

Soaring to Success

• reSpect • respOnsibility • courAge • diveRsity

Newsletter: Term 1, Week 8, 17 March 2020

Principal: Adrian Burn • 06 322 1544 • principal@clifton.school.nz • www.cliftonschoo.co.nz



Welcome • Haere Mai • Talofa Lava • Bula Bula

I am sure that many of you are watching and wondering what is going to happen regarding COVID-19 (coronavirus). As you know, eight cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in New Zealand, but the Ministry of Health have advised that the chance of a widespread outbreak is low.

We are in regular contact with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health, and are guided by them in the majority of our decision making around this issue. We have been advised that there is no reason for alarm at this stage. I can assure you that we will keep you all updated as soon as we know what is going on.

We do ask though that all children refrain from using the drinking fountains and instead bring a named drink bottle with water to school. Also, that if your child shows any flu-like symptoms, ie runny nose, coughing, that they do not come to school until they have completely recovered. If children appear unwell at school, they will be isolated and parents contacted to request that they be picked up immediately.

In terms of school events; in conjunction with the rest of the cluster, all events from this term have been cancelled. This includes cluster swimming and athletics. The school disco that was scheduled for 27 March is also cancelled and there will be no more assemblies this term. This is all part of adhering to the latest MoE guidelines.

There is a rumour that schools may shut. At this stage we have received no notification of this, but I do want you to know that the ministry is currently looking at options of what this may look like should it become necessary. The ministry will give guidelines around this, but I want you all to know that we will be proactive in how we deal with this situation.

Some of you may have seen Siouxi Wells on TV recently. She is a microbiologist at Auckland University. Her way of describing this is like a fire. When your house is on fire, you can either do the bare minimum and risk it turning into a raging inferno, or you can do your best to put out the flames completely. Her viewpoint is that the government at the moment is dealing with the smoke before the raging inferno becomes a reality.

The biggest thing that we can do at the moment is ensure our own basic hygiene. You can take some simple steps to help stop the spread of diseases like COVID-19:

1. Avoid close contact with people with cold or flu-like illnesses.
2. Cover coughs and sneezes with your elbow or tissues.
3. Wash hands for at least 20 seconds with water and soap and dry them thoroughly:
 - before eating or handling food
 - after using the toilet
 - after coughing, sneezing, blowing your nose or wiping children's noses
 - after caring for sick people.

Go to the Ministry of Health website for more information about preventing the risk:

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/novel-coronavirus-china-2019-ncov>

Adrian Burn, Principal

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday 23 March.....	Jnr school walking tour of Bulls
Thursday 9 April.....	End of Term 1
Tuesday 28 April.....	Term 2 begins
Monday 22 June.....	Teacher Only Day
Friday 3 July.....	End of Term 2
Monday 20 July.....	Term 3 begins
Friday 25 September.....	End of Term 3
Monday 12 October.....	Term 4 begins
Monday 16 November.....	Teacher Only Day



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

This Thursday, Eva (Rm5) will celebrate her 10th birthday, and Ben (Rm4) will celebrate his 9th birthday.

Nga mihi nui i to ra whanau.

Wishing you many happy returns of the day.

Congratulations to our MOST VALUABLE PUPILS!

ROOM 1: Mason Bodger for his "switched-on" letter sounds in writing.

ROOM 2: Kawhia Larking for a super splashing swimming picture.

ROOM 3: Monica Sullivan for being a super role model by displaying our school values.

ROOM 4: Zoe Mudgway for showing leadership as a "gofer" as well as being switched on during statistics.

ROOM 5: Cade Roux De Buisson for improved focus and effort in his learning.

ROOM 6: Hayze Raikes for always being on-task and displaying our school values.

ROOM 7: Max Skates for showing respect to others.

ROOM 8: Brooklyn Morrell-Hood for fantastic maths work in basic facts and statistics.



PB4L-SW BRONZE AWARDS

We are very pleased to advise that Clifton School kids have done some awesome work this term which has been reflected in the record number of bronzes which have already been awarded. Our roll currently stands at 185, and of those, 103 kids have received bronze awards. The leading house is Whero with 31 bronzes.

WELL DONE, SEREN!

Seren Evans, Rm8, completed in eight events at the Junior Nationals. She swam personal best times in seven of those eight events and thoroughly enjoyed the competition. Congratulations, Seren!

SCHOLASTIC ISSUE 2 NOW OPEN

Brochures were sent home last week - please check your child's bag. This issue is open until Thursday, 26 March 2020. Cash payments can be sent to school with your order form, or you can order online using the LOOP option to pay by credit card.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR CHILD'S SCALP!

Nits are making the rounds again. Please check your child's hair and treat by using conditioner and a nit comb, treatment purchased from a pharmacy, or FREE from your doctor.

DOES YOUR CHILD USUALLY GO HOME ON THE BUS?

Parents/caregivers - please let us know if your child won't be on the bus if they usually travel home. Teachers spend a lot of time at the end of the school day looking for children who are usually on the bus but who haven't turned up for the afternoon run.

Road patrollers, please come to the office if you are on road patrol and won't be on the bus in the afternoon.

BULLS JUNIOR RUGBY

We invite all returning players and welcome new boys and girls ages 4-12 to come along and join a great family orientated club.

Grades this year will be Ripa Rugby for Under 6s and Under 7s and tackle grades for Under 8s, Under 9s, Under 10s and Under 11s.

Fees this year are \$20 per player to a maximum of \$50 per family, we continue to make rugby accessible to all families in our community.

Join us on Facebook or contact Danelle on 027 874 1984 for more information.

PROUD TO BE LOCAL AND SUPPORT LOCAL.

BULLS OHAKEA JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

If your child would like to play football (soccer) this year, please email baish@xtra.co.nz to register your interest.

SCHOOL ACCOUNTS

Invoices and receipts (up to 16 March 2020) have been sent home with this newsletter; please check your child's bag.

SCHOOL VEGETABLE GARDEN

We would like to get some seeds started to keep the school vegetable gardens producing over autumn and winter. Do you have any seed to spare of the following plants which we could have: Broad Bean, Beetroot, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Endive, Kale, Kohlrabi, Lettuce, Minutina, Mizuna, Radish, Shiso, Strawberry Spinach, Swede. Any excess seed you have would be appreciated.

Also, if you have any spare frost cloth or similar, which we can use to keep the white butterfly off brassicas, we would find it most useful (we won't have to apply Derris dust if the butterflies can't lay their eggs on the plants!).

And we would like to try a small experiment: if you have any seed potatoes, or potatoes that have started sprouting in your potato bin, could we have them to plant them in a bed and see if we can grow them over winter? Thanking you in anticipation!

Room 2's amazing summer artworks

