



## Windy Ridge School Newsletter

March 30<sup>th</sup> 2016

Week 9 Term 1

[www.windyridge.school.nz](http://www.windyridge.school.nz)

School Bank Account: ASB 12 3072 033 4812 00

Hola a todos, Kumusta, Annyeonghaseyo, Ni Hao, Konichiwa, Namaste, Zdravstvuyte, Ciao, Hallo, Bonjour, Salut, Fakalofa Lahi Atu, Talofa Lava, Kia Orana, Kia Ora Koutou

### Attendance

*'Participating in education is fundamental to student achievement. The Education Act 1989 requires that parents enrol their children at school and ensure they attend school whenever it is open for instruction unless there is a good reason for them to be absent. Every day a student is not at school is a day they are not learning. Over time, patterns of non-attendance can place students at risk of poor achievement and early drop-out, thus compromising outcomes in life across a range of social and economic measures.'* (Attendance in NZ Schools 2012, MoE)

We have been reviewing the attendance data for the term and generally things are looking positive. The national average for attendance is 90.4% and we are currently sitting at about 95% for this term.

Just a reminder that if your child is going to be away from school you need to let us know. You can do this either by leaving a message on the answerphone, emailing us via the school website (Contact Us - Absence form) or sending a note to school before the day.

We are required to report on attendance data to both the Board of Trustees and the Ministry of Education, and are audited on this data at least twice each year. Attendance data is directly linked to the level of Operations Grant that we receive to run the school.

There are many reasons why a child may be late or not attending school, and we are keen to support parents in ensuring their child makes it to school on every day that they are well enough to attend. If we are concerned about attendance or lateness then we will be making contact with families to see if there is a problem that we can help with. Letters will be sent home reminding families of their responsibilities involved with school attendance and punctuality, and offering support to achieve the goal of full attendance.

### BIG Weekend for the runners

This weekend we have students participating in two different events around Auckland. On Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April both the Weetbix Tryathlon and the Shore-to-Shore Run are taking place. Mr Keoghan will be at the Shore to Shore Run in Belmont/Milford and Ms Maxwell will be at the Tryathlon in Whangaparaoa. Please make sure you know where and when to be there if you are involved. Good luck to everyone participating.

### Year 4 Trip - Long Bay

We wish our year 4 students all the best for their trip on Friday to Long Bay. They will be investigating healthy waterways and how humans impact their environment. Thanks to the parents offering to support on the day.

As always, thank you for your on-going support of our school

Brenda McPherson.

[principal@windyridge.school.nz](mailto:principal@windyridge.school.nz)

### Reminders:

- **Attendance** - Please ensure that your children arrive at school on time and that we are aware of their absence by 9.00am each day. We do follow up lateness and absence as we are required to report on both to the Ministry of Education and the Board of Trustees.
- **Sunhats** are compulsory for all students this term.
- **Banking day** is Thursday - please send ASB envelopes to the office.
- **Ez Lunch** available all days of the week now. Please go to [ezlunch.co.nz](http://ezlunch.co.nz) to register and order. More information available at the office.
- **PTA Facebook** - Information about our fabulous PTA is available online on Facebook. Search 'Windy Ridge School PTA' for the page and join up for updates and information about events and news.
- **WINDY RIDGE PARENTS Facebook** - We have a closed Facebook page for Windy Ridge parents - you need to request to be part of this page. Search - Windy Ridge Parents. It is a valuable page for reminders, information, and general WRS 'stuff'.
- **ICAS** - 2016 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools - If your child is year 4-6 and would like to participate in these assessments applications close this Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April. Registration forms are available from the office.

### School Terms 2016

Term 1 Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February - Friday 15<sup>th</sup> April

Term 2 Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May - Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July

Term 3 Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July - Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September

Term 4 Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October - Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December (tbc)

### School holidays during the term:

- Queen's Birthday - Mon 6 Jun
- Labour Day - Mon 24 Oct

### Upcoming Events:

- **BoT Meeting** Tuesday 24 May 7.30pm in the staffroom - All welcome to attend.

### PTA news

- Thank you to the Room 13 chefs and the parents who helped to sell cakes & biscuits at our stall last Thursday. Lots of children enjoyed a yummy morning tea and we raised \$160.40.

### Community news

- **MineCraft, Programming and Robotics holiday programmes** for years 4 to 9 students. Visit [www.discoverylabs.co.nz](http://www.discoverylabs.co.nz) for more details.
- **Holiday Surf Programme at Orewa** - Learn to surf for children 7-17 yrs old, 18-22 April & 25-29 April 10am-12.30pm and 1.30pm-4pm - [www.oneillsurfacademy.co.nz](http://www.oneillsurfacademy.co.nz)
- **First Voice Boys' Choir** - 8-13 years and like to sing. Come and join this first choir for boys. Rehearsals begin early term 2, Glenfield Salvation Army Hall, Monday 4.30-6pm. Contact Kim 021 813 718 or 0274 190 134 - email [firstvoiceboyschoir@gmail.com](mailto:firstvoiceboyschoir@gmail.com)
- **School Holiday Computer Classes** For ages 5 - 15 at Westlake Boys High School in Minecraft, Create 3D Games, Coding, Web Design, Animation, Video Editing, and Building a PC and if young the Discovery Computer Class. For further information call 488 0787 or email [www.grandtraining.co.nz](http://www.grandtraining.co.nz).
- **Trash Test Dummies** - 27 - 30 April, 11am and 2pm, Herald Theatre, Aotea Centre Tickets: Child \$18, Adult \$22, Family of 4 \$70 (+ booking fees) <http://www.aucklandlive.co.nz/trashtestdummies2016.aspx>
- **FC Barcelona is coming to town these April school holidays!** They are launching their world-renowned FCB Escola Soccer Training Camps in Auckland this year. The school holiday programme is being run at QBE Stadium in Albany. Camps are for girls & boys 6 - 16 in the April school holidays Monday to Friday, 9am - 3pm, for more information about the camps [www.fcbarcelonacampsanz.com](http://www.fcbarcelonacampsanz.com)
- **Beach Haven Sports Centre** - <https://kiwitenis.co.nz/programme/club-tennis-coaching-programme/beach-haven-sports-centre-new-tennis-programme>