



NEWSLETTER #1

TERM ONE – WEEK 2 MONDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2018

Dear Parents, Friends and Whānau

Haere Mai. Welcome to the new school year. It has been a double thumbs up for our first week back. Firstly, it was wonderful to see all of our children again, happy, excited and well rested after a glorious summer break. Secondly, it was brilliant to get some respite from the extreme heat and dry with a decent rainfall and cooler temperatures at the end of the week.

This is our first newsletter for the year. Each fortnight we send out a newsletter via email. They are also available on our website and school app. If you prefer to have the newsletter sent to you in hardcopy form, please contact Pauline at the office.

You may think that starting half way through the week would have been a gentle start to the year for everyone but Mrs Davies, Mr Brensell and Miss Keenan are all well into our 'Uniquely You' topic this term and have begun setting up their positive learning environments.

Congratulations are in order for Miss Aimee Keenan and her fiancée Chris Tong as they are expecting their first child around June/July this year. This is truly a double-edged sword for us as we are extremely happy for Aimee but will be saddened to lose her here at school. We wish them all the very best for the journey to come. I will keep you updated about Miss Keenan's replacement as well as the timeline of when all of these events will take place.

Our building work in R1&2 has not yet commenced. It is unclear at this stage what the hold up is but I have been promised a start date and timeline this week. When we have this information I will share it with you. If they are not starting for another few weeks, to utilise the larger classroom space the senior class will move back into R1 for the short term.

The PTA had again kindly organized swimming instruction for our students this term, but due to the boiler being out of action, the lessons have now been postponed until term four.

It truly is a great feeling to be back into the year and to have all of our children back in their new classes with new teachers. I am excited at the prospect of challenge in 2018 and look forward to collaborating with you all this year.

NB: Change of email address for Office/Pauline

It is now office@heriot.school.nz

Nga Mihi Nui
Colin McHutchon
Tumuaki (Principal)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tue 6 Feb	Waitangi Day (School CLOSED)
Fri 9 Feb	W/Otago Swimming Sports, Tapanui
Mon 19 Feb	Y5&6 Camp Columba Leadership Day
Tue 20 Feb	Teacher Only Day (School CLOSED)
Thu 22 Feb	BOT Meeting - Time TBC
Tue 27 Feb	W/Otago Athletics, BMC Sports Ground
Sun 11Mar	Weetbix Tryathlon, Dunedin
Tue 13 Mar	Eastern Zone Athletics, Gore
Mon 26 Mar	Otago Anniversary (School CLOSED)
Fri 30 Mar	Good Friday
Mon 2 Apr	Easter Monday
Tue 3 Apr	Easter Tuesday
Fri 13 Apr	Last Day of Term One

Whakatauki (Proverbs)

Tangata ako ana i te whare, te turanga ki te marae, tau ana

A person who is taught at home, will stand collected on the Marae (meeting house grounds)

A child who is given proper values at home and cherished within their family, will not only behave well amongst the family but also within society and throughout their life.

Important Information

School Hours

A reminder that school opens at 8.30am and closes at 3.45pm each day, unless prior arrangements have been made with a staff member.

Teacher Only Day

We will be having a 'Teacher Only Day' this term on Tuesday 20 February. This means that school will be **CLOSED** on this day. I realise Tuesday is not ideal but the Phonics course that we will all be attending is only on in Dunedin that day. I do apologise if this causes you any inconvenience.

Y5&6 Camp Columba Leadership Day

Mrs Davies has organised this activity for our seniors (Year 5 & 6 only) on Monday 19 February. An information sheet and permission slip will be sent home this week.

West Otago Athletics

The West Otago Athletics is to be held at the BMC Sports Ground on Tuesday 27 February (W5) this year. Tapanui School is organising the event and there will be more information as soon as it is available. The Eastern Zone Athletics are to be held in Gore on Tuesday 13 March (W7) this year.

CRE Starts

Christian Religious Education sessions will start again on Tuesday afternoons, from 1.30pm until 2.00pm, on 6 March – W6. If you would like your child to be excluded from these sessions please contact the school.

Otago Anniversary and Easter holidays

The school term runs for 11 weeks this term and Easter falls during the term. We do not get any choices from the Ministry of Education and there is no flexibility about whether we take these days or not. It means that we will have two, three day weeks close to the end of the term. Please check the calendar of events above for these dates.

Boiler

The boiler is still out of action. Investigations are underway into the whole system and the Ministry of Education are looking at either fixing or replacing the boiler. When a decision has been reached then I will share this with you.

Swimming Pool

The swimming pool will remain open as per usual. Please remember that it is not being heated by the boiler and relies solely on the sun to generate its warmth. Children are expected to bring their togs and towel in a named bag every day for swimming instruction.

Early Bus

A number of students take advantage of Mr Alexander's bus (the 'early bus') travelling from Heriot to Tapanui at approximately 2.50pm every day. Children are released from class at 2.45pm and they wait outside the school office on the field. When the bus pulls up at the gate they walk sensibly down to the waiting bus, out of the small gate to board. Riding on this bus (as with any school bus) is a privilege and not a right. So we expect that students waiting for the bus and travelling on the bus demonstrate respect and make sensible behaviour choices. Any consistent behaviour contrary to these expectations will result in a loss of privilege to travel on this bus.

Cyber Safety

Please see the attached flyer. John Parsons is extremely knowledgeable and the information evening is well worth attending.

Communication

You can contact Heriot School in a variety of ways; **Phone: 032042007** – this is a landline and we do not have a school cell phone. If no one answers please leave a message and someone will get back to you asap. **Email:**

Colin McHutchon (Principal) principal@heriot.school.nz

Pauline Cormack (Office Manager) office@heriot.school.nz (**NB: Change**)

Aimee Keenan (Junior Teacher) akeenan@heriot.school.nz

Lachlan Brensell (Middle Teacher) lbrensell@heriot.school.nz

Sarah Davies (Senior Teacher) sarah@heriot.school.nz

Carla Johnston (Teacher Aide) cjohnston@heriot.school.nz

Website: www.heriot.school.nz

School Application: School Apps - schoolapps.nz.co.nz

Sports – Swimming, Touch and Cricket

There are a few sports opportunities available to our students at the moment. Tapanui School is holding the **West Otago Swimming Sports** this Friday, 9 February. If you think your child would benefit from competitive swimming, can confidently swim 25M, and would like to attend please get in touch with us before 9.00am Wednesday morning. Any children attending will need transport to and from the event and parent supervision.

Touch starts again very soon, if anyone is interested in taking responsibility for this? Please let me know and we can gauge interest and organise here at school.

A **cricket** competition is starting in Gore as well and the Southland Cricket Association has developed this. Jack Hilton the Summer Cricket Development Officer is with us today taking some fun sessions with all three classes.

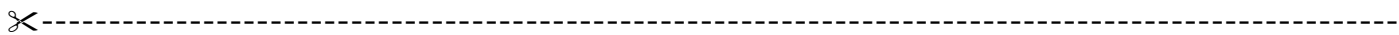
Buses and After School Activities

A couple of important notes about after-school activities and Bus Lists:

- Please remember to 'sign' your children off the relevant **Bus List** each time you pick them up after school (*or when they won't be travelling on their usual bus*). It can be quite time consuming and worrying at times having to search for children who have been collected by parents etc and we haven't been notified. The Bus Lists sit on the counter just inside the office door, unless a staff member has them outside lining children up ready for their buses.
- If we don't receive any form of notification from parents/caregivers before the buses leave each day, all children will be sent home on the bus as per usual.
- Remember to let us know of any changes at the start of each term as Bus Lists always stay the same from term to term unless you let us know otherwise!
- If your child/ren attend regular after-school activities each week, we can put a permanent note on the bus list so as to make it easier for both staff to 'find' children after school when doing bus duty and also to save you time as you don't have to 'sign' your child out on the bus list each time.



If you would like to have this done, please fill out the form (*on the next page*) and return to the office. Just remember that if circumstances change, *e.g. your child/ren stop going to this activity after school for whatever reason*, you need to let Pauline know so the bus list can be changed again.

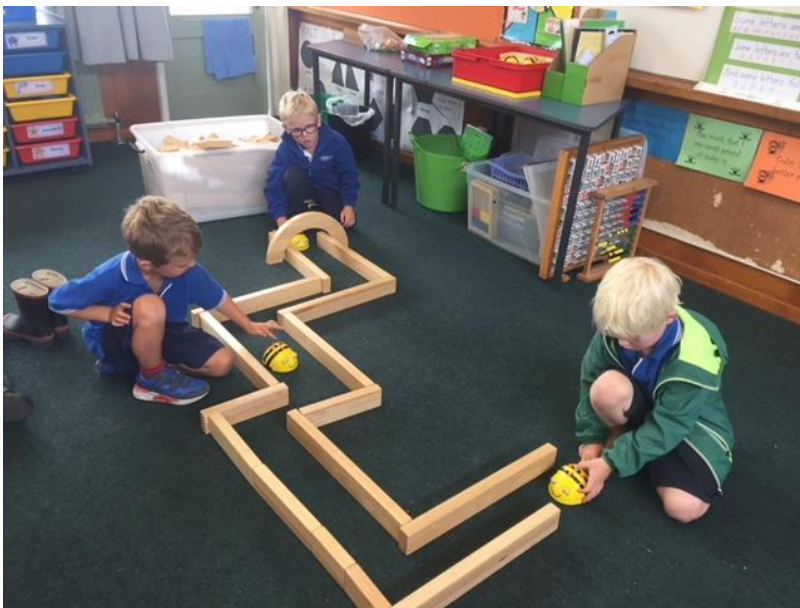
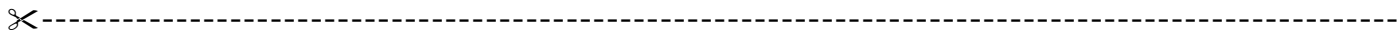


HERIOT SCHOOL – AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

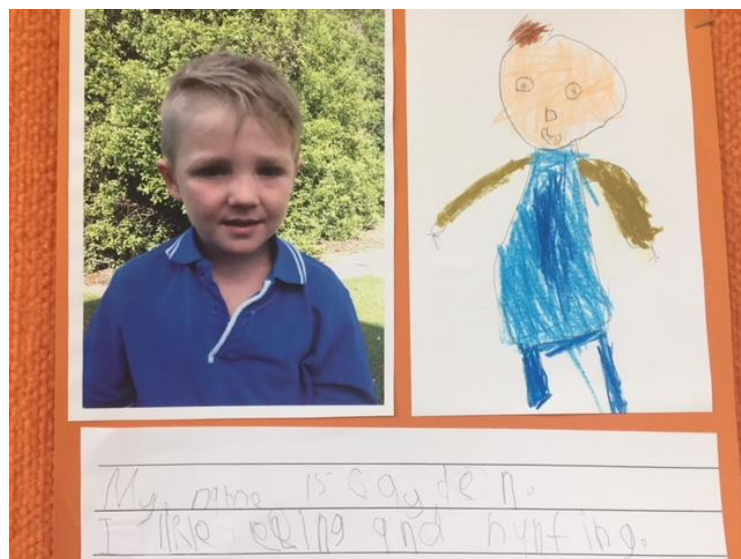
Childs Name	Activity	Day/Dates

My child/ren has permission to attend the above activities and will not be on the school bus on these days.

Signed: Date:



The Junior Room making tracks and programming her 'Bee-Bots'.



Cayden Green's Writing