



Monday 15th October 2018 - Term 4 Week 1

## Principal's Report

Hi Parents, Caregivers, Students and Community members.

Welcome back! I hope you've had a good two weeks away from school life. Term Four is usually the busiest term and with only eight and half weeks, it'll whizz by. Next week is a four day week with Labour weekend - have fun.

### Sleepover last term:

Thanks heaps to Anne-Marie Erskine and the staff for staying over and making the experience a success. Thank you to John McNab for providing the fireworks and to Mr Bennett for ensuring the fireworks display went off without a hitch. The support was awesome and another experience our students won't forget. Another big ups to the staff for making this work too - always a big ask and this is a great example of the WAS staff really caring for students. Thanks to our students for demonstrating a positive attitude throughout. We'll aim to have some more sleepovers next year.

### Cultural Evening last term:

A massive congratulations to all students who got involved either by performing, helping out or supporting on the night. Thanks to you all for coming along and showing your support too. Opportunities like these are special as they bring out the best in students. The staff are always very proud of all our children, as are parents, and it's absolutely fantastic when we see the growth in confidence in our students' self belief.

### Primary Year 1-8 Touch rugby:

Anyone keen? I see we haven't had any notices handed back. Perhaps we could combine with another school? This is the same competition which we entered in Term One and last year - Monday after school in Otautau. Comp starts on Monday 29th October. Please text me straight away if your child is keen to play and/or you're able to drive and look after them. The school will provide the van and pay for the team entry.

### BOT Student Rep:

Angela Pierce is the new student rep, voted in by the students. All the best Angela in your new role.

Thanks to Amanda for all her contributions over the last two years - she's been a very loyal and dedicated member of the BOT.

### Checking in with your child's teacher:

I'd recommend having a quick catch-up to see if there is anything further you/we can do to support your child academically. All our children are making progress and it's fair to say that some make even more progress with



support from home. Even if you're wanting some extra work (some call it homework) for your child to complete at home, then that could be a good start. This is not to keep them busy nor used as a consequence; this is to support them with what they're currently learning and an opportunity for you to join them! I can't help but think about the Mike King comment on how little we have quality 1:1 time with our own children - only 3-4 mins per week on average!

### **Koha Kai – WAS subsidised lunches:**

Starts this week. Menu attached – Weds, Thurs and Fri. Get on-board as the food is yummy and affordable! In the holidays, I was around at the right time to sample some of the meals – for \$2 each – it's an absolute steal! Orders are made each morning – your child simply pays and orders in their own classroom. Adults (anyone is welcome) make their orders at the office.

### **Staffing:**

Catherine in the school office has resigned from her position as office manager. She'll continue on with her finance role and work with me. Catherine has been a dedicated staff member for the last three years and on behalf of the staff and BOT we wish Catherine all the very best. In the meantime, Lea will be the office manager. As we know, Lea is more than capable and knows WAS happenings. Please support her where possible thanks. At some stage, I will advertise this (eventually permanent) position so that everyone gets an opportunity to apply.

### **Feedback from our Student Survey:**

We have had a number of student surveys completed over the last 18 months. I've also received feedback from staff about the points that you have been raising with them.

Here are the things that we will be actioning from what you have told us/requested:

- Sandpit - this is going to be enlarged and covered by a lean-to/sun shade. There will be a concrete frame so that we can maintain the quality of the sand more effectively. There will be a wooden storage seat around it. We envisage this being completed all ready for the start of next year.
- Toys for sandpit - once the sand pit is up and running, the school will purchase a small amount of new toys and if there are some parents out there that would like to help me or the PTA apply for grants to get more toys, then that would be great.
- Covered seating area on the field opposite B Block - this will be for students to use for eating their lunch, watching sports and can be used for a BBQ area. The goal is to have this ready by the start of 2019.
- Swings - the PTA and WAS are working together to have a basket swing and two sets of swings. We aim to have these opposite the B Block primary classrooms near the sandpit and covered area. Grants need to be applied for and further fundraising will be required. This project will be completed once the funds are raised.





- Trampoline and other outside climbing equipment - We have discussed the possibility of having inbuilt trampoline. We need more discussions around this including the safety and monitoring aspects. We would value parent/caregiver feedback on this idea.
- Flying fox and bigger slide - Grants will need to be applied for to make projects like this happen. If successful, we would add these to our existing playground. This is another project that is on the wish list but is not a priority at the moment. In saying this, if there are parents out there that would like to look into funding options for this project then please make contact.
- More shows and trips - We regularly have Duffy in Schools performing at school. In Term 4 we have the Tales from the Farm author coming to school to do dramatic readings of her books to the junior school. We have had one overnight stay already this year and another one planned for the end of Term 3. There are school camps being organised and Mr Bennett will put out more details once they are finalised.
- Uniforms - the Board have asked for feedback on our jackets. Whether they are black or navy blue, phasing out the Warriors jackets, or/and having a uniformed black WAS jacket. We also know there are individuals who don't always wear the correct uniform and we are aware of this. The staff and I continue to work with these children and their families. We are very hopeful that the remainder of the students continue to wear the uniform with pride and keep up the high standards and good behaviour.
- Tracksuits, hoodies, t-shirts, singlets - We have already purchased junior and senior sets of tracksuits, hoodies and t-shirts for our students to wear when representing WAS. We have had positive feedback from the students and they look great. The hoodie can be purchased for \$40 (ask at the office) and be worn by the students in their own time. The Board and staff will look at whether students can officially wear the WAS hoodie instead of or over their jersey/polarfleece. We would appreciate further feedback on this.
- Rubbish/litter - We are trying to have students more accountable for their own rubbish and will keep promoting our school value, "respecting our environment". More rubbish bins have been made available around the school and there are allocated rubbish monitors to care for the environment.
- Trees, flaxes, gardens, more bark - We have employed Elaine and Judith to do lots of pruning and tidying up of our gardens. More bark has been placed on our playground and around the garden areas. This is been checked regularly to make sure that it remains at a high standard. The children have commented that they are respecting their environment more as a result of all of the property improvements that are occurring.
- Classrooms, environments and learning areas - When the property projects are completed, for example C Block demolition, we will be in a better position to work with the senior students to decide on what will be the best homerooms/learning areas for them - they currently utilise the computer room. We're very fortunate having the facilities that we do at WAS. We have purchased four sofas; one is in the admin block, one is in the senior room and two are currently in the staffroom. We have a number of learning areas that are set to get a revamp.



- Positive behaviour - we are continuing to work with students re their attitudes towards school and life in general. There has been an improvement with various strategies in place and we will continue to lift our game even further. Our younger students often look up to their bigger buddies and we want everyone to be great role models for each other.
- Breakfast/Lunch in schools - KidsCan continue to supply the school with weetbix, fruit and muesli bars along with black shoes and socks. Koha Kai will be having lunches available at \$2 a meal three days a week starting on Wednesday. We hope to see this continue next year therefore we have to work together to create a sustainable plan. If anyone is keen to volunteer their time to help out then please let me know.
- School counsellor - Miss Quinn, along with the staff, continue to support all students. There are individual cases where there is more one-on-one intervention required and we are currently working with outside agencies. There is a need to have a qualified school counsellor and we will continue to look for the right person.
- Student participation - We have tried over the last two years to continue and increase the opportunities for our students to be apart of. We have seen a positive mindshift change and our students are getting more involved. The level of participation and contributing to the school ethos of giving things a go is more evident now.
- 2019 - we will be looking at more face-to-face teaching in the Year 11+ as well as incorporating NetNZ (online teaching in various subject areas). Te Kura (correspondence school) is currently being used for some subjects and has its advantages/disadvantages that we do acknowledge.
- B Block - this is a sacred area for primary aged children only and we will continue to reinforce this to the Year 9+ students.
- School vegetable garden - Mrs Wilson and staff are on to this and will let you know closer to the time how this project is progressing. If you have any suggestions or would like to get involved let me know.
- WAS Staff and Board Wishlist - this has been created and prioritised. This means more resources, equipment, property upgrades, facilities etc will be actioned accordingly.

The changes at WAS are really encouraging and your child/ren are adding to the positive atmosphere that is growing here. We really appreciate your ongoing support as parents and friends of the school. We always appreciate your feedback and if there is a point from above that you would like to discuss further please feel free to contact me.

### Menu – October 2018

#### **Week 1: Beginning 15/10/2018**

Wednesday:	Option 1:	Beef Stew	Option 2:	Devilled Sausages
Thursday:	Option 1:	Chicken Pasta	Option 2:	Cottage Pie
Friday:	Option 1:	Spaghetti Bolognaise	Option 2:	Ambrosia

#### **Week 2: Beginning 22/10/2018**

Wednesday:	Option 1:	Beef Stroganoff	Option 2:	Bangers and Mash
Thursday:	Option 1:	Savoury Mince	Option 2:	Chicken Legs & Veggies
Friday:	Option 1:	Macaroni Cheese	Option 2:	Bread & Butter Pudding

#### **Week 3: Beginning 29/10/2018**

Wednesday:	Option 1:	Silverside & Veggies	Option 2:	Meatloaf & Veggies
Thursday:	Option 1:	Saveloys & Potato Salad	Option 2:	Mini Roast
Friday:	Option 1:	Obento	Option 2:	Steamed Pudding

**Have a good week.**

**Andrew PB - Principal**



## **Student Voice**

Welcome back to all students, who we've hoped had an awesome holiday. This is the last term for 2018, it feels like time has flown by, and we're already thinking of getting out those Christmas tinsels and decorations. On the last week of Term 3, we had a school sleepover and an art and cultural night. It was such a great way to showcase our students talent and artistic abilities, through singing, drama acts and much more. Then afterwards there was fireworks and ice cream for all those sleeping over. The activities planned for the next day included bubble ball, which was hired from a company in Invercargill, and also a bouncy castle for the juniors. For morning tea and lunch there was lolly cake, fruit kebabs and more refreshments to keep us going throughout the day, which were made by our very own junior students of our school. It was a great way to end the school term and we hope to have lots more enjoyable moments as the year draws to an end.

## **A Warm Welcome to:**

**Megan Kollat - Room 1 - New Entrant and Jake West - Room 3 - Year 4**

**Holly & Tekoa**

## Term Happenings

Mon 15th Oct	First Day of Term 4
Tues 16th Oct	Internet Safety Course for Senior Students - Ascot Park, Invercargill
Thurs 1st - Fri 2nd Nov	Seniors Seasonal Solutions Tour to Alexandra/Roxburgh
Fri 2nd Nov	Pet Day
Fri 2nd Nov	Seniors last day of term
Fri 9th Nov	Jennifer Somervill - Tales from the Farm author workshops with Year 1 - 8
Sun 11th Nov	Armistice Day Commemorations - Waiau T&C - 11am
Thurs 15th - Fri 16th Nov	Art REAP - Year 4 - 8 - WAS
Tue 20th - Thurs 22nd Nov	Room 3 & 4 and Year 9 & 10 (Yr 11+ optional) Camp Borland Lodge - TBC
Mon 26th Nov	Community Meeting - 6:30 pm - WAS Library - TBC
Tues 11th Dec	Whole School Prize Giving - 7pm - WAS Hall

## Students of the Week

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## Notices

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