



Windy Ridge School Newsletter

March 2nd 2016

Week 5 Term 1

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

Roll Growth and Class organisation

We have started this year with the highest number of students for February in the last 8 years. It is a sign of a growing roll, and one that we anticipated. However a large number of unexpected enrolments has meant that our plans for opening a class at the start of term 2 have been brought forward by 6 weeks. Mrs Andrews will start a new class in Room 1 for our juniors next week. Our intention is to keep our Year 1 classes at around 18-20 per class, and with this new room opening, this will bring the class sizes back into line with this.

We have taken more than 30 enrolments for NE students starting in terms 2-4 this year, and know that this means there will be possibly 10-12 more that have not yet enrolled.

This means that our school year levels are quite unbalanced; we have 3 classes for year 4, 5 and 6 students and anticipate by the end of the year that there will be 8-9 classes for years 1-3. This has created quite a dilemma for us in planning for the year, and to avoid having to move children into new classes to accommodate enrolments later in the year, we decided to organise the teams and classes as we have. Children do not learn things because of their age but by their own personal learning abilities and challenges. Having multi-level classrooms provides no greater challenge for a teacher than a class of one year level, as within every class the range of ability can be vast, and the teacher has to meet the needs of all students regardless of what level they are at the start of the year. Leadership, mentoring and collaborative learning opportunities are increased in this model, and we look forward to seeing our more senior students shine in these roles.

In order to plan for roll changes, it is very important that we know who is coming and who may be leaving during the year. Please make contact with the school office if there is information about school changes that impact on your family.

Contact information and newsletters

We have sent home an extra notice this afternoon for all families to confirm their contact information that is held in our school database. It is very important that this information is correct so that we can contact you in a timely fashion if we need to. Please indicate your preference for contact - email, mobile or landline.

Also in the notice is a place to indicate if you wish to receive a paper or emailed copy of the school newsletter.

Those wishing to receive an emailed newsletter will need to register for this on the school website;

(<http://www.windyridge.school.nz>) Go to Contact Us and Newsletter Signup, complete the form and you will be added to the mailing list.

Mathletics and Reading Eggs - Presentation on TONIGHT - Wednesday 2 March @ 6.30pm

We have organised a parents evening TONIGHT for you to come along and hear more about these two programmes, available to you this year to support class learning and provide meaningful home learning activities. Wayne Marr from 3P Learning will be there to answer your questions and demonstrate how the programmes work.

Mathletics and Reading Eggs logins -

Thank you to the families that have purchased the programmes through the school. The log in information for these will come home to you at the end of this week.

Saturday - Movies in Parks - Here at WRS - starts at 8pm. Come along and have a fun family evening watching the movie 'Hook', the movie based on the story of Peter Pan.

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

Brenda McPherson.

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 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'.
- **Shore to Shore & Weetbix Triathlon** - Please remember to fill in your entries online.

School Terms 2016

Term 1 Tuesday 2nd February - Friday 15th April

Term 2 Monday 2nd May - Friday 8th July

Term 3 Monday 25th July - Friday 23rd September

Term 4 Monday 10th October - Wednesday 14th December (tbc)

School holidays during the term:

- Easter Weekend: Fri 25 Mar - Tues 29 Mar (school resumes on Wed 30th)
- Queen's Birthday - Mon 6 Jun
- Labour Day - Mon 24 Oct

Upcoming Events:

- **BoT Meeting** Tuesday 29th March 7.30pm in the staffroom - All welcome to attend.

PTA news:

- **Trivia Night:** Thanks to everyone who supported the Trivia Night. We all had a great night and we hope you all had a fantastic night also. We raised approximately \$1,900! Thank you to all of the sponsors for their support.
- **PTA AGM:** You are invited to join us at our AGM on Thursday 10th March at 7pm in the staffroom, all welcome.

Community news

- One of our WRS families is looking for rental accommodation options. If you hear of a three bedroom home in the area available for rent, please pass on the information to the Office and we will let them know. Thanks in advance for your help.
- **Kaipatiki Summer Series Free Outdoor Movies....**in your local parks and reserves. Proudly supported by Kaipatiki Local Board and Birkenhead Licensing Trust. The main movie starts around 8.25pm (sun down) Kaipatiki Local Youth Board and other Youth Projects short film `` imovies `` are played prior to the main movie....
March 18th Birkdale Primary School ----- The Movie Epic
March 19th Marlborough Park ----- The Movie Surfs Up
April 2nd Lynn Reserve Bayview ---- The Movie The Mighty Ducks
- Kaipatiki, Fun Day Saturday 5th March 10am to 2pm <http://kaipatiki.org.nz/>
- **Beach Haven Fun Run and Walk** Sunday March 13 at 10.30am