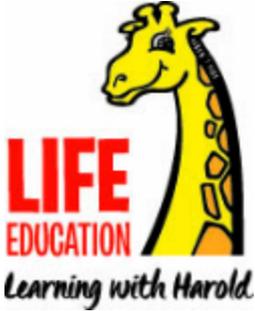


Kia ora koutou

PRINCIPAL'S NEWS



Life Education - We welcome back the Life Education truck this week. All students will be attending twice this week. It is always exciting for our students to be challenged with new learning in a different environment, then there is the appearance of Harold the Giraffe to look forward to! Andrea in the Life Education Truck is a wonderful teacher, and has fitted the programmes in well with what we are covering in class to complement our learning programmes.

You are welcome to find out more by attending the parent session today at 2:40, or by heading to the Life Education website: <http://www.lifeeducation.org.nz/PARENTS.html>.

These sessions are paid for out of the performers budget that you are invoiced for at the beginning of the year (along with the stationery and other expenses). For those of you who have just paid for stationery alone, please send along \$5.00 per child to school to cover the cost of this, or alternatively, you can pay via internet banking into: Plateau School BOT, 01-0771-0207296-000. Please use your name and Life Ed as a reference. Many thanks.

New Bell Times - The change in bell times, while it is early days, have proved popular among children and teachers. The 4 hour long learning sessions make it much easier to fit in the learning we need to get through. We have found it is important that children eat something at both the breaks before the longer lunch break, as they will get hungry if they hold out until 1:15.

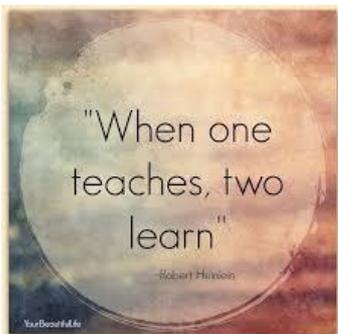
While we have not had to be "food nazis" and mandate how much and what children should eat, we encourage you to ensure your child eats in a balanced way, so please reinforce this at home by talking to them about what good food choices might look like at those breaks - eg a scone in one break and a piece of fruit in the other. This will help back up what teachers are talking through with them.

Tiniball/Miniball - As I have not heard from anyone who is willing to run a team, we are unable to enter any teams into this term's competition.

Flippaball - We are back into Flippaball this term. This is a very popular sport at Plateau and is limited to year 5 and 6 students, as height is an important factor. I will be meeting with students who would like to continue the proud tradition of representing Plateau in the pool this season, and I am also requiring parents that can manage teams at the pool to put their names forward.

The closing date for entries is the 20th February, so the process will start this week. If you receive a Signmee asking for permission for your child to join a team, please respond straight away so we can get our team entries done in a timely fashion.

The cost for the season is \$34, and that includes a free swim before or after the game. Many students opt to catch the bus down to Expressions (\$2) as this delivers them in time for even the early games, and it is good for their independence as well.



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. Class blogs are posted to the page for you to read and comment on. We have 645 "likes" as of the 7th February. www.facebook.com/plateauschool

School Lunches - School lunches will start this week. Unfortunately we did not get any offers of help for the sausage / fish finger lunches on a Friday, so they will not be offered this term. We will review it again next term (if you can spare an hour on a Friday approximately twice a term, please let the office know - thanks).

However, we will still be offering pies and Home & School lunches once a fortnight on a Friday (except for Year 5/6 camp week). Attached below is a roster for this.

Subway lunches will start this Thursday. Please ensure your child puts their order in the green box outside the office, or hands it into the office before school starts.

Before / After School Care - Just a reminder that our Before School Care operates from 7.30am to 8.30am and our After School Care runs from 3pm to 6pm. Please ensure your child/ren are picked up by this time. Time sheets showing the balance owing will be emailed to you at the beginning of each month for the previous month's attendance. You may pay the amount owing when you receive the time sheet, or alternatively you are welcome to either make regular payments or ring the school office for a balance.

Year 5/6 Camp 2017 - This takes place in March. You will have received an invoice for this at the beginning of the year. Thank you to those of you who have paid this already, and a reminder to those of you who haven't - we would appreciate payment by the due date. Many thanks.

Hats - A reminder that it is compulsory for all students to wear a sunhat when they are outside during terms 1 and 4. We have school hats available for purchase in the school office (\$16 each).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

February

Tues 7th - Fri 10th - Life Education Bus
Thursday 9th - Subway Lunches Start
Friday 10th - Friday Lunches start (Pies - Mince or Mince & Cheese)
Wednesday 15th - Year 5/6 Camp Parent Meeting, 6.30pm
Monday 27th - Sea Week

March

Sun 5th - Fri 10th - Year 5/6 Camp
Monday 20th - Goal Setting Evening (3.20pm - 7.30pm) - Details of how to book
Tuesday 21st - Goal Setting Evening (3.20pm - 5.30pm) in will be in next week's
newsletter.

April

Thursday 13th - Last day of Term 1 (finishing at 3pm)

TERM DATES FOR 2017

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

A Teacher Only Day will be held on Friday 2 June 2017.

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

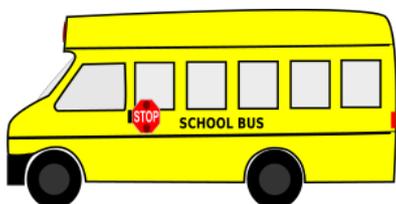
EVERY THURSDAY - SUBWAY (\$5.00 MINI SUB PACK, \$6.00 6" SUB PACK). - More order forms are available on Grabmee to print.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Welcome back to term one of 2017.

Students who have completed their Summer Reading Journals can start returning them to their classroom teachers. We will be talking about their journals when class library visits resume. Thanks again for encouraging students to keep up their reading throughout the Christmas break. Return all summer reading books from now on please.

Mobile Library visits start on Thursday 9th February. The bus will be run by PJ Brambley. If you have any Library Bus books to return, please pop them back as soon as possible. This can be done at our school library.



Thank you for your support and encouragement for the students' reading. Looking forward to another great year of reading and exploring.

Happy Reading from Mrs Davidson

LUNCH MENU TERM ONE – 2017

LUNCHES - TERM 1 2017		
Please find below the roster for Friday lunches for term 1. It might be a good idea to put it on your <u>fridge</u> , If there are any changes they will be published in the newsletter.		
It would be very helpful if the orders are sent in a resealable named plastic bag, which will be returned each time <u>to your child for re-use</u> (no more hunting round for envelopes!).		
Term One, 2017		
Date	Lunch Offered	
10/02/2016	Pies (Mince or Mince & Cheese)	\$4.00
17/02/2017	No Lunches	
24/02/2017	Pies (Mince or Mince & Cheese)	\$4.00
3/03/2017	No Lunches	
10/03/2017	No Lunches	
17/03/2017	No Lunches	
24/03/2017	American Hot Dogs	\$2.50
31/03/2017	No Lunches	
7/04/2017	Cheese Burger / Works Burger*	\$4.00/\$5.00*
* Cheese Burger - \$4.00 / Works Burger - \$5.00		

ROAD SAFETY SPOT

Did you know ... That children cannot accurately judge traffic speed? Never call to your child from across the other side of the road, as they may run across to get to you.

GREEN SPOT

Tips for greener, cleaner living. Everyday ways for us to help make a healthier planet –

Be sure you're recycling at home - You can save 1000kg of carbon dioxide a year by recycling half of the waste your household generates.

PUSH PLAY

Adding variety to a fitness programme is a good way to keep motivated:

Vary the time - Do your exercises at different times and for different amounts of time. If you become bored with your noon walk, try exercising in the early morning or after work or school. Instead of doing one 45 minute session, do three 15 minute sessions.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Can your child swim?

As we spend more time enjoying water around New Zealand, the drowning rates are on the increase. This is the main reason I became a qualified swim instructor – to help save lives!

At Swim Stars, I offer 5 weekly half hour swim lessons (from Thursday 9th February and Saturday 11th February) for \$55. Lessons are held at Plateau School pool.

This year, I am offering 2 fully paid scholarships for 5 weekly half hour lessons (please contact me directly for further information).

Preschool

parents in the water with children

Beginner

No previous swimming or aquatic experience
Perfect for nervous students
Introduction to basic skills

Floater

Learning to float on front and back for 10 secs
Perfect for students that need to learn stroking

Glider

Can float on front and back for 10 secs
Can swim 3m
Learn breathing techniques

Pro

Can take 3 rolling breaths
Can swim 1 length Freestyle and backstroke
Simple breaststroke

For more information or to book lessons, please contact

Arna Hannan 027 562 9471

Facebook: Swim Stars

Marrzipan Drama

Is your child shy? Do they feel intimidated by the idea of public speaking and performance? Do they sometimes find it difficult to make eye contact? Do they just need dedicated time per week to just be CRAZY?!

Come and join the revolutionary self-confidence programme - Marrzipan! We run awesome drama classes at school, which focus on key life skills and public speaking ability. We play fun engaging games and perform at the end of term - once to parents, and once to the school. All scripts are original, engaging, educational and HILARIOUS.

All children receive a certificate too to remind them they are awesome! You can sign your child up for a Trial Lesson via our website www.marrzipandrama.co.nz or contact Jex on 027 217 0693.

Upper Hutt Toy Library

Annual Fundraising Toy Garage Sale

25th February 2017, 8am onwards at the Toy Library
18A Logan Street, (opp Cossie Club)
Donated and ex-toy library toys for sale

We also welcome and appreciate any donations for this event. (Please no soft toys)

Toys can be dropped off at 18A Logan Street (opp Cossie Club) or contact us for pick ups.

Ph: 528 7282 or e-mail: upperhutttoylibrary@gmail.com

Opening hours: Tuesday 10-12am, Thursday 12-2pm and Saturday 10am-1pm

Website: <https://upperhutttoylibrary.setls.com.au/>

Junior Hockey Fun Day

Come along and experience the fun of hockey!

- All children aged 4-13 and all experience levels welcome
- Take part in a range of fun activities including: obstacle course, take on a senior goalie, and hit the target
- Coaches available to assist beginners
- Equipment will be available for those who do not have it
- Registration information available

**Maidstone Hockey Turf, Park Road
Sunday, 26 February 2017
10.00am-12.00pm (Rain or shine)**



Any queries or for further information, email upperhuthockey@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page

Arts a Go Go!

Performing Arts School for Kids is still accepting new enrolments for term 1. Our full programme for babies right through to advanced classes for teens runs in Upper Hutt @ The Spot, Fergusson Dr, and we also run classes in Tawa. We offer dance, drama and singing combo classes, drama only classes, Irish Dancing, kids' yoga, Little

Mozarts music, high quality stage shows, workshops and more. Please see www.artsagogo.co.nz for more details. Please email rachel@artsagogo.co.nz or contact on 021 144 1641. We'd love to see you along for a free trial class!

Lantern Festival

February 11th

The Lantern Festival marks the end of Chinese New Year, or Spring Festival as it is called in China. It is celebrated on the fifteenth day of the first month in the lunisolar Chinese calendar.

In the Gregorian calendar the date varies year by year, this year it falls on February 11th. In Auckland and possibly elsewhere public celebrations will start on the 9th.

The main activities of the festival are enjoying the full moon, lighting and admiring lanterns, and solving riddles written on lanterns. Traditionally people eat *yuanxiao*, a dumpling ball made of sticky rice flour stuffed with different fillings. The recipe for the filling varies in different parts of China.

Why is it called Lantern Festival? There are many different stories told. One is that a couple of thousand years ago, to show respect to Buddha, Emperor Han Mingdi ordered that everyone should hang lanterns outside their homes on the full moon night of the first month of the Chinese calendar.

Another popular tale, a little more fanciful perhaps, is that a villager accidentally killed a beautiful bird that had flown down from heaven. This angered the Jade Emperor in Heaven and he ordered that the village be burned to the ground, and the people with it. The villagers got word of this and were in despair but an old man had an idea. He suggested that, if everyone hung lanterns outside their homes and set off fireworks the Emperor might be deceived into thinking the village was afire. The trick worked, and ever since Chinese people have commemorated the lucky escape by lighting lanterns at the same time of year.

For more information on the Lantern Festival, and more background stories, visit these sites:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lantern_Festival

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6a8JPE6l-Lw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DkOUgNigUQg>