

13 November 2018

KIA ORA KOUTOU

## *PRINCIPAL'S NEWS*

**Signmee Messaging** - As a way of communicating with parents and caregivers, we are seeing that our use of Signmee is in the main very successful. Our major headaches, however, occur when the communication through Signmee is not followed up at home. As an example, we recently sent home a simple message asking if children could go to the Athletics and whether parents could help out with transport. While many people did respond, approximately 10 of the 30 children involved did not have a response. This meant our office staff spent an hour ringing around parents ensuring that we had permission.

It is a difficult situation in that we want children to take part, but also need parents to take responsibility to respond to communications as the school office is too busy to spend that amount of time following up communication. In future we will have to adopt an approach that if we have not heard from parents, then we will assume that is a "NO" in terms of permissions.

**Swimming** - The pool is now open for swimming and as the weather has heated up it will provide welcome cooling for the children!

Please ensure your child has togs, a towel and a swim hat every day so that



they are able to use the pool.

**Zoo Trip** - We are planning our whole school zoo trip which will be on the 6th December. We have sent out a Signmee today asking for parent helpers to ensure we have enough adults on the trip. Last time we headed to the zoo in 2013 it was a fantastic day out for everyone.



**Headphones** - We have taken delivery of our "Moki" Headphones for students to use with the Plateau School Board/Rimutaka Trust provided Chromebooks next year. These are a high quality headphone with a detachable cable and noise limiting for safety. All students will require headphones for 2019 in the Senior school (Kiwi, Paua, Kea and Ruru).

We have managed to secure these at a great price - \$15. They are sold elsewhere for up to \$29;

<https://www.jbhifi.co.nz/headphones-speakers-audio/moki/moki-kids-over-ear-headphone-blue-red/279018/>

If you would like to make these a Christmas present we have 3 different colour combinations, and feel free to come in and choose the combination that you think your child will like. (They are shown below).



**Industrial Action** - Just a quick reminder that on the 16th November ( Friday this week), teachers will again be taking strike action. The Board will be closing

the school due to all our teachers being in the NZEI Union and therefore taking Industrial action:

*Dear Parents/Caregivers*

*At this stage a teachers' strike will be going ahead on the 16th November for the full school day.*

*If the situation changes, we will advise you as soon as we are able to.*

*Assuming the strike does go ahead the school will close for the full day (including before and after school care) so parents and caregivers will need to make alternative arrangements.*

*We understand that this will be an inconvenience for some parents and caregivers. We looked at our opportunities to stay open but decided that we can't practically do so in a way that's safe for all children. We also support our teachers, the great work they do every day for our tamariki, and what they are striking for.*

*We recognise their right to take action if they think it is necessary.*

*More information about the rolling teachers' strikes across the country is available from [www.nzei.org.nz](http://www.nzei.org.nz).*

*Regards*

*Tim Hewitt*

*Board Chair*

*(On behalf of the Board)*

**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.flickr.com/photos/plateauschool/>

We are also on Twitter (@plateauschool)

And youtube as plateauschoolnz

## *CAMP NEWS*

### Fundraising for Year 5/6 Camp 2019 - We

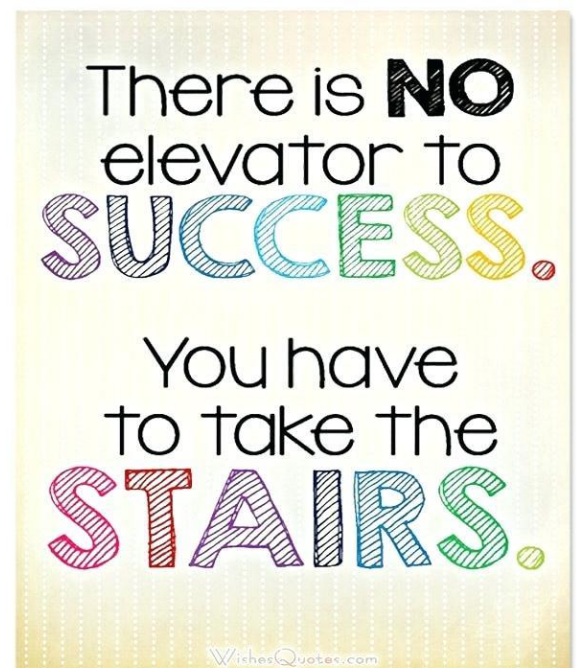
will be running a Quiz Night at the Tote on Wednesday 28th November, 7.30pm start.

Tickets will be \$10 each and are now

available from the office. For all food and beverage sales, we receive 20%, as well as the \$10 entry fee. This promises to be a fun night out, so gather your friends and register now. (Bring some extra coins for the raffle and to pay for your answers!).

At the moment we haven't had any interest shown in this, so if you intend coming, can you please let us know by next Wednesday, 21st November so that we know whether to go ahead with this fundraiser or not. Thanks.

Parent Helpers on Year 5/6 Camp - Thank you to all those parents who completed the application form to be a parent helper on our Year 5/6 2019 camp. Applications have now closed, and we will be selecting our parents shortly, so you will be notified once we have worked out who will be attending.





**Year 3/4 Camp 2018** - This takes place on Thursday 22nd & Friday 23rd November. Please ensure you log on to Signmee and complete the necessary forms. Thanks.

## ***HOUSE-KEEPING***

**Medical Certificates Required** - If your child is absent from school due to illness for 5 or more days, we require you to produce a medical certificate for us to keep on file. Thanks.

**Toys at School** - We understand that children want to bring their special toys to school to show their friends. However, we discourage this as, more often than not, the toys end up broken or missing, which is very upsetting for the children and they can also cause a distraction in class. Please support us in this by ensuring your children do not bring their toys to school, as we take no responsibility for broken, lost or missing toys. Thanks.

**Absences** - If your child is going to be absent from school, please ensure you notify the school by 8.45am. We have a dedicated answer phone message for leaving an absence. Please remember to state your child's name, room and the reason for the absence. If you do not give a reason, we have to record your child down as an unjustified absence. Medical certificates are required for 5 or more days away from school due to sickness.

**After School Care** - Please remember to book your child into After School Care on the days that they will be attending (unless they are regulars). We need to know who is supposed to be attending for the safety of our students.

Also, if your child is regularly in on a particular day and they won't be there for some reason, please let us know. We appreciate your support. Thanks.

Before School Care operates between 7.30am and 8.30am and After School Care starts at 3pm and closes at 6pm. All children must be collected by 6pm at the latest.

**Parking** - Just a reminder that parking is not permitted in the school grounds between the hours of 8am - 4pm. Thanks.

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

### **November**

- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> - BOT Meeting, 7pm
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> - Teachers' Strike Action Day (SCHOOL CLOSED)
- Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> - Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> - Brookfield Camp (Years 3 & 4)
- Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> - Danish Rounders (Kea & Ruru)
- Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> - Quiz Night Fundraiser at the Tote (7pm) -\$10
- Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> - Danish Rounders Postponement Date

### **December**

- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> - Whole School Zoo Trip
- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Concert (5.30pm - 7.30pm)
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 Leaving Party, (6pm - 8pm)
- Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> - Last Day of Term 4 (finishing at 12pm)

### **TERM DATES FOR 2019**

- Term 1 - Mon 4<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April (98 half-days)
- Term 2 - Mon 29<sup>th</sup> April - Fri 7<sup>th</sup> July (98 half-days)
- Term 3 - Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> July - Fri 27<sup>th</sup> September (100 half-days)
- Term 4 - Mon 14<sup>th</sup> October - TBC (94 half-days)

## ***HOME & SCHOOL NEWS***

**Tea Towels** - Your children have drawn a portrait of themselves for our bi-annual Tea Towel fundraiser. These make fabulous Christmas gifts and will be available shortly. These can be pre-ordered. The cost is \$10.00 and you can make payment either by cash to the school office, or directly into the Home and School bank account - Plateau Home & School Assn Inc, 03-0774-0021243-

000. Please use your name and tea towel as a reference. Please note this is a different account number to the school account.



## *SCHOOL LUNCHESES*



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

**Thursday** – Subway (\$5.00 mini sub pack, \$6.00 6" sub pack). To order please go to

[www.subway.co.nz](http://www.subway.co.nz). Select "Online Ordering" then "Subway School Lunch Programme". Close off for orders is 8.45am that morning.

If you have any issues with the ordering process, please contact 0800 782 273.



**Friday** – NO SCHOOL LUNCHES THIS FRIDAY DUE TO THE TEACHERS' STRIKE.

***STAY SAFE / GET FIT / HELP OUR PLANET...  
TIPS FOR THE WEEK***



**ROAD SAFETY SPOT: SAFETY OF PLATEAU SCHOOL STUDENTS & THEIR FAMILIES: Safety Belts - Did you know:** All children aged under seven must be secured in an approved child restraint when travelling in cars or vans.



**PUSH PLAY!** - Have a BBQ at home and while the food's cooking, play some touch rugby before enjoying a healthy meal.

