

Soaring to Success

We Value Integrity, Respect, Curiosity, Risk-Taking, Resilience, Diversity

Newsletter: Term 1, Week 1, 1 February 2017

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Welcome • Haere Mai • Talofa Lava

Welcome back to a new year here at Clifton School. It was wonderful to see the large number of new faces yesterday, as well as all the old ones from last year. We hope you all had a great break and are looking forward to a new year and the excitement that this brings.

We have 15 children starting with us at the start of the new year who are new to either Clifton or the Bulls area. We would like to say a huge welcome to these children and their families.

We also want to welcome Mrs Helen Best. She joins us for 2017 as our new Reading Recovery teacher. She comes with many years experience in the junior school and we look forward to her contribution here at Clifton School.

This term, once again, has swimming for the senior school. This year we will be travelling to Sanson School pool as we believe that this will be a better use of time and money. This will mean that our teachers, in conjunction with Samantha Colville (who is a trained swimming instructor), will take the children for their lessons. There will be a small charge for this in order to contribute towards the donation for Sanson School as well as the cost of the bus. We will inform you of this once it is finalized and it can be added to your school account. The junior school will remain here at school as has happened in the past.

In week 3 we are holding our Whole School Camp and look forward to this. Please mark 16th to 17th February in your diaries so you can join us. More information will come out shortly once we have finalized details. Please bear in mind that we will need some tents like last year for the children to sleep in.

This year we are looking at ways of reducing our rubbish at school. Over 2016, it was evident to see an increase in the amount of rubbish around the school and the way that this impacts negatively on our school's appearance. We are therefore encouraging all children to take their rubbish home with them in their lunchboxes.

From next week (week 2), the green bins that are currently in the playground will be removed. Hopefully with the children putting rubbish back in their lunchboxes instead of the bins the amount of rubbish around the school will reduce. Please bear in mind that you may need to place food like yoghurt into a container with a sealable lid, chips can be put into a plastic container or resealable bag that can be re-used. We understand that this will take some time to get used to, but hopefully we will quickly see a change in the amount of litter around the school. Please see more information on the next page regarding this.

We are also having the school painted. Currently, the front of the school has been completed and the back of the school will be completed over the next month. We look forward to this job being finished and to the new fresh look of our school.

We hope that you and your family have settled into the new school year smoothly. Please feel free to come and see either your class teacher or myself if you have anything that you wish to discuss. Have a good week.

Adrian Burn, Principal

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday 6 February...Waitangi Day, no school today
Tuesday 7 February.....Snr swimming starts at Sanson
Thursday 9 February.....Snr swimming at Sanson
Friday 10 February.....Snr swimming at Sanson
Thursday 16 February.....Whole school camp
Friday 17 February.....School finishes at 12.30pm
Friday 23 February..School assembly hosted by Rm3
Tuesday 28 February.....Senior Swim sports
Wednesday 1 March.....Road Patroller training
Thursday, 16 March.....Cluster swimming sports

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Luuk Bundle (Rm5) celebrates his 9th birthday this Saturday.

Nga mihi nui i to ra whanau.
Wishing you many happy returns of the day.



New additions to Clifton School

You may have noticed the new fauna at the front of our school. These very life-like statues have been provided by Paul Geurtjens. We'd like to say a big thank you for his generosity.

Prime Maths

This year we are trialling a new approach to maths across four classrooms. Prime Maths has been based upon the successes within the Singapore school system and is becoming more popular in New Zealand. At this stage, Rooms 1, 4, 7 and 8 will be using this programme. We believe that it will provide a solid foundation and will contribute to the children's progress in maths. We look forward to seeing the same success over the course of the year that other participating schools have reported.

Boomerang lunches

As mentioned previously, Clifton School will be implementing Boomerang lunches for our whole school. A boomerang lunch is a lunch that has every piece of it return to its source. In other words, everything in the lunch goes back home at the end of the day. No matter if it is leftover food, containers, recyclables or rubbish, it all goes back. Yes, even the rubbish!

Boomerang lunches allow parents and families to see what has or has not been eaten. A large part of waste is due to unopened packaged food, uneaten fruit, juice boxes that are never opened and half-eaten sandwiches.

In order to make this successful, we will need the participation and support of all our Clifton School families.

Some tips to help prepare a Boomerang lunch for your child/children:

- Use reusable containers for packaging snacks and sandwiches
- Cut fruit and veggies into slices so that they can be eaten at different times during the day
- Label all containers so that they are easy to identify
- Avoid drinks in containers that cannot be resealed - **no glass bottles please**
- The dollar store and some specialty stores now have an assortment of reusable containers at great prices

Please help make a difference and support this initiative at Clifton School.

What does FotS do?

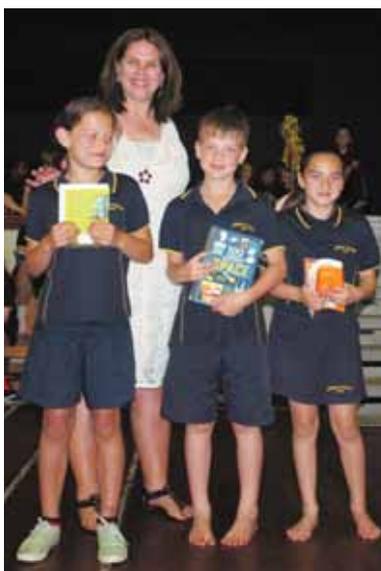
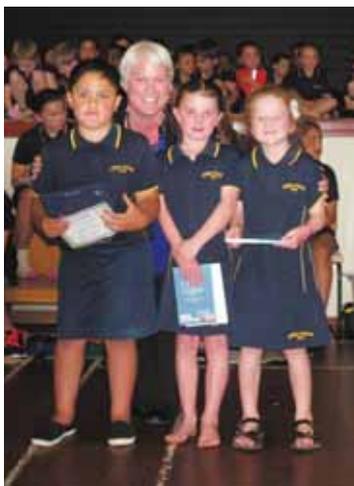
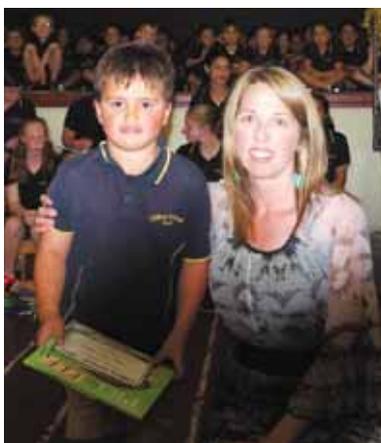
The Friends of the School is a group of parents who support Clifton School through fundraising, helping with and running events, Friday canteen, open days, working bees and more. We get together for a casual meeting a couple of times per month usually to plan and organise upcoming activities and we would love your involvement. You don't have to help with everything all the time, just when you can. Please contact Heidi on 0278489125 or fots@clifton.school.nz if you want to know more.

Wanted...

House cleaning or gardening. Please phone Kelly on 027 772 4144.

Attention girls aged 5 to 12

Ever thought of becoming a Girl Guide? Did you know there is a unit in your area that runs on a Thursday night? Curious to find out more? We are holding an open event on Thursday 23rd February from 5.30pm to 7:00pm at the Bulls Guide and Scout Hall, Wilson St, Bulls. Cost is a gold coin donation for WAGGGS. Please contact Sam Read 027 207 2498 for more information or to register.



Above: Some of Clifton School's award winning students at last year's prize-giving. Thank you to Mrs Macaulay for the excellent photos.