

Wednesday 20th March 2019



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

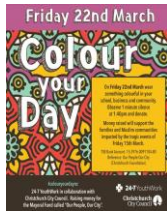
Christchurch Tragedy

I'm sure you join with me in offering our thoughts and prayers for the people of Christchurch as they come to terms with the tragic events of Friday. This is such a loss and it has touched everyone in New Zealand. Perhaps though it is in the hard times that the true character of a people comes through. NZ is a kind and compassionate country and this is how we need to go forward from this - with openness and kindness to all.



Colour your day

As part of celebrating our diverse community and supporting the people of Christchurch this Friday your child can come to school in mufti - (preferably bright colours) for a gold coin donation. All donations will go towards helping Christchurch rebuild from their recent tragedy.



NZEI Teacher meetings postponed

This Wednesday we were going to have paid union meetings (PUMs) to look at pay and working conditions for teachers but as a mark of respect and to help keep our tamariki in their routines **these meetings have been postponed**. In the face of tragedy one of the best things you can do is to keep things as normal as possible. This aids recovery.

Community Consultation: Goal Setting

On Monday goal setting appointment sheets were sent home. If you would pick the time that suits you best and send it back to school we will try and give you the time you want or as close to

it as possible. This is for Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th March afternoons and evenings. **A reminder that school will stop for instruction at 1pm on the Thursday** to help fit in all the interviews which will run until 6pm. Hope to see you all there.

Polyfest 2019

As part of 2019 Polyfest our Junior School Te Waka Ora Unit went to support the Senior School Maori kapa haka group. This is a good



example of our younger pupils supporting older pupils 'teina tautoko pakeke' It is also good for our tamariki to see what they can be doing in a few short years and it will be their turn on the stage.



Our congratulations to our Senior School on their performance and to Mrs Beazley and her team who lead the EOTC so smoothly.

Ministry of Primary Industries: Fruit Fly

As you will have seen in the news and from the quarantine signs, the Otara area is still under threat from the Fruit Fly outbreak. This means that while fruit can come in (eg. Shops markets etc) **no fruit is allowed to leave the area**. So at

school we have special bins for fruit scraps which are emptied daily. It is important that we follow these rules as the fruit fly can cause millions of dollars damage to crops and fruit if it gets established here. So if you send your child with a piece of fruit as part of their lunch please talk with your child about putting any scraps into the special bins. Your help with this is appreciated.



This fruit is now inedible as the fruit fly has laid its eggs inside and the larvae will destroy the fruit.



Health and Safety: Measles, mumps & Rubella. (MMR)

Unfortunately there is a possibility of a measles outbreak spreading across New Zealand. It's an easy disease to control and prevent if you have been vaccinated but if you child hasn't had the injections when they are little then you are at risk. Measles leaves you miserable, with a rash, high fever, cough, runny nose, red eyes loss of appetite. So if you haven't had your child immunized or you are not sure if your child has had all their injections please speak to your family doctor and check. Today with the

newsletter, we are also sending out a separate MMR letter asking you to let us know if your child has been vaccinated. Please send in a copy of your child's immunization certificate to Ms Wilson in the school office & she can copy it for you here. **(If you have already done this at enrolment time then don't worry you don't have to do this a second time.)**

Health and Well-being: Touch Rugby



On Wednesday 27th March our touch rugby teams are in action again at Bruce Pulman Park. Should be a lot of fun. Please feel free to come along and support your son or daughter

Te Waka Ora

On Friday 29th March Te Waka Ora will be taking part in Marae wananga at the whare. The programme will have some fun activities and learning about Marae protocol and will run within the school day. Should be a marvelous experience for our tamariki.

Science: Eye on nature

On Tuesday 26th March Room 5 will be taking part in the Eye on Nature event at the Botanical Gardens. A letter with full details has been sent home to those involved. Promises to be wonderful learning experience.

Junior Award

The hardest working pupils this week are: Ngatuakana Turua and Lepolo Nusipepa for excellent working habits, always on task and completing their work to a high standard. Both these children are from Room 1. Congratulations to both these tamariki on a great start to the school year.

Yours truly,
John Shearer
Principal