

PARENTS NEWSLETTER

TERM 1, WEEK 1

7 February 2020

Tēnā koutou katoa

Welcome back to 2020!

I pray that you all had a wonderful **Waitangi Day** yesterday, taking the time to reflect on how privileged we are to live in this beautiful country of Aotearoa/New Zealand. This was also a day to commemorate the signing of the **Treaty of Waitangi**, regarded as New Zealand's founding document.

As Christians, the Treaty of Waitangi is of great significance. This is due to the little known Article 4, which was written with the intention of ensuring the protection of Britain to those who identified as Christian (regardless of denomination). Unfortunately, this article has been debated by governments of the day, its translation challenged and even its right to be considered an official part of the treaty.

Politics aside, this is a timely reminder that due to the influence of Christian missionaries at the time, especially Henry Williams, the Treaty of Waitangi should be understood and celebrated by Christians, as this article was written to protect our faith.

History lesson aside, **Maranatha Christian School** has been a flurry of activity in recent weeks as contractors have been in and around the school and teachers have been preparing for the new year ahead. Last Saturday, a dedicated group from our school community gathered for our first Working Bee of the year. And of course, our amazing students returned to school on Tuesday to commence a new year of learning.



Playground Matting



Working Bee



Court Markings



Year 4&5 'Tent City'

I would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to those who gave their time so generously to help with our Working Bee on Saturday, including those who prepared food for the hungry workers.

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters. Colossians 3:23 (NIV)

Ma whero ma pango ka oti ai te mahi (*With red and black the work will be complete*)

This Māori saying refers to co-operation where if everyone does their part, the work will be complete. Colours refer to kowhaiwhai patterns found inside Māori meeting houses.

Looking ahead...

We are rebranding our syndicates as teams, and will shortly commence a process to name these. With seven classrooms operating, our fourth classroom (Kereru in 2020) has always found itself with one foot in each syndicate, not fully junior, nor senior. Moving to teams will remove 1980's terminology and allow for flexibility with this classroom's position each year, without causing concern based on the perception of a name.

Please note, this year Kereru will be based in Mrs Copp's (yet to be named) team and not Mrs Schmidt's, as previously mentioned. This is due to Mrs Copp being Miss Hall's tutor teacher. In keeping with the rationale above, Kereru will work with both teams this year, as is appropriate for the age of the learners.

Continued on next page...



MARANATHA
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

connecting

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1967

Stay tuned for your opportunity to have a say on the naming of our two teams.

Our **Meet the Teacher** afternoon / evening is next **Tuesday 11 February** (refer to attached flyer) and our **School Picnic** is on **Friday 28 February** at Raumati Marine Gardens. Further details about our picnic will be sent via Care-Monkey today.

Finally, attached is a copy of our **2020 Planning Overview** which details the themes and topics that will be covered at Maranatha this year as well as a copy of the **Rules for Teachers 1915**, which was a cause of great hilarity during our teacher only days when we were thankful that we live in 2020.

I look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events.

Kia pai tō rā whakatā (Have a fantastic weekend).

In His love
Steve Farrand
Principal



Coming up!

Tuesday, 11 February	Assembly Ruru presenting, 2.00 pm Meet the Teacher afternoon/evening
Friday, 14 February	PTA Pita Pit lunch available
Monday, 17 February	Scholastic Book Club Orders due
Tuesday, 25 February	Assembly Kotare presenting, 2.00pm
Thursday, 27 February	BOT Meeting, 6.30pm
Friday, 28 February	School Picnic at Raumati - More info to follow
Tuesday, 10 March	Welcome Assembly

Reading Book Amnesty

We have lots of reading books missing so please have a good hunt at home. We are placing an amnesty box in the office for anyone who has found any reading books over the holidays. We would really love to have them back.



2020 Term Dates

Term 1: Tuesday, 4 February - Thursday, 9 April

Term 2: Tuesday, 28 April - Friday, 3 July

Term 3: Monday, 20 July - Friday, 25 September

Term 4: Monday, 12 October - Wednesday, 16 December

Welcome to the following new students

Tui Class:

Amia
Asher
Evie
Luke
Otis
Mia
Xanthe



Kakariki Class:

Londyn
Leandi

Ruru Class:

Divan

We hope you and your family feel part of the School Community soon.

We look forward to officially welcoming you all at our Welcome Assembly!

Ruru and Piwakawaka's 'Tent City'!



Some Important Reminders at the start of the Term:

- ◆ **No Nuts Policy:** Please remember that Maranatha is a completely **Nut Free** School. Please check all muesli bars and other baked goods to ensure they do not contain nuts.
- ◆ **Sunhats:** All students are required to wear sunhats during morning tea and lunchtime. No hat = no outside play.
- ◆ **Parking:** Please ensure that the bus park is kept clear **at all times**. In the afternoons, please follow the direction of the Traffic Wardens as to where to park, and remember to never drive up the driveway to the office unless directed by a Traffic Warden or you have to pick up a sick child, or have to drop off/pick up large items.
- ◆ **Arrival Time:** A reminder that students may arrive at school from **8.30 am onwards**. Please refrain from dropping students off earlier than this as the school cannot provide supervision.
- ◆ **Departures/Pick Ups:** Due to new Health and Safety measures put in place as a result of our full school role, all parents are to collect their children from classrooms or the courtyard. We no longer allow students to play on the courts while waiting for parents due to vehicle movements at this time. For parents who are unable to collect students before 3.10 pm, please contact the school office for information on after school care.
- ◆ **Notify Office:** Please make sure you speak with us directly, and **NOT** try to email us, if your child is not going to catch the bus in the afternoon.



Meet the Teacher



When: Tuesday 11 February - 3.15-5pm and 5.30-7pm

Informal "Meet the Teacher" Afternoon/Evening

No Booking Required

Come along and meet our teachers who will be in their classrooms at the above times.

Please note this is an informal time for relationship building and general classroom/student discussions.

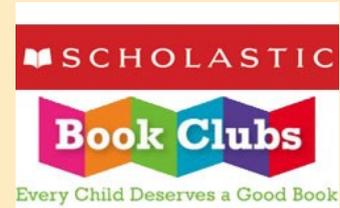
Tea and Coffee will be available in the canteen.

Scholastic Book Club

The first brochure for the year (and this term) is being sent home today (Friday). The brochure can be viewed online <http://www.scholastic.co.nz/schools/book-club/>. There is a shorter time available for orders with this brochure so please ensure that orders are placed by

Monday, 17 February 2020.

Any questions email susannag@maranatha.school.nz or see me in the library at school.



Happy Reading!

PTA Lunches for Term 1

Our school lunches will begin again next Friday (14th Feb) with Pita Pit's available every Friday through Lunchonline.

Hotdogs and Nuggets will resume when we have volunteers.

We currently have no parents/caregivers available to make and serve hotdogs and chicken nuggets. Ideally we would love volunteers that are willing to come in on a Friday for a couple of hours to cook and serve these. The more we have on our roster the better as the commitment will be less. So please let us know if you are able to help.

Reminder:

Lyn R is currently on personal leave and is not expected to return to work in the school office until after 18 February. In the meantime, Wilma Reinders and Amy Wong will be running the school office in Lyn's absence.

Please note, **Term 1 invoices** will not be sent out until Lyn returns to work and I **request that any (non-urgent) financial questions** or related matters are **held off until after the 18th**. Thank you.

IMPORTANT NOTICE RE ENROLMENTS Cut Off dates for future Enrolments – Updated!

For a child who turns 5 between:	Cut Off Date
25 August 2020 - 16 November 2020 (Term 4, 2020)	14 February 2020
17 November 2020 - 5 March 2021 (Term 1, 2021)	8 May 2020

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The Major Minors Children's Choir is a non-auditioned children's community choir that would love to invite new members to join! We rehearse on Sunday afternoons, 3-4pm, at The Spot, 651 Fergusson Drive. Feel free to come along and check us out, alternatively you're welcome to email on info@majorminors.org.nz or message us on facebook for more information!

Looking for a piano teacher? Chimes Music has vacancies for piano pupils at all levels. Our studios are in Waiwhetu.

Chimes Music Ltd has a small group of dedicated teachers who use techniques and materials for teaching piano in small groups.

Interested? Contact Peter Whiskin 977 1409 or email Chimes.12brook@gmail.com.

Arts a Go Go! Performing Arts School for Kids has limited spaces available in small group singing lessons, creative writing, drama, pre-school music, Irish Dancing and musical theatre classes! For more details, please see www.artsagogo.co.nz, contact rachel@artsagogo.co.nz or ph 0211441641.

Hosting an exchange student can be a truly rewarding experience for the whole family

Welcome a new family member into your home

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED 2020

- ✓ Experience a foreign culture firsthand
- ✓ Be exposed to a new language at home
- ✓ Rediscover and share the beauty of New Zealand
- ✓ Develop friendships that last a lifetime

We have a wonderful group of students arriving in May and July 2020 for 3, 5 or 10 months and are excitedly waiting to hear news of their host family in New Zealand.

All students have a wide range of interests and hobbies.

If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today **0800 440 079** or info@studentexchange.org.nz

www.studentexchange.org.nz/hosting-experienceiseverything



PROUDLY SUPPORTING MARANATHA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

"I will donate \$100* to Maranatha Christian School for every successful mortgage or life insurance application from parents who have children at the school, or their friends and family."



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*Some conditions apply, contact Mark Thomas for more information. Offer expires 31 December 2020.

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