

28 November 2017

KIA ORA KOUTOU

## *PRINCIPAL'S NEWS*

**Vacancies at Plateau School** - As mentioned last week we are looking at taking on a new member of staff in the role of librarian next year. The role will involve 12 paid hours per week and we will supply a Job Description on request. Could interested applicants please forward a letter or email applying for the role to [principal@plateau.school.nz](mailto:principal@plateau.school.nz) stating their skills and suitability for the role and how they see the importance of the role of librarian at Plateau School. We encourage interested applicants to visit the school and have a look at the library before applying.

The closing date for this role will be **Wednesday 6th December.**

We have had some interest in the BoT Secretary role and we will close this off this **Friday 1st December.** Please make your interest known if you are considering this role by that date again through email to [principal@plateau.school.nz](mailto:principal@plateau.school.nz)

**PB4L** - Next year Plateau will be a PB4L school. This stands for "Positive Behaviour For Learning". We are in a great place to put the programme into action given the use of Restorative Practice, Circle Time, our focus on our school values, and the fact that 6 of our 8 teachers have undertaken the "Incredible Years Teaching" Professional Development.

The programme is very intense and the following gives you a bit of an idea of the level of commitment:

To ensure the long-term success of PB4L School-Wide, your school will need to:

- have improvement of student behaviour and well-being documented as one of your school's top three priorities
- commit to at least 3-5 years development

- plan to fully implement systems and practices using data to meet all students' needs.

More information is available online here: <http://pb4l.tki.org.nz/>

**Donations 2018** - We are looking at an increase to our requested voluntary donations for 2018. The current rate has been in place for 10 years and we are well overdue an increase. School donations are crucial for small, fairly high decile schools such as ours (we are a decile 8), as higher decile schools receive less government funding per child. The average donation for Decile 8 schools in 2014 was over \$150 per student.

The board has opted to increase the donations as follows:

Families with 1 child at Plateau: \$110 (currently \$90)

Families with 2+ children at Plateau: \$160

This means we are still asking for donations far below the average for our decile rating but we also rely on grants (applied for by the school) and Home and School fundraising to cover the shortfall.

We appreciate your understanding that this has a direct effect on the level of extra resources we can provide.

**Grandparents Day** - Grandparents Day is on the 6th December (next Wednesday) and will involve performances as well as an opportunity for grandparents to connect with their grandchildren. We will start the day at 9:30 in the hall and will go until the end of Morning Tea (11am). We look forward to meeting and looking after some very important people in our children's lives.

**Days Bay** - We are off to the beautiful surroundings of Days Bay on the 7th December (next Thursday). We plan to spend the morning playing games on the fields and bush walking, and the afternoon on the beach as we did last year. We will have bus transport for students and parents will need to travel in personal vehicles. Expect a Signmee soon asking for permission and money for the bus as well as providing you with more details about the day. The cost is \$10 per student (capped at \$20 per family) and this will include an ice-cream.

The Home & School will also be providing students with a sausage in bread (they will still need to bring morning tea and something else to eat for lunch. (We may need some parent help with the BBQ).

Please pop this date in your calendar as it is a fantastic day out and well worth taking a day's leave for if you are able.

**Handle the Jandal Time!** - Summer is here and we are seeing a lot of students coming to school wearing jandals. While these are great for keeping feet cool they are hopeless for any activity that involves running - have you ever tried to run in jandals?! We start most days with a run as well as opportunities for sport throughout the day and at break-times, so this severely disadvantages students wearing inappropriate footwear as well as not providing the foot support needed during exercise. While they are a cheap alternative to "proper" shoes we would like to see our children wear suitable footwear for sport. They take their shoes off when in class so they stay cool.

**School Pool** - It is great to see our pool being used and the children taking advantage of the hot weather to use it to cool off! Keys for the school pool are available via the office for \$120. This means you will be able to use our pool through the summer and this helps pay for some of the costs of providing that service for our community. We continue to invest heavily in our school pool as we see it as a taonga that very few small schools have the luxury of. We replaced our chemical system with an automated dosing system this year at a cost of \$4500, we are currently looking at replacing the filter system at a cost of around \$11,500 and our heating system has just had a major overhaul at the weekend that will come in at well over \$1000. This coupled with the cost of managing the pool and buying chemicals may give you some idea of how much of a drain on our school finances that the pool is!

While it is an expensive resource that we receive no money from the Ministry to maintain, it is one we continue to develop and treasure as we all see the enormous effect it has on our tamariki. It is great to have Birchville School using the pool next term on a Wednesday and they do contribute towards the upkeep of the pool as well.

**Interesting Reading/Viewing** - There are a couple of videos below that reflects on latest thinking in children's development as well as a rather sad article that hits close to home about a parent whose child is "that" kid at school. Every school has "that" kid or rather usually more than one and it is a good indicator of how empathetic your community is in how that child is treated.

**Why children need stress | Kathryn Beckett**

[https://youtu.be/pf2gcxe13\\_M](https://youtu.be/pf2gcxe13_M)

**The crucial dyad relationship for infants | Nathan Wallis**

[https://youtu.be/\\_UWbCnv1vno](https://youtu.be/_UWbCnv1vno)

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/life-style/parenting/mums-life/99254287/what-its-like-to-be-the-mum-of-the-child-everyone-hates>

**50th Anniversary** - We are taking registrations now for our 50th Anniversary weekend next year: <https://www.facebook.com/plateau50/>

The events are on the 25/26 May and there are a range of options available to book in for and places are limited.

**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](http://www.facebook.com/plateauschool)

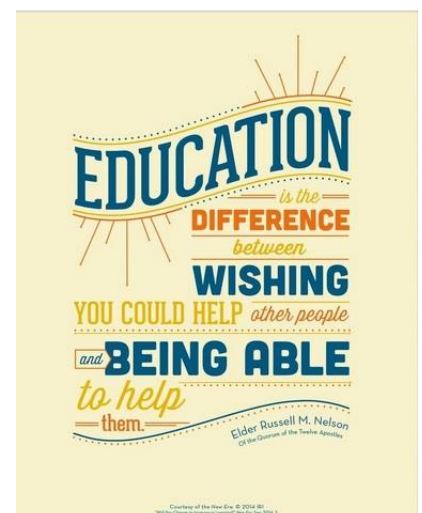
There are also two associated facebook pages and our Flickr page which has a TON of photos from different events for you to peruse:

<https://www.facebook.com/PlateauHomeandSchool/>

<https://www.facebook.com/plateau50/>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/plateauschool/>

We are also on Twitter (@plateauschool)  
And youtube as plateauschoolnz





**New Way of Ordering Subway!** - Subway have now moved over to a new lunch system, whereby parents now order and pay online for their child's lunch. Close off for each Thursday is 8.45am that morning. If you have not ordered online by this time, please contact the school.

From now on, to order please go to [www.subway.co.nz](http://www.subway.co.nz). Select "Online Ordering" then "Subway School Lunch Programme".

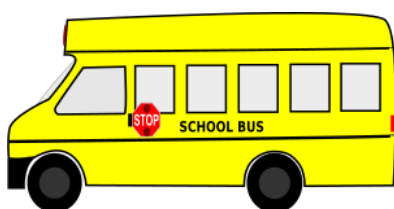
You will need to initially set up a log in, but once this is done, you will not have to do it again. Go through the ordering process (self-explanatory), and then pay for it by either debit card or credit card. The lunch will then be delivered to school as normal. If you have any issues with the ordering process, please contact 0800 782 273.

**If we get 50 online orders, Subway Rimutaka will donate sports equipment to our school, so make sure you give it a go this week!**

## *LIBRARY NEWS*

### **Term Four 2017**

This term for the library is our annual stock take and Summer Reading programme. Any library or school "Ready to Read" books found, it would be really appreciated if you could return them from now on.



**Finding school library books or journals? We appreciate them back anytime.**  
**Mobile library visits this term - if you have any Library Bus books to return, this can be done at our school library.**

## This year's summer reading programme:

In order to continue progress made throughout the year, it is important to encourage children to keep reading over the summer break.

This year the students have made magnets promoting reading.

To follow there will be a Signmee asking permission for your child/children to select books from the school library. We would love that to be our biggest response yet.



Thank you for your support and encouragement for the students' reading.

**Happy Reading from Mrs Davidson**

## *OTHER NEWS*

**School Sun Hat** - All students are now required to wear sun hats whenever they are outside. We have school sun hats available for purchase in the school office (\$15.00 each). Please call in and have a look.



**Grab 'n' Go Bags** - Did you miss an opportunity to see the baskets?

They are made from spaghetti yarn, which is repurposed salvages, 90% cotton and 10% polyester. Great for a grab 'n' go bag:

- Sturdy
- Colourful
- Easy to squash and reshape
- And for gift giving.



All proceeds before Christmas go to Plateau School (Small - \$10, Medium - \$15, Large - \$25).

**Year 5/6 Camp Meeting for Parents** - There will be an information evening / presentation for parents of the 2018 Year 5's & 6's that will be attending camp at Makahika in March next year. Sally Duxfield, director of the camp, will be here to talk to parents and answer any questions. This meeting will be held in Ruru at 6.30pm tonight. We hope you can all make it.

**Strawberry Plants** - We have some donated strawberry plants that need new homes before the end of term! It would be great if families could 'adopt' a strawberry plant or two and give them a new home. Please take one (or more) from the selection in the greenhouse, or in the garden bed by the wooden fence. A donation of 50c/punnet would be appreciated; payable at the school office. Many thanks!

## ***DATES FOR YOUR DIARY***

### **November**

Tues 28<sup>th</sup> - Year 5/6 Camp 2018 Information Evening, 6.30pm

### **December**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> - Regional Athletics Day

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> - Grandparents Day

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> - Whole School Day out - Days Bay

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 Leavers Function

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> - End of Year Concert (5.30pm - 7pm)

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> - Maidstone Intermediate Year 6 Classroom Placement  
Afternoon Visit (3pm - 7pm)

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> - Last Day of Term 4 - finishing at 12pm (No After School Care)

### **TERM DATES FOR 2018**

Term 1 - Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> February - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April (96 half-days)

Term 2 - Mon 30<sup>th</sup> April - Fri 6<sup>th</sup> July (98 half-days)

Term 3 - Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> July - Fri 28 September (100 half-days)

Term 4 - Mon 15<sup>th</sup> October - TBA

## SCHOOL LUNCHES



**School Lunches** – School lunches this week:

**Thursday** – Subway (\$5.00 mini sub pack, \$6.00 6” sub pack). See above for ordering instructions.

**Friday** – Sausage in Bread / Fish Fingers In Bread (\$1.50 each)



**ROAD SAFETY SPOT: SAFETY OF PLATEAU**

**SCHOOL STUDENTS & THEIR FAMILIES:**

When picking up or dropping off your children:

After school, walk to the school gate to meet your children and walk them to the car.



**PUSH PLAY!** - Use active transport for a week - instead of driving to school, get a group of you to walk, ride, skate or scooter from Monday to Friday! Remember to wear your helmet!



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**GREEN SPOT** - Tips for greener, cleaner living.

Everyday ways for us to help make a healthier planet - Burning fossil fuels such as natural gas,

coal, oil, and gasoline raises the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, and carbon dioxide is a major contributor to the greenhouse effect and global warming. You can

help to reduce the demand for fossil fuels, which in turn reduces global warming, by using energy more wisely - Less driving means fewer emissions. Besides saving gasoline, walking and biking are great forms of exercise. Explore your community mass transit system, and check out options for carpooling to work or school. Even holidays can provide opportunities to reduce your carbon footprint.





# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Ten ideas to celebrate Christmas

Celebrations, such as birthdays, Christmas and cultural celebrations are particularly valued by schools as a way to bring children, their whānau and the wider community together. But with so many special days to celebrate throughout the year, 'treat' foods can take over the focus.

With Christmas just around the corner, here are ten fun ideas to put a healthy spin on the festive season (that don't involve marshmallow Santas or candy canes!).

1. Make snow globes using old jars, white glitter and water. Use glue to secure the lid to the jar.
2. DIY Christmas trees and decorations
3. Tug of war with a giant Christmas cracker
4. Make snowmen using strawberries and yoghurt
5. Santa-sack race and reindeer races
6. Make a Christmas veggie tray using green and red vegetables
7. Cut fruit and vegetables into festive shapes
8. Give to those in need – raise money for food bank, City Mission, Salvation Army, KidsCan
9. Learn and sing Christmas carols with actions
10. Plan and perform a Christmas dance.

For more suggestions on how to make healthy eating an integrated part of [your celebrations](#), check out our collection of delicious recipes such as [courgette pizza](#) or [frozen yoghurt ice blocks](#).

So to wrap up 2017, here is one last Fuelled4life update. Continue reading for summer inspiration to share with parents and tips to keep children active over the school holidays.

Enjoy!

Managed by the Heart Foundation, Fuelled4life is based on the Ministry of Health's Food and Beverage Classification System and is a free practical tool giving early learning services and schools a head start to providing healthier food.

Foods, beverages and recipes are classified according to their nutrient profile and are categorised into two levels; everyday and sometimes.

For people involved in selecting foods and drinks for canteens, vending machines, fundraisers, school camps, special events and early learning service menus, Fuelled4life identifies the healthier options.

### BROWSE OUR NEW FISH AND SEAFOOD RECIPES



#### Five ways with asparagus

Looking for ideas on what to do with asparagus? We only have a short window to enjoy this delicious fresh veggie (luckily there are canned variety year-round!). Enjoy these top tips and tasty recipes like [Asparagus rolls with skordalia](#).



#### Keeping kids active during the holidays

The summer holidays are fast approaching. A change in routine can affect our eating and activity habits. For children, this can be the case during the school holidays.

Here are [our tips](#) to keep kids active during the holidays - great ideas to share with parents.



#### Save a life in 90 minutes

Every 90 minutes another Kiwi dies from heart disease, but by coming together and shaking a bucket in your community we can make more life-saving research into heart disease possible. Can you and your colleagues spare 90 minutes of your time to volunteer as a street collector on Friday 23 and Saturday 24 February? [Click here to find out how.](#)

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