



END OF YEAR NEWSLETTER

Friday, 8 December 2017



Dear Parents

What an experience this week! Monday started as ordinary as is possible for this time of year but it soon turned out rather different for the principal. It wasn't long before I realised this was not going to be a normal Monday morning – in fact far from it! During a morning assembly I was “kidnapped” by some of our Board members (Led by Captain “Dropalot” – our very own Chaplain of all people), and it wasn't long before I was having a morning tea at Classic Flyers followed by a totally surprising helicopter flight over the Mount and School and witnessing all our tamariki spelling out a huge “THANKS” on the field! Wow and how awesome and touching that was! This just reinforced what I already knew – what an awesome school community we have and you are all part of that. This of course followed on from last Thursday's touching tribute / retirement evening at the Church. A heart-felt thanks to every one of you!

As this will be probably the last official newsletter for the year – and the last from me as principal, I wish to bring a few other matters to your attention as we head to our break up next week.

AWARDS EVENING

This will be held at the SDA Church next Wednesday commencing 6:30pm. All students are required to wear their school uniforms. Students may wear mufti to school on Wednesday so uniforms can be made ready for the Awards programme in the evening. This is a time when we can recognise individual achievement and acknowledge our graduating senior students and other students who may be leaving.

END OF SCHOOL

As many of you will be aware through our web site and Smart Phone App notification, the school year will officially conclude after the Awards Evening on Wednesday. Please note this is half a day earlier than previously notified on our school calendar. Please advise the Office if this change causes any inconvenience as staff will be at school Thursday morning and can provide supervision if absolutely necessary.

END OF YEAR REPORTS

Most students will receive end of year reports at the conclusion of the Awards evening. Some junior students may not receive reports as reports for students in the first three years of school are issued on the basis of the number of weeks they have been at school. (Anniversary reporting) If you have any query about this, please contact your child's teacher.

FEES 2017

Please ensure all fees and contributions are finalised before term end. Many thanks for your support in this area this year.

FEES 2018

You will have received the 2018 school fee schedule. There will be no increase in the Proprietor fees and only slight adjustments to the School Contributions payable to our own school. The changes affect the Junior Activity Fees (Slight reduction) overall.

There is a slight increase for School Contributions for students in Rooms 4 and 5 as we have added a school camp component. Formerly, we transferred any unused Activity Fees and transferred this to help reduce the camp costs for these two classes. We have now reduced the Activity Fee component and transferred the reduced amount to the Class Camps and added a little extra to ease the burden on parents when camps are charged prior to camp time. The 2018 Charges are now listed on the School web site.

LOST PROPERTY

Please check out the lost property bin in the foyer before the end of school. All unclaimed property will be disposed of.

RETURN OF SCHOOL READERS AND LIBRARY BOOKS

Please ensure all school property is returned (School readers, library books etc.) before Wednesday.

CLASSES 2018

As there will be a slightly larger number of students at the upper end of the school for 2018, where possible we will not be splitting year groups in Rooms 4 and 5 as was the case this year. We are also not anticipating any change to our teaching staff for the start of the new school year.

STATIONERY LISTS 2018

These will be posted on the school website shortly and sent out via our school app. All students are required to have their stationery on day one of the new term.

SCHOOL CONTACTS OVER THE HOLIDAY PERIOD

Please note that you can still contact the School during the holiday period by using the normal school email or the principal's mobile. (027 391 1031) Both these contacts will be transferred to the new principal, Mr Ryan Baronian. Mr Baronian officially commences at the end of January though he will be setting up prior to that time.

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS PRIOR TO START OF SCHOOL

The School Office will be open mornings only from Wednesday January 24 to Friday January 26. Office hours will be from 9:30 to 12:30 during these dates.

STAFF FAREWELL

We are sad to farewell Mrs Lindie du Toit as our part-time Office administrator and Enrolments Officer. Lindie has served the School faithfully and enthusiastically over the time she has served as our part-time Office Administrator working the Fridays each week. Lindie will be taking on full time work elsewhere and I know we will all miss her. Mrs Lynley Bishop will work this extra day (knowing husband will now be able to do all the housework for her in his retirement! (Did I actually say that??!))

We are also saying farewell to Pastor Jesse who has been part of our school as assistant Chaplain. Pastor Jesse has received a call to go and lead a church in Palmerton North next year. We will also miss his wife Carina who has also been associated with our school as a reliever and musical support person for our school production. We wish both Pastor Jesse and Carina well as they follow God's leading elsewhere.

UNIFORM CHANGES

There will be some minor changes to our uniform code that will be phased in over a period of time commencing 2018 and these will be posted on the School website. These changes will include retail outlets where some of our uniform items can be procured. Stay tuned on this.

FINALLY

I would like to thank you all for being part of our school community this year and contributing to it in the various ways you all have. I have felt blessed serving you all in my role as principal this year and indeed over the many years, and have always considered it to be a God-given responsibility. I will certainly miss you all and especially our students who are simply the greatest. I would encourage you all to keep your eye on the heavenly goal and keep God the centre of your life at all times.

Blessings to All

Ross Bishop
PRINCIPAL

