

15 March 2017

KIA ORA KOUTOU

Year 5 and 6 Camp - What a great camp we experienced in the top 'o the South last week. The weather was great, the kids were amazing, all the activities went off without a hitch and all thanks to the fantastic parent help, Tania Langerveld who dedicated herself to running the catering and did a superb job as our waistlines are testament to! Also to the superb staff who went along - Pip Thompson and Richard Sheehan, and most importantly our Camp Organiser Pauline Roberts who ran a very exciting programme for us all!



Parent Meetings/ Seesaw - Next week will be parent/teacher meetings on Monday/Tuesday afternoon. We have a later session on Monday to help parents who arrive home later. This will be a “getting to know you” meeting and will also be a chance for us to discuss the Seesaw app with you and as we will be creating a wifi channel for parents for the evenings

to allow you to add the Seesaw app to your device if you do not have it already.

We have our very own “Seesaw Ambassador” in Cath Brattle. Cath is guiding us through the innovative use of Seesaw and we can all see the enormous value it can add to our communication as well as the increased importance it places on the roles of teachers, learners and parents. It has been great for me to see just how enthusiastic students and parents are about this amazing tool!

We will also be talking through Learning Maps if time allows to show you how your child has used this important tool and to discuss how we will be using them in the future.

So please book in now and bring your device along if you need help with the Seesaw app. (www.schoolinterviews.co.nz – code phsep).

Sand from the Sandpit Available - We are planning to clear out the school sandpit and replace the sand. If any parents could use the sand at home, eg for paving etc, then please let us know as otherwise we will have to arrange to dump it.



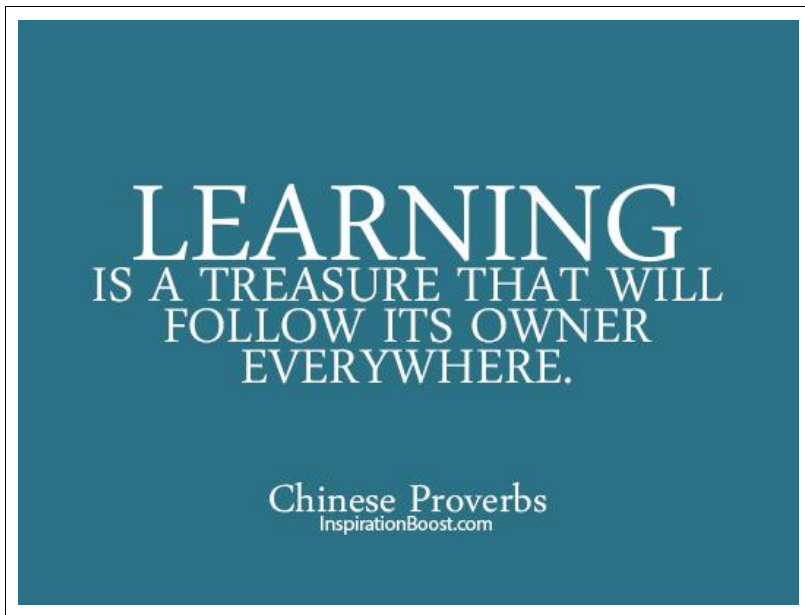
Swimming Lessons for Juniors -

The swimming lessons for our Juniors have been very popular and it has been great to see the 4 groups working at different levels in our pool. The instructors are doing a great job and it has allowed the teachers' time to observe the children's needs and record their progress - I am sure you can expect some videos on Seesaw soon!

Please ensure that children have their togs each day as they will miss out on their lessons.

The lessons run until the end of next week.

Plateau Facebook - All our blog posts, Flickr photos and recent school news are gathered on our Facebook page making it the “one stop shop” for school events. www.facebook.com/plateauschool



Support Staff / Schools Operational Grants – Our support staff attended a paid union meeting yesterday to discuss the progress (or lack of progress) in the negotiations for their collective agreement. Last year the government put a freeze on all schools’ operational grants. These grants fund the running costs of the school (all resources, cleaning materials, utility bills, and support staff wages).

Because of this freeze and due to inflation, schools are worse off than they were last year (by 2.3%). Due to this, some schools around the country have had to cut some support staff hours, and some have even been made redundant.

NZEI and the negotiation team have put forward a few claims for the new collective agreement, which have all been rejected.

On April 11th there will be a national action day, where support staff around New Zealand will be rallying, visiting MPs, putting photos and notices on social media, etc to get the message out there.

On 1st May, support staff will present a signed petition to Hekia Parata, asking her to unfreeze the schools operational grants. We need as many signatures as possible to show the government that schools cannot operate with a cut in funds, and that support staff are valuable members of staff. Below is a copy of the petition, and we would appreciate it if you

would get all your family, friends, neighbours, work colleagues, etc to sign it and return it to school before 12th April. There will also be copies available in each classroom and the school office. Alternatively, you can encourage everyone to sign online by going to www.betterfunding.org.nz and choosing the “Sign the petition to unfreeze the ops grant!” tab.

Netball - Registrations for the netball season close **this Friday 17th March**. No late registrations will be accepted. If your child (Year 3 - 6) is interested in playing, please register their name at the office by this date. At present, we do not have many students registered, which will have an impact on how many teams we have.

After school training sessions will be: Year 5/6 Wednesdays after school and Year 3/4 Fridays after school.

Training will start early April. Games are played on a Saturday morning at Heretaunga College, starting on the 6th May.

To register your child, please either ring the school on 526 9909, or email office@plateau.school.nz. Thanks.

Any other questions, please either see Tracy Powell, or phone the school. The season fees will be \$50 - this increase is due to Upper Hutt Junior Netball Club increasing their fees. Fees are payable before the end of Term 1.

Movin' March - We are into Movin' March, so look out for some fun events coming up that will involve decorating shoes or bikes/scooters and lots of other fun events.

As part of Movin' March can you please drop your children at the pou in the mornings whenever possible, as the use has dropped off noticeably and we want to get kids exercising as well as reduce the number of cars on Molloys Road.

All students who use the pou / walk to school will get a stamp in their Movin March passport. Let's see if we can increase the number of pou users to a record high!

We are training some new patrollers as well so the more customers the better!

Plateau School is taking part in
Movin' March 2017

What's happening?

Passports
Students have an opportunity to get their passport filled in for that they walk, run, cycle or scooter to school. We encourage you to drop your children off at that the Pou (they can also get their Pou to Pou challenge sheet marked off at the same time). Completing a passport this will put them in the draw to win...one of six brand new bikes and a helmet.

Wheels Day
Thursday 23rd March
Bring along your bike, scooter or skates to take part in Wheels Wednesday, (remember your helmets). A course will be set up for students to ride around. There will be a wheels parade and prizes on the day for dressing up your wheels.

Fancy Feet Friday
Friday 31st March
Decorate your shoes, using your imagination to make them look fancy. Walk to school in your creative shoes and then join in the school parade for spot prizes. Parents come and join in the fun, you can have a place in our parade. Let's make this a family event. Our shoes will make everybody go 'WOW'. There will be a prize for every child that takes part.

Parent Photo Competition
There is a photo competition for parents to get involved with Movin' March. Take a photo of your family's active journey to school and send it to schooltravel@gw.govt.nz or post it on their Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/movinmarch/> (ues #movinmarch so it can be seen) and go into the draw to win a family pass to your favourite [Wellington Wild Things](#) destination.

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Chocolates / Easter Egg Fundraiser – We still have a few boxes for sale. If you would like a box to sell, please call the school office. Profits from the sale of Chocolates / Easter Eggs will go directly to your child's camp (eldest sibling), or the EOTC trip at the end of the year.

Dates for your Diary

March

- Friday 17th - Last day for netball registrations
Monday 20th - Meet the Teacher Evening (3.20pm – 7.30pm)
- H2O Swimming lessons begin (Pukeko, Tui, Tuatara, Kiwi Rooms)
Tuesday 21st - Meet the Teacher Evening (3.20pm – 5.30m)
Wednesday 22nd - Capital E Trip (Kea & Ruru)

April

- Mon 10th & Tue 11th - School Photos
Thursday 13th - Last day of Term 1 (finishing at 3pm)

TERM DATES FOR 2017

- Term 1 - Tues 31st January – Thursday 13th April (102 half-days)
Term 2 - Mon 1st May – Fri 7th July (98 half-days)
Term 3 - Mon 24th July – Fri 29th September (100 half-days)
Term 4 - Mon 16th October – Fri 15th December (88 half-days)

A Teacher Only Day will be held on Friday 2 June 2017. (SCHOOL CLOSED)

PLATEAU SCHOOL 50TH SCHOOL REUNION - FRIDAY 25TH MAY AND SATURDAY 26TH MAY 2018. BOOK THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARY! PLEASE REMEMBER TO SHARE THE LINK TO THE PLATEAU 50TH REUNION FACEBOOK PAGE ON YOUR TIMELINE SO THAT WE CAN SPREAD THE NEWS FAR AND WIDE! (AND REGISTER YOUR INTEREST IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND!). DON'T FORGET TO "LIKE" AND "SHARE" OUR 50TH REUNION FACEBOOK PAGE! - www.facebook.com/plateau50



School Lunches – School lunches this week.
Thursday – Subway (\$5.00 mini sub pack, \$6.00 6" sub pack). **Friday – Sausage in bread / fish fingers in bread (\$1.50 each)**



School Lunches – The Friday lunch menu for Term One is below:

Term One, 2017		
Date	Lunch Offered	
10/2/2016	Pies (Mince or Mince & Cheese)	\$4.00
17/2/2017	Sausages / Fish Fingers in Bread	\$1.50
24/2/2017	Pies (Mince or Mince & Cheese)	\$4.00
3/3/2017	Sausages / Fish Fingers in Bread	\$1.50
10/3/2017	Sausages / Fish Fingers in Bread	\$1.50
17/3/2017	Sausages / Fish Fingers in Bread	\$1.50
24/3/2017	American Hot Dogs	\$2.50
31/3/2017	Sausages / Fish Fingers in Bread	\$1.50
7/4/2017	Cheese Burger / Works Burger*	\$4.00/\$5.00*
* Cheese Burger - \$4.00 / Works Burger - \$5.00		



ROAD SAFETY SPOT: SAFETY OF PLATEAU SCHOOL STUDENTS & THEIR FAMILIES: That driving too fast for the conditions is now the biggest cause of all crashes. So remember to drive to the conditions.



GREEN SPOT – Tips for greener, cleaner living. Everyday ways for us to help make a healthier planet – Re-use your shopping bag – When shopping, it saves energy and waste to use a reusable bag instead of accepting a disposable one in each shop. Waste not only discharges CO₂, and methane into the atmosphere, it can also pollute the air, groundwater and soil.



PUSH PLAY! – Take part in one of the local gym classes.

COMMUNITY NEWS

School Holiday Computer Classes - *For ages 5 – 15 in Minecraft, Learn to Code in Scratch or Python, Create 3D Games, Web Design, Animation, Video Editing or Build a PC and if young the Discovery Computer Class. For further information call 499-2211 or visit www.grandtraining.co.nz.*

Teacher required for school holiday computer class. - We require a teacher for our Minecraft, web design, Java, Python and Scratch coding classes in the school holidays.

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**Annette's Place** - One-on-one private teaching available for 4 to 8 years old. For those children who just need a bit extra for a while. Might be any sort of difficulty learning or a fine motor issue. One place available on Monday afternoons. [www.annettesplacenz.com](http://www.annettesplacenz.com)

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