

N E W S L E T T E R
1 5 J U L Y 2 0 1 1
ST CLAIR SCHOOL

CAPABLE, CARING, CONFIDENT, CHILDREN CONTRIBUTING TO OUR COMMUNITY

*What's
Happening?*

August

Senior Team Swimming -

1st - 5th August

Middle Team Swimming -

1st - 5th August

Butterfly visit - Juniors -

8th August

Ariki Cup Cross Country -

10th August

Sausage sizzle - Friday

19th August

Stars on Stage 22nd -

26th August (date TBC)

Maori and Pacific Island

Festival - 31 August - 1st

September (date TBC)

September

Sausage sizzle Friday 9th

September

Visit our website for more
information about
programmes, events and
sport.

WELCOME, WELCOME, WELCOME

We warmly welcome Robyn Sparg, Charlie Williams, and Maggie Hepburn. We trust you all settle in quickly and really enjoy your time at our school.

A WORD FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It was great to be back this week after 10 weeks of Sabbatical Leave. My sabbatical (funded by the Ministry of Education) provided an excellent opportunity for extended study, reflection and travel.

During my time on leave, I took a special interest in *school building design and the impact that innovative building design has on student learning*. It was a privilege to be able to visit numerous new schools in both New Zealand and Singapore, and I found my extended professional discussions with their principals and teachers most useful.

The Ministry of Education also encourages principals to make time for personal travel and contemplation during their period of leave. Consequently, I was also able spend time reflecting on our school and its strategic direction while traveling in Turkey and Italy.

My travels and school visits have affirmed a number of key beliefs:

- we live in a beautiful, clean and comparatively prosperous nation
- New Zealand schools are high-achieving and the achievement of our students ranks amongst the best in the world
- St Clair School is a very well appointed school with a very unique building design (I saw nothing like Te Manawanui in all my travels), staffed by teachers and support staff whose passion for their work is second-to-none.

On my return, I found the school flourishing and I would like to congratulate Acting Principal Robyn Wood on a terrific term of school leadership, to acknowledge the staff for their ongoing efforts and to thank the Board of Trustees and Ministry of Education for their support for my sabbatical. I found my 'time away' refreshing, energising and affirming.

- Richard Newton

Our School Values
**Kindness, Caring
and Manners**

This week's values focus is:

~ Manners ~

The use of everyday manners in our interactions with others makes us all feel valued and respected.

Our next focus will be:

~ Kindness ~

Simple acts of kindness towards others brightens everyone's day.

Three-Way Conferences

Many thanks to those who made time to meet with their child's teacher to discuss their child's progress and identify learning goals for the next 4 months. Research consistently affirms the importance of parental involvement in education. Parents are reminded that teachers are available at any time of the year if there are any concerns about their child's academic or social development.

Middle Music Assembly

Thanks to the many parents and friends who attended this week's Middle Team Music Assembly. Children were pleased to be able to share songs and marimba items. Our thanks to our music specialist, Alison Caldwell for all the background preparation that was undertaken in preparation for the event.

Term Holidays

Today is the last day of the term. School is now closed and reopens for Term 3 on Monday 1 August. The school office will be open on Friday, July 29 for any enrolment queries or other school-related matters. We wish all families a restful and relaxing break.

Junior Folk Dance Morning

Our junior students enjoyed hosting parents at their recent folk dance morning. Thanks to the many parents who came and enjoyed a this fun event with their children.

Things to Remember...

Middle and Senior Team - Swimming gear needed for the first week next term.

Stars on Stage - please bring your costumes and clothing to school.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Kid Station School Care Programme (based at St Clair School). Quality holiday, and before and after school care for your child/ren. Casual bookings welcome. Ring Kevin on 0274 492 102 or 4559344 for further information.

Cadbury Chocolate Carnival - Loads of free fun activities during the school holidays. Check out the website. www.cadbury.co.nz

Drama Classes - Taught by professional actors and directors in partnership with the Fortune Theatre. Contact Fortune Theatre ph 477-8323 for more info.

Hip Hop Classes - St Clair School Hall, Tuesdays from 5.15pm, 7-13 year old. Contact Daniel Chew 027 499 5888, chewyd@gmail.com

School Contacts
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