

Wednesday 8 February  
2017

Dear Parents/Caregivers,



### Welcome

Welcome! If you are brand new to our school a special welcome. If you are returning after the school holidays I hope you all had a good break and I look forward to catching up. Thank you to all parents who have bought new uniforms and stationery our pupils are looking smart and ready for the challenges of new learning. With uniforms can I encourage you to label everything- we end up with so much lost property but without a name it is almost impossible to tell who owns what. To start your child off at school on a good footing, we are providing **all Year One pupils with free stationery** . **Again all our year 6 pupils have been given a chrome book to assist them with their learning.** The chrome book will remain the property of the school but the device will be used by your child for the year.



### Mrs Lata R.I.P.

It is with great sadness that I need to inform you that Mrs Lata passed away last week. Mrs Lata was a long serving teacher in the Junior School. She was a dedicated teacher and spent long hours working to get the best outcomes for the tamariki in her care. For some pupils she was nearly a second mum and she was held in high regard and affection by all those who knew her. Mrs Lata's funeral is being held this Friday and in order for our staff and whanau to pay their last respects our Board Chair Mr Vine has agreed to close the Junior School on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February. The Junior School will reopen on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 8.45am. As I know



you will please keep Mrs Lata and her family in your thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. (A separate letter with full details has already been sent home.)

### Swimming

This year we have started our school (Year 1-6) swimming programme early. With the number of drownings that occurred over the holidays, it is essential that our students feel confident in the water. If you haven't already done so please return your permission slips to class as soon as possible so your child won't miss out.



### Nit Busters

The KidsCan Nit Busters Programme has started in our school. There will be a Health Champion in our school every **Wednesday** checking and treating for head lice for free. You will need to complete the Nit Busters consent form for your child and return it to the school for your child to be a part of this programme. Please feel free to contact our Health Champion Dominique on 021995460 or [nitbusters@kidsan.org.nz](mailto:nitbusters@kidsan.org.nz) if you have any questions.

### Playgroup

Research says that the most amazing learning occurs for a child in the pre-school years. If you have preschool children the Collegiate has two powerful ways to help your child learn either in the Playgroup where the delightful Ms Mafi can help you engage with your child in fun ways. Our Playgroup is open now and all you need to do is come and see Ms Mafi who will warmly welcome you to her mother's group. The second option we have is **Barnardos- which has free sessions!** So if you have a preschooler you may choose the Play group and or Barnardos. This is good

news and I hope you take advantage of these opportunities.

### Bell Times - Junior School 2017

8:45 School Starts:

10:50 1<sup>st</sup> LUNCH: Eating inside

11:00 Children play time

11:30 PLAY BREAK FINISHES

1:10 2<sup>nd</sup> LUNCH: Eating inside

1:20 Children play time

1:45 PLAY BREAK FINISHES

2:45 School Finishes



### End of the school day 2.45pm

Can I ask that you talk to your child about their home time arrangements? Normally your **child/children should be going straight home**, so you know they are safe. **Younger pupils either need to be picked up by you or walk home in the care of an older brother or sister.** It is important that if you are picking up your child that you are here a little before the bell at 2.45pm. If you are late, little ones aren't good at waiting and they may wander off home by themselves or go home with a friend and before you know it you can't find them and you are worried!

### Sistema

Our Sistema music programme is going from strength to strength with more and more families taking up the opportunity for their child to **learn an orchestral instrument for free.** Sistema has been researched and it is showing very positive results for pupils that stay on the programme. To make it easier for pupils to attend practices the Sistema music programme is held in school. All year two pupils will be invited to join and you should receive a letter with full



details about this shortly. I would encourage you to allow your child to take part. It is such an amazing opportunity.

### Student contact update details

If you have changed address or phone number, please complete the student contact sheet that is attached to this newsletter. It's so important that we are able to contact you should your child get sick and needs to go home. We will keep your details strictly confidential.

### Healthy Food and nutrition

In the Junior School we have **a free daily breakfast programme** where a simple nutritious breakfast of wheat bix, toast and milk is provided. All your child needs to do is rock on up to the orange pod after 7.45am and enjoy. If your child is not in the breakfast club **8.30am-8.40am is a good time to come to school.** Our School also provides **free fruit and milk for morning tea and lunches** for those who need it and again it's all free. Some foods however are better than others in supporting learning. **Fizzy drink, chips and cheezels are not the sort of food that your child needs**, in fact these foods can stop your child concentrating and learning. So please when you are making morning tea and lunch for your child limit the chips and cheezels. An occasional small packet of chips is ok, but as a once a week treat. As to fizzy drinks, I do not recommend them at all. A few sandwiches and a piece of fruit are all your child needs and it's cheaper too!

Yours truly,  
**John Shearer**  
Principal