

FERGUSSON Intermediate School

Newsletter - 25 November 2016



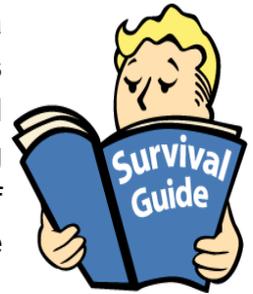
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www.fergusson.school.nz

Dear Parents / Caregivers

Thankfully this week has been less eventful than last!

Earthquakes such as the one that rocked us in the early hours of 14 November are a frightening experience so last Monday morning we had a huge number of absences and a comparatively subdued group of students in attendance. Members of staff had been on site very early to check that all was in order with the buildings, and following an outside assembly to reassure students and to revise what to do in the event of further shakes, we got on with the day. I must say that I was incredibly proud of the resilience shown by all of the students and the staff, in just 'getting on with it.'

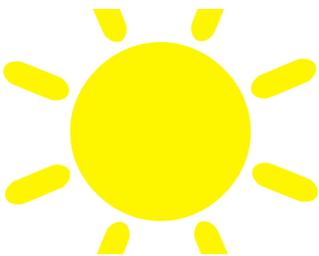


And then there was Tuesday! Water water everywhere, and all the problems that came with it. Once again students displayed amazing resilience in just getting on with the job at hand.

In both instances we made the decision to remain open as there was no risk to life nor limb at school and in the case of the flooding we knew that many parents would have great difficulty getting here to collect their children.

Please be reassured that in the event of any emergency situation, your children will be kept as safe as humanly possible and that if an evacuation from the site was required, that Trentham School is the nearest civil defence hub to which we would head. Please also note, that we would always endeavour to keep you informed of what's happening via messages in the 'latest news' section of our website. If you elect to follow us on twitter or like us on facebook you will receive automatic updates throughout the day.

A couple of reminders for us all following last week's events. Please keep the office informed if you change any of your contact numbers, and please ensure that your children know what to do and/or where to go if you are unexpectedly unable to get home for whatever reason.



Still on the weather theme...Following our one sunny day in recent times, I am told that there was some consternation about our Sunsmart policy. We encourage and frequently remind students to wear a hat and for that reason we allow any school appropriate hat rather than stipulate a 'uniform hat' which past experience shows us, meets with much resistance. Every class has a bottle of sunscreen which students are free to use, and during break times, students are free to keep out of the sun. A further reminder was given to students at this morning's assembly.

Fourteen, yes fourteen school days remain and much still to do.....

Teachers have been busy completing end of year reports. Results of testing in Reading, Writing, Spelling and Mathematics have added to the rich bank of achievement information they have accumulated on students throughout the course of the year, and this all goes into the mix as these reports are written. The reports will be issued on 12 December and hopefully, will give you a clear picture of your child's progress and achievement in 2016.

Next week features the Inter-Intermediate Softball Tournament on Wednesday, and on Friday we have our final orientation morning for students enrolled to start here in 2017. Next Friday is also the date for the school speech finals. All parents, caregivers and whanau are welcome to attend this event which will be held in the hall commencing at 11.30am.

The following week features our annual Prizegiving Assembly. This is to be held on Wednesday 7 December commencing at 11am. Again, all parents, caregivers and whanau are cordially invited to join us as we celebrate the year's achievements.

The final big happenings of the year are the Year 8 Leavers' Dinner and Dance to be held at Trentham Racecourse on 8 December and Fun Day on 13 December. The former which is undoubtedly the social highlight of the year provides the opportunity for Year 8 students to don their glad rags for an evening which is traditionally memorable, and the latter an opportunity for all students to don an old shirt and shorts for a day of fun and frivolity. A reminder that tickets for the Dinner and Dance are available from the office.

In amongst all of these events is each Syndicate's end of year outing. Following last week's dramas we will now be asking all parents and caregivers to provide contact phone numbers for them on the day of each outing. Please look out for a letter to this effect which accompanies this newsletter.

Some congratulations to finish. Firstly to Marlina Koeninger, Jack Williams, Hannah Elzenaar and Hunter Baumber, all of whom have had their art work selected to feature in the Upper Hutt City Council Community Calendar for 2017. Their achievement will be recognised at mayoral morning tea on 8 December. Well done all of you.

Secondly, congratulations again to rising tennis star Livvy Cook who's achievements have featured in a number of recent newsletters. Earlier this week Livvy travelled to Hamilton to compete in the North Island Open for Primary and Intermediate Schools. Fantastic performances saw Livvy finish fifth in the singles and she and her partner win the doubles. Well done Livvy, you are obviously destined for higher honours.

Regards

Paul Patterson
Principal

White Ribbon
FAMILY FUN DAY
26 Nov 2016
AT LANE PARK
22 Lane St, Wallaceville
GATES OPEN 11:30AM

- Free open air concert
- Bring along a picnic to enjoy with the family!
- Loads of free entertainment for the kids
- Food and drink options available for purchase
- In case of bad weather a reduced programme will move indoors

Big bikes for White Ribbon

Dates to Remember....

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| 28 November | Fergy Fund Finders Raffle closing date |
| 30 November | Syndicate B End of Year Outing |
| 30 November | BoT Meeting 5.30pm in Library |
| 30 November | Inter-Intermediate Softball |
| 2 December | School Speech Final |
| 7 December | Prizegiving Assembly 11am |
| 8 December | Year 8 Leavers Dinner & Dance |
| 9 December | Syndicate A End of Year Outing |
| 12 December | Syndicate C End of Year Outing |
| 13 December | Fun Day |
| 15 December | Term 4 concludes 12.30pm |

2017

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| 1 February | School Year commences |
| 6 February | Waitangi Day |
| 7-10 March | Camp 1 |
| 14-17 March | Camp 2 |
| 21-24 March | Camp 3 |
| 13 April | Term 1 concludes |