO LUKE** who has started in Kānuka this week. Luke has settled into school easily and is really excited about the triathlon preparation.

### **BANKS PENINSULA SCHOOLS' SWIMMING SHOWCASE**

Last Friday our Year 1-4 children swam at Akaroa Area School as part of the annual cluster celebration of water confidence and developing swimming skills.

A big thanks to the staff that organised this event from Akaroa, Richelle and Alyson and all the parents who transported and supported.

Tomorrow (Friday 2<sup>nd</sup>) is the Seniors Swimming Sports for the Yr 5-8 pupils, with a 9.15am assembly time at Akaroa. Refer to email for transport list.

**LRS TRIATHLON – Tuesday 06<sup>th</sup> March. An email was sent out on Wednesday for full information. Starting time 1 pm.**

We're happy to check as many helmets and bikes as possible, but parents do need to check their child's bike and helmet is safe. We're closing the domain driveway prior to the event, so if you're visiting to support on the day, please park along the road.

### **STUDENT LEADER ELECTIONS**

It's that time again for our Year 8's to Stand Tall. Most of the senior year group have completed the application process and are now moving onto their campaigns. Their speeches will be delivered Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> in the hall, starting at 9am. Whanau are most welcome to attend to support their candidate.

### **SUN PROTECTION**

Recently our school received another three-year accreditation from the Cancer Society as a SunSmart School. This means we insist pupils wear their sun hats when outside during terms 1 & 4, have clothing that covers their shoulders and that we plan our programmes to make use of natural and created shade.

If your child is particularly sensitive, please apply sunscreen at home, thank you.

### **CENSUS 2018**

By now you will have received your census access code in the mail.

From a purely school focused perspective, I urge you all to complete this years online census and help our



**census**  
Stats NZ

school and community put forward the most accurate information about ourselves.

Future decisions about how state funds are spent are derived from census data. <https://www.census.govt.nz/why-we-do-it/>

### **CLASSROOM REPORTS:**

**Kahikatea (Yr 7/8)** –The first day was a bit of a shock! The 31 students seemed so many more than that, a sea of unknown but expectant faces staring back at me. In the past I have usually started the year knowing half the class very well and the rest fairly familiar from various sporting events through the year, but this time it was different. However, after only a day or two of getting to know the children as individuals the “panic” has gone and the students and I are settling in well.

Tracey is in the class until 12 noon, three mornings a week to support the core curriculum of maths and literacy.

In other curriculum areas we are working on techniques for drawing people in art, sustainability in energy production in science/social science, Ko Au (ourselves) in Maori and maps and plans in topic maths.

A great start to, as always, a very busy term... John Fitch.

**Tōtara (Yr 5/6)** – It has been an exciting start to the year with mostly fresh new faces bar a few who had been coming through to Tōtara for maths, 2017. The first few weeks have been about getting to know each other, setting Tōtara culture, assessments and setting maths and reading groups and, of course, preparing for the raft of swim/bike/run events the first term offers!

It was great to get maths groups sorted early and the interchange with John and Tracey established. We are now in the swing of things with maths, reading and writing routines.

A priority has been establishing our class culture and refreshing our understanding of the school 'Respect' values. We have used the ideals of the current Winter Olympics and a unit looking into the Treaty of Waitangi to inspire and connect to the importance of our Respect Values.

It's awesome to be back in the old/new Tōtara and the space seems to be working really, really well...Anna Lopas and Di Cameron.

**Matai (Yr 4/5)** –In Matai we have settled in and are feeling right at home in our newly renovated room! We aren't the only ones who are benefitting from the comforts of the new environment, our pet Mystery Snails, Pond Snails and Monarchs (in various life stages) are also very happy. As our annual theme is **Sustainability**, here in Matai we are raising and researching native trees. On the first day of school, each of us got to choose a baby tree from a selection of Matai, Kanuka, Ake Ake, Olearia, Kowhai, Ti Kouka and Kahikatea. We named our trees and everyday we monitor, water and care for them. We have also been busy practicing our swimming skills and getting ready to show off what we can do at our BP swim tournaments! Oh, and keep an eye out for us on a new kids TV series called 'Teacher's Pet', because we might be featured in one

of the episodes! We had a small film crew from *Whitebait Media* come to film us on Thursday 22nd Feb. Watch this space!... Tara Sutherland.

**NGAHERE – Kānuka Yr 1 & Ti Kouka Yr 2/3** – This year we are going to adopt a Play-Based Learning approach for part of the school day. After observing this approach in action at another school at the end of last year, we are looking forward to implementing PBL in our school. We are excited about exploring this new approach, and we are sure the children will be too!

“Play is an essential part of a child’s social, emotional, physical and cognitive development. For many teachers and parents ‘play’ has attracted a negative ‘time wasting’ connotation but in reality play is a vital part of every child’s development. It allows them to test ideas, work through uncertainties, explore social interactions and make sense of the world around them. Play has no predetermined outcome or time limit. It is not about an end product but about a process. It’s the exploration of ideas that is crucial. Play is children’s work.”

[www.discoverytime.co.nz/play-based-learning/](http://www.discoverytime.co.nz/play-based-learning/) ... Ruth Pannett; Andi Cochrane & Maria Couper.

**CDHB MOBILE DENTAL CLINIC** – we are expecting to see this at school w/c 26 March, if not a few days before. Further information will be emailed home to families closer to the time.

**WANTED** – Someone to mow lawns, when required. Would suit older child/teenager. Please phone Sue 3251-301.

#### **BASKETBALL REGISTRATIONS**

Year 5/6/7/8 Basketball will run in Terms 2 & 3 with ‘give-it-a-go’ sessions to be held towards the end of Term 1. Please contact Serena 021-329241 [serenalyc@gmail.com](mailto:serenalyc@gmail.com) to register your child. Registrations close 1st May. Tournament start date 14th May.

#### **LE RACE**

This annual event is to be held on Saturday 24th March and Little River School is calling out for volunteers to marshal on the day. Time commitment is approximately 3-4 hours in the morning & the organisers want around 14 Marshals, so please consider donning a Hi-Vis for our kids. Le Race pays us for each Marshal we can provide so this is an awesome opportunity to raise some funds. Proceeds to go to Little River School Basketball this year. Please contact Serena 021-329241 to volunteer your time - thank you :-)

**JULIE ALBENGRIN** is a local Harcourts agent and past parent of our school. We receive a regular donation from Julie, which increases for every successful referral she receives via our school community. Please consider Julie and mention our school if you’re in the real estate market. [Julie.albengrin@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:Julie.albengrin@harcourts.co.nz) 021 211 2331.

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

# LITTLE RIVER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

DATE: 01<sup>st</sup> March 2018

Issue No: One

I loved the show. I loved the props, like the horses and the bows! Also the songs were cool as well as the costumes! I liked the title Red Riding Robyn Hood. But my favourite part was the part when King and Red Riding Hood had an archery contest A.K.A a pew, pew, pew, t-t-t-t contest. As I said, loved the show, hope to see you next year! P.S. I love fish fingers! ☺

Review written by Max Nixon



**Banks Peninsula Schools’ swimming showcase – juniors Yrs. 1-4**

