



Banks Avenue School



"Learning today to succeed tomorrow"
Kia mau ki ngā akoranga, kia tau ai āpōpō

NEWSLETTER

23 September 2015

Hi, kia ora, goeie dag, haileo, jou sanh, goedendag

Number 28

Phone: 03 385 4163, fax: 03 385 6581 email: office@banksave.school.nz, website: www.banksave.school.nz

Friday 25 September **Whole school assembly – 2:15 pm – everyone welcome**

Friday 25 September

Last day Term 3 – children dismissed at 3:00 pm

Monday 12 October

Term 4 begins

Thursday 15 October

Pubertal Change Parent Information Evening at 7:00 pm.

**Banks Avenue School trip / event postponements and or cancellations will only be heard on
NEWSTALK ZB 1098AM and CLASSIC HITS and viewed on our website: www.banksave.school.nz**

SCHOOLGEN LINK: <http://schoolgen.co.nz/schoolgen-schools/banks-avenue-school-christchurch>

If your child is absent from school, for any reason, please let our school office know using one on the following options: Phone: 385 4163 / option 3 text 027 422 8032 email: office@banksave.school.nz

Or notify us via our website: <http://www.banksave.school.nz/absences.html>

If your child arrives at school after 9:00 am they must check in at the office. This saves a lot of phone calls for unexplained absences in order to ensure the safety of all our children.

Dear Parents and Whānau

Ngā mihi mahana ki a koutou – a warm welcome to you all.

The end of Term 3 is fast approaching and for many, children and staff, it is just in time as exhaustion and illness has taken its toll. Change has also been a factor for staff in adding to stress and tiredness.

As a school we are experiencing rapid change at a number of levels. It is vital that we keep the child at the center of change, considering the reasons and the impact of our actions as we move forward. We are excited about what is developing in education however trying new things, reflecting on the results and adapting our practice does add to the workload.

Regularly in newsletters, I have endeavoured to keep parents up to date with some of the thinking behind educational change in New Zealand. This will continue as it is essential for us that we work in partnership with families and bring you along on the journey. Below is the fourth of six extracts related to shifts in thinking in education.

You can also access all previous information we have put out for parents on our school professional development website where we have a section for parents. <http://banksavepd.weebly.com/>

Theme 4: "Changing the script": Rethinking learners' and teachers' roles.

Twenty-first century ideas about knowledge and learning demand shifts in the traditional roles or

"scripts" followed by learners and teachers. If the purpose of schools is not to transmit knowledge, then teachers' roles must be reconceived. Similarly, if the learner's main job is no longer to absorb and store up knowledge to use in the future, then learners' roles and responsibilities also need to be reconceived. This calls for a greater focus on recognising and working with learners' strengths, and thinking about what role teachers can play in supporting the development of every learner's potential.

The idea of changing the scripts for learners and teachers is often shorthand with phrases such as "student-centered pedagogies" or "student voice", alluding to the need to engage learners (and their interests, experiences and knowledge) in many decisions about their learning. However, the idea of sharing power with learners can be met with resistance, particularly if this is interpreted as an "anything goes" approach in which learners are given complete freedom to set the direction for their learning. The challenge is to move past seeing learning in terms of being "student-centered" or "teacher-driven", and instead to think about how learners and teachers would work together in a "knowledge-building" learning environment. This is not about teachers conceding all the power and responsibility to students, or students and teachers being "equal" as learners. Rather, it is about structuring roles and relationships in ways that draw on the strengths and knowledge of each in order to best support learning.

Whooping Cough

We are aware that we still have a few children and families with whooping cough. If in doubt take your child to your family doctor to be tested.

Planning for 2016

It seems strange to be looking ahead to 2016 when we haven't finished the third term however we need to be proactive as we plan for 2016.

Children leaving

If you know your child will be leaving either during Term 4 or at the end of the year we need to be notified as soon as possible as we are now at the stage of looking at team structures and class organisation for 2016. Please complete the form below and send it back to school before 16 October.

Preferred Classes for 2016

Teachers and senior management take a lot of care in placing students into classes each year. Many factors are considered like academic needs, social needs and student combinations etc. If a parent has a strong preference and a valid reason as to where they would like their child placed for 2016 they need to email the school office: office@banksave.school.nz before 23 October with their preference and their reason. Asking for a child to be with a particular friend is not usually considered a valid reason.

Professional Development Focus

In 2016 we will continue to build our knowledge and skills in relation to future focused teaching and learning. There will be a stronger focus on e-learning within classes and on how e-learning can support and engage students with their learning. We have also been accepted into professional development offered by the Ministry called Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L).

Positive Behaviour for Learning initiatives help *parents, whānau, teachers, early childhood* centres and schools address problem behaviour, improve *children's wellbeing* and increase educational achievement.

By strengthening relationships and creating more positive home and school environments we remove *barriers to engagement and improve students'* chances to achieve at school and beyond. PB4L is a long-term, systemic approach involving ten initiatives. These include whole-school change initiatives, targeted group programmes and individual student support services.

To find out more about PB4L log on to the following website. <http://pb4l.tki.org.nz/>

School Site

Although we have not had a confirmed site for our new school we have heard from the Ministry that there has been progress and shortly we will be able to enter into a consultation stage with families and the community.



Lunch Hour

As you are aware we have shortened our lunch break this term and had an extra afternoon break. Next term, with warm weather returning, we are returning to our full lunch hour with no afternoon break. This has little effect on parents as school finishes at the same time.

Mentoring

Recently I asked for a show of interest from parents who may be interested in supporting us if we established a mentoring programme at Banks Avenue School. There has continued to be progress with this idea and we are now working to establish this in Term 4. Thanks to the parents who have already offered their support. We will be in contact at the beginning of Term 4 to arrange a meeting. If you have an hour a week to offer to help support children then please send an email to me and I will contact you in Term 4.
(principal@banksave.school.nz).

Final Assembly for this Term

Our assemblies continue to be become more interesting and enjoyable as ownership for running them is passed over to students and individual classes take responsibility for sharing items. Our final assembly for Term 3 in this Friday at 2:15. Parents are most welcome

Remember, school will close at 3:00pm Friday 25 September for the Term 3 holidays.

The school office will re-open on Friday 9 October from 8:30am – 3:30pm for enrolments and enquiries. Students will return to school on Monday 12 October at 8.55am



Enjoy a much deserved break – enjoy family time and stay safe!

Collaboration

"If you have a candle, the light won't glow any dimmer if I light yours off of mine." (Steven Tyler)

'HOT SHOT' LEARNER



The music was making a hullabaloo in the library.
The library was super duper loud.

Will is our 'Hot Shot' Learner. He is focused during writing time and tries his very best to write interesting stories that his audience will enjoy.

Well done Will. Keep up the great work! 😊



Well done Bayleigh Room 25 and Trisha Room 26 who have each achieved their Bronze Pride in Achievement Award.

Well done girls!

Kapa haka reward!

Matua was so impressed with the effort of our Kapa haka group he has decided to get fish and chips for lunch for the children of the Kapa haka. He will bring them on Friday 25 September (the last day of term).



The Pumpkin Growing Competition 2014 - 2015

Written by Banks Avenue School Student Wellbeing Team with Health Promoting Schools Facilitator Richard Wisnesky.

The Banks Avenue School Student Wellbeing Team feels that the pumpkin competition was about caring for nature, getting outside, having fun and teaching students how to garden.

Children were given pumpkin seeds to plant at home and once they had fully grown they brought them to school for the judging. There were six categories: cutest, small fry, biggest, best dressed, most colourful and ugliest. They were all very interesting to judge, which was done by members of the Wellbeing Team.

The pumpkin competition was probably a new experience for a lot of people. The students really enjoyed the experience and it also was a chance for students to participate and be involved in a school event.

The Wellbeing Team is very excited to present the pumpkin seeds from Banks Avenue School pumpkins to St Mary's School at their assembly so they can have their own competition. Harriet, who participated has shared her thoughts, "It was good because people learnt to take responsibility to grow pumpkins and to really be careful.

Following the judging of the pumpkins the Student Wellbeing Team collected seeds from two pumpkins donated by one of the winners. They also had a session cooking with pumpkin, making pumpkin muffins, pumpkin soup and pumpkin scones, which proved to be great fun. As an act of wellbeing for the staff, the Student Wellbeing Team made another batch of pumpkin soup for their lunch on Wednesday 24 June. This was a great hit with lots of positives back about how delicious the soup was.





We need more undies, especially boys, for our sick bay. You can

leave them at the school office. Thanks in anticipation.

PTA NEWS & EVENTS

Next PTA meeting:
Monday 19 October at 7:00 pm
in the staffroom
All welcome



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Next meeting
Tuesday 20 October at 6:30pm
In the Sky Room
All welcome



COMMUNITY NEWS

As part of a service to our local community we publish information about community services and activities in our Community News column. While we are happy to publish these notices, we do not run any background checks on any individuals or community groups who provide information to be published.

Aquagym – Learn to Swim – Holiday Courses

Book one or both weeks at \$82.50 per week.
Individual lessons available.

BOOK NOW!

Pre School and School Age
Term 4 Starts 12 October

459 Cashel Street phone 381 0299



EduKids – Education and Care Centre
44 Shirley Road
STAY and PLAY

For more information email:
Edukids.shirley.manager@kidicorp.co.nz
03 385 9340
Open 7:30 am – 5:30 pm Monday-Friday

DIANNES HAIR SALON
Qualified stylist - ladies, mens and children.
Hair care at affordable prices.
Please call to make an appointment.
0273 847 676 – 64 Cresswell Ave.



Students Leaving either during or at the end of Term 4, 2015

Complete this slip and return it to the office OR email office@banksave.school.nz

Note: parents of Year 6 students do not need to complete this form.

My child / children (names) _____ Room No. _____
 _____ Room No. _____
 _____ Room No. _____

will be leaving Banks Avenue School at the end of 2015.

Reason: (optional) _____

Please complete this process by Friday 16 October

“Let your dreams be bigger than you fears, your actions louder than your words and your faith.”