



Welcome back to school!

TOKO SCHOOL - News Brief

School Roll 143

Thursday 2nd February 2016

Dear Parents and Friends of Toko School,

Happy New Year!

Welcome back to a new school year and a very warm welcome to our new families. I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and enjoyed your time with your family.

Over the holidays our school fire alarm system has been completely replaced and we are just putting the finishing touches to a new bell system as well. The hall has been refurbished with a few small jobs to be completed. A number of the large trees have been pruned.

Thank you to the many parents and friends of the school that lent a hand over the holidays spraying, mowing lawns, weeding and looking after our chickens. We really appreciate all that you contribute.

Welcome to the following new students: Room 1 Regan, Dominic, Karrigan and Sophie - Room 6 Madeline - Room 4 Dorian. Happy Toko School days to you all.

We also welcome Miss Renee Clegg and Miss Rebecca Jury to our Toko School team.

WHO'S WHO ON THE STAFF

Just a reminder about who is working at Toko School

Principal	Kim Waite
Year 7 - 8 Teachers	Sasha Hancock, Rebecca Jury
Year 5 - 6 Teacher	Maree Stark
Year 4 - 5 Teacher	Sean Dillon
Year 3 Teacher	Sue Fergus
Year 2 Teachers	Renee Clegg
New Entrant/Year 1 Teacher	Rebecca Bright
Office Manager	Annette Hinton
Support Staff	Margaret Mason/Treena Cullen/Anna Smith/Debbie Stone/Karen Bellamy
School Cleaner	Delwyn Taylor
Part-Time Staff	Alison Eagar, Loren Jordan

We have not appointed a Deputy Principal whilst Miss O'Brien is on study leave. Mrs Fergus will have responsibility for Year 1 - 3 and Mrs Hancock will have responsibility for Year 4 - 8. As always, if you have a query or concern, your first port of call is your child's classroom teacher. Your next step after this is either Mrs Fergus or Mrs Hancock and finally the Principal. Mrs Eagar has taken on the role of school SENCO (Special Education Needs Co-ordinator).

TOKO SCHOOL COUNTRY FAIR - FRIDAY 24TH FEBRUARY 5 - 8 PM

Please make sure you put this in your diary and support this great event. If you can help out on the night please email: office@toko.school.nz

HOT FOOD AT SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAY'S

Children can bring food to go in the pie warmer on Wednesday's, starting next week. Please can pies be in their packets or wrapped in tin foil. Also, no crockery plates as they get very hot and the children can't hold them. They also take up a lot of room in the warmer.

WHEELS WEDNESDAY

Every Wednesday, children are encouraged to bring their bike/scooter/skateboard/rollerblades to school to use on the basketball court. **Helmets must be worn.**

SUN HATS - DON'T FORGET TO PACK THESE IN YOUR CHILDREN'S BAGS AND NAME THEM!!!!

GOING HOME AFTER SCHOOL

It is expected that if your child's after school transport arrangements differ from the norm, that a note or e.mail is sent to school explaining this. This is very important. Children get confused and so do staff when after school arrangements are not consistent. If we do not receive a note we will default to the usual transport arrangements.

CHILDREN ABSENT FROM SCHOOL

The school must be notified by 9am if your child will be absent from school along with an explanation. Your assistance with this matter is appreciated. If your child arrives or leaves school after 9.00am and before 3.00pm we ask that parents sign their children in or out. This is to be done at the school office.

DROPPING OFF & COLLECTING YOUR CHILDREN FROM SCHOOL

Please remember that children must be dropped off and collected from the bus turnaround area. This should not occur out the front of the school on the main road. If you are coming into school please park in front of the school hall.

FUNDRAISING MEETING- Tuesday 7th February 7.30pm at the Toko Tavern

PTA MEETING - Tuesday 7th February 7.30pm in the Toko School Staffroom

We are looking for parents to join both committees. Both committees contribute so much to our school and it is important that we have new members replacing those that have completed their time at our school. Please, please consider joining. If you want to know more about either committee just pop into the office and ask.

YEAR 4 - 6 CLASS CAMP TO KONINI LODGE: Room 5 - 27th - 29th March, Room 6 29th March - 31 March.

YEAR 3 CLASS CAMP AT SCHOOL - Notes coming home tonight.

COVERING CHILDREN'S BOOKS -All exercise books will be sent home on Friday 3rd February to be covered over the weekend.

SWIMMING

Please make sure that your children's towels, togs and goggles are named. We will be providing a swimming coach, three times a week for six weeks to work with groups of children from Year 1 - 6. This starts next week. Flyers Swim School will be providing the lessons. As a school we follow the New Zealand Swim Safe programme. The children work through a module skills system that is supported by teacher notes. Each child in our school receives, on entry, a swimming certificate to track progress across the school. This is kept by the teacher in a clear file and moves with the child as they move through the school. All our staff have had training in this programme.

INITIAL LEARNING JOURNEY MEETINGS

This will be held on **Wednesday 15th February** - 3.15 - 4.45pm. This meeting is for new families to our school. It is a chance to meet with the teacher and discuss your child's learning needs. As always, if any parents would like to meet their child's teacher, all you need to do is make an appointment. Please call Annette in the office to make a meeting time.

BYOD - BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE - YEAR 4 - 8

Just a reminder that if children have a device at home they are allowed to bring these for learning purposes at school. All children who have a device will be required to sign a user agreement which we will send home today.

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP POLICY

Attached to this newsletter is our schools Digital Citizenship Policy to those families new to our school. We ask that you read through this and discuss the Responsible Use Agreement with your children. We will also be discussing this and referring to it on a regular basis at school. Can you please sign and return the **Parent Declaration** section of this policy.

HEADPHONES

If your children have a set of headphones at home and you are happy for them to bring them to school please do so. We have 5 headsets per class but find we are using these more and more with our new devices and the introduction of BYOD. If your child brings a headset to school please make sure it is named.

NEW NETBOOKS & INTERACTIVE WHITEBOARD

We have purchased new ipads and chrome books for use across our school. I would like to thank the TSB Community Trust who provided funding to upgrade our devices.

TENNIS

Bruce is prepared to come out for tennis lessons again this term. If you wish to have your child undertake these lessons, please advise the school with your child's name. A note has been sent home to interested children today. It is 6 weeks for \$40.00, and will probably start week 2. I will send out confirmation, payments etc, once numbers are in. Please have these names to Mr Dillon by this Friday (5th February). Either ring the office or email me at sue.fergus@toko.school.nz
NGAERE SCHOOL PTA ARE SELLING SWIFT POTATOES (we are about to lift them from our paddock) and from next week we will be taking orders. An order form will be at the office for orders and payment. We will deliver the potatoes to Toko School - \$3 per kg.

Regards Kim Waite and the TOKO SCHOOL TEAM