



# ASHGROVE SCHOOL

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25th July 2017

Kia Ora Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back! A very special welcome to the two new families who have joined our hub this term.

Our work this term is based around the topic The Fun and the Learning Changes but Never Stops. A significant part of this topic is our trip to Ferrymead in Week 3. Thank you to everyone who offered to be a parent helper. We were overwhelmed by the levels of support, including the generous financial support from the school PTA. By now you will have received notification from your child's home room teacher of whether your offer of help has been accepted. Unfortunately we were not able to take all parents who offered assistance.

There will be a meeting for parent helpers on the day of the trip at 8.20am. For Tipu 1 and 4 this will be on Tuesday 8th August and for Tipu 2,3 & 5 on Wednesday 9th August. At this meeting we will outline the procedures and responsibilities for the day. The trip will go ahead if it is wet although, if we have a large downpour like we experienced last week we will have to postpone. Updates will be sent out via the school app. A reminder notice detailing what the children need to bring will be sent out next week.

This work will also be a significant part of our display at the school jubilee on Saturday 21st October (Labour Weekend). As has been detailed in recent school newsletters we are encouraging the children to be at school on the Saturday from 10.00am until 12.00pm to present their learning.

The STAR focus this term is Trust.

**Spelling homework** continues this week. Please ensure that your child returns their spelling notebook on a Friday each week so that we can mark their homework and have it ready for the following week's new words.

## **Reading**

All children have a reading book every night except for Friday night when the Poetry books come home. It is very important that the children remember their reading folder each day so that they can be given their new book.

This term many of our reading groups are focussing specifically on comprehension skills. Through our observations and testing we have noticed that while the children are able to successfully read higher levels of text they have difficulty discussing, retelling and making connections with the different ideas and concepts that are detailed in their reading material. These are all important skills which help readers to make connections between their own personal experiences and those in the text. Talking about the books that come home including retelling the story or main facts, asking questions and making predictions are all ways that you are able to support your child with their reading. Fluency is also an important aspect of comprehension. When a reader can quickly decode the words they are better able to focus on making sense of their reading. For this reason it is important that children have many opportunities to read books purely for enjoyment. The school library and the Waimakariri Library have a wide range of reading material carefully selected for various reading abilities and interests.

## **Important Dates for Term 3**

**Payment for Ferrymead trip** - due on Friday 28th July

**Kahurangi Performance** - Tuesday 1st August

**Ferrymead Trip** - Tuesday 8th August - Tipu 1 & 4; Wednesday 9th August - Tipu 2, 3 & 5.

**Cricket Session with Canterbury Cricket** - Monday 4th September

**Parent Interviews** – Those families who received a written report in Term 1 will receive their child's second report in either Week 4 or Week 8 of this term. Your child's home room teacher will be in contact with you when your child is due to have a report. Parents will be sent a reminder, via email, stating when the report is coming home and giving information about booking an interview. Interviews will be held on the Monday and Wednesday afternoons in Weeks 5 and 9.

**Celebration Hui - Wednesday 27th September at 2.00pm** Our Tipu Celebration Hui is an opportunity for us to share some of the activities that we have been involved in this term. This will be held in the school hall and everyone is welcome to join us.

We are looking forward to another busy term. If you have any matters you wish to discuss about your child/ren then please make an appointment to see your child/ren's home room teacher.

Ngā mihi nui,

Kylie Forrest, Abby Washington, Sinead McKinley, Leona Starkey & Trudy Miles  
Tipu Team