



Our vision is to develop confident lifelong learners

Wakefield School Values

S Show respect
T Take responsibility
A Aim high
N Never give up
D Do the right thing

Newsletter 9 February 2012

PRINCIPALS INTRODUCTION

Welcome Back!

A very warm welcome to all the new students and parents to the Wakefield school community. Students will be able to enjoy the benefits of the modern mobile dental clinic with its state of the art technology until 24 February 2012. The new procedures do require that a parent attends the clinic with their child. A small inconvenience for a free oral health service!

Please contact the friendly dental team on 0800 833 846 if you have any queries or concerns regarding your child/children.

The mobile clinics appearance has unfortunately affected progress on the new junior playground. The preparation has been started and the construction proper will happen during the term. So the children will see the playground rise before their eyes.

I wish to welcome new staff members to Wakefield school,

- Hugo Weaver joins us from Tahunanui School and will join the Whitby Syndicate teaching a Yr 4-5 class in Room 6.
- Kirsty Jones joins us from Tapawera/Maruia and will join the Whitby Syndicate teaching a Yr 6 class in Room 1.
- Anne Gardner joins us from Waiiau School in North Canterbury and will join the Clifford Syndicate teaching a Yr 0-1 class in Room 12.

I look forward to meeting parents at the coming events, like the meet the teacher evening, the swimming sports or on a school camp.

Peter Ross
Principal

STAFF NEWS

Leadership Team

The school's leadership team supports the Principal and consists of;

↻ Deputy Principals:

Sue McLaren and acting Deputy, Kathy Granger

↻ Syndicate Leaders:

Sue McLaren, Kathy Granger and Melissa Campbell

Classes for 2012

We extend a warm welcome to all our returning teaching staff. The school organisation looks like this;

Whitby Syndicate – Year 4 – 6

Kirsty Jones	Room 1
Tash Hinds	Room 2
Kathy Granger (Leader)	Room 3
Lyn Smith	Room 5
Hugo Weaver	Room 6

Arrow Syndicate – Year 2 – 3

Julie McIntosh	Room 7
Bek Gabities	Room 8
Paula Rowland	Room 14
Melissa Campbell (Leader)	Room 15

Clifford Syndicate – Year 0 -1

Sue McLaren (Leader)	Room 9
Isobel Ford	Room 11
Anne Gardner	Room 12
Tim Goulter	Room 13

Support Staff

Additional staff working in our school as an integral part of our organisation include:

Reading Recovery/Second Language Extension Programme

☆ **Mrs Mary McHale** is running the Reading Recovery Programme. In addition Mary will also run an extension second language programme learning French.

Learning Centre/ICT Support

☆ **Mrs Shona Rees** works in our Learning Centre maintaining the library systems, the library database and the school's ICT infrastructure.

☆ **Ms Kathy Ameen** assists Shona in running the library, is the school Sports Coordinator and runs an adapted PE program.

Learning Support 2012

☆ **Delyth Jones** Who is assisting with the day to day running of the Library.

☆ **Mrs Ann Baker &**

☆ **Mrs Leanne Turner**

Who both work as teacher aides supporting children in their learning.

Administration Support

☆ **Mrs Petra Alford** is the school's Administration Officer and is responsible for the smooth running of the school's office, financial and administrative systems. Petra will also be the board Secretary.

☆ **Mrs Allison Donaldson &**

☆ **Mrs Janine Thompson**

Who both work as Administration Assistants supporting the office.

Caretaking & Cleaning

☆ **Mr Bruce Puklowski** is our school caretaker, grounds man, cleaner and runs the school pool during school time.

☆ **Gail Brown** is employed by Spotless Facility Services who are contracted to the school to assist Bruce with the cleaning.

School Chaplain

☆ **Mr Malcolm Irvine** is our school chaplain. The role of the chaplain is mainly pastoral, that is to care and be supportive of the whole school community – the students, staff, parents and caregivers.

Meet the Teacher Evening

The 'Meet the Teacher' evening will be held on **Wednesday 15 February** commencing at 6.30 p.m.

- **6.30 p.m – 7.00pm** Welcome & Introduction to the school & staff
- **7.00 pm - 7.30p.m** Visit classrooms to meet your child's teacher
- **7.30 p.m** Whitby Parents Camp Meeting

This is an opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher, however this is not a parent/teacher interview time.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Swimming Timetable

The classroom swimming timetable is shown here. Please ensure your child has their togs on these days.

Term 1	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri
9.00-9.30	Rm 14		Rm 1	Rm 12	
9.30-10.00	Rm 15	Rm 11	Rm 2	Rm 13	
10.30-11.00	Rm 1	Rm 7	Rm 3	Rm 5	Rm 9
11.00-11.30	Rm 2	Rm 8	Rm 5	Rm 3	Rm 11
11.30-12.00	Rm 7	Rm 14			Rm 12
12.00-12.30	Rm 8	Rm 15	Rm 6	Rm 6	Rm 13
1.25-1.55	Rm 3	Rm 12	Rm 9	Rm 14	Rm 1
1.55-2.25	Rm 5	Rm 13	Rm 11	Rm 15	Rm 2
2.25-2.55	Rm 6	Rm 9	Rm 8	Rm 7	

Swimming Goggles

During school swimming lessons there will be no scuba masks allowed (e.g. the full face masks that cover the nose). Scuba masks restrict the full potential to develop correct breathing techniques in swimming strokes.

Goggles are OK but:

☺ Must be correctly fitted to the correct size by parents prior to coming to school as unfortunately teachers do not have the time to do this when supervising the class. Please also ensure goggles are named.

Scuba Masks, Flippers and Snorkel swimming is allowed in the Friday lunch time swimming session (but please be aware that the chlorine in the pool water will be very hard on the rubber of this equipment).



Sunhats & Sun Sense



Parents are reminded the school's **Sun Sense Policy** comes into effect over this term and Term 4. This includes:

- Students must wear hats with a brim that shades the face, ears and neck (caps are not acceptable).
- Students will be discouraged from wearing sleeveless clothing (our fashion conscious young ladies please take note).
- Parents are encouraged to apply sunscreen to their child before each school day. All staff and students are encouraged to use sunscreen on school trips, activity days and sports events.

Attendance

Wakefield School has opened with a roll of 288 children and we expect to close this year with approximately 330 students. However it will be interesting for the school when a particularly large Year 6 group leaves at the end of the year.

Parents are reminded that all children who are well are required to attend each day that the school is open. There is substantial data showing regular, consistent attendance benefits children's academic progress and social acceptance at school.

The school appreciates the early phone calls, emails and notification from parents when a student is absent. **Please ensure all notes and information, including a reason for their absence, are directed to the office** (rather than to your child's teacher) so that these details can be recorded in the absentee register.

The Bus Bay



☆ Please do not park in the bus bay before or after school, even if you were only planning to stop for a minute to drop your child off (and even if it is a wet day!). The buses come and go from the bus bay so we appreciate your help in keeping everybody safe by keeping this area clear.

**Have you noticed the
'No Stopping' signs on Edward Street?**



Parking is restricted between **8.30am to 9.30am** and **2.30pm to 3.30pm** from **Monday to Friday**.

Yellow lines painted on the road and white car park spaces marked out (***note: these parking spaces do not apply during the restricted hours noted on the signs.***)

If you park in this area you put your children, yourself and others at risk! It also makes it extremely difficult for the bus drivers to turn into the bus bay and for the Kea Crossing volunteers to ensure the safety of the children using the crossing.

→ Students Arrival

☆ **Students who live in the village do not need to be at school prior to 8.15am.**

☆ We ask that parents ensure their children are at school before the bell goes. Ideally your child needs to arrive at school with at least 5 minutes to spare for them to organise themselves by hanging up their bags and sorting their book bags independently, although new entrants will still need help with this.

This organised routine ensures they have enough time to be settled ready for class and that there are no disruptions for the teacher and other children.

→ After School Arrangements

☆ All children are expected to leave the school grounds promptly and report in at home after school.

☆ The school does not offer after school care. Brightwater School runs the OSCAR After School Car Programme, please contact them on 542 3666 if you have any questions or queries.

If your child is involved in an activity after school on our grounds, or in the village, please ensure they are supervised by an adult while waiting for their activity to start. Children should not need to re-enter the classrooms after the finish of our school day.

→ Yellow Lines

☆ You will notice yellow lines painted on the ground near most entry/exit points to the school. These lines signify to children that that they cannot cross this point without an adult. If you ask your children to wait outside the school grounds or by the swimming pool after school this would put them "out of bounds", so please remember you will need to collect your child from inside the school grounds.

FROM THE OFFICE

Thankyou

The office would like to thank all parents for the fantastic response in providing information about absent students on the last few days of school in 2011.

The absentee form on the website is working well; from here you are able to send us details of your child's absence in advance. If you have not seen this facility we encourage you to check it out by clicking on the following link <http://www.wakefield.school.nz/contact-us/absentee-form/>

Newsletters

Newsletters are published each fortnight on a Wednesday with a link to the school notices page sent out by email to all parents and caregivers. A paper copy is sent home to any families without an email address and a copy of the newsletter is posted on the noticeboard outside the office.

Lost Property

PLEASE, take a few minutes to name your children's clothing, including any swimming togs, goggles, towels and even their shoes. **Named items are easily returned!**

Stationery Sales & School Fees

The school opened for stationery sales on two occasions during the holidays, plus the first two mornings on our return to school. We were very pleased with the way the sales went and for those parents who called in we hope you found the purchase of your child's stationery an easy stress free process!

We would like to say a big thank you to Michelle Blackbourn, Kyla Blackbourn and Nicky Black for assisting us with these sales.

The school acknowledges the fantastic support we have received already from parents through payment of the Take Home Supplies Fee and School Donation.

Pool Keys

The school office still has pool keys for sale. The pool committee have confirmed the price for a key for the remaining swimming season is now \$55.00 (family).

THE CLIFFORD SYNDICATE

Dear Parents/Caregivers of Clifford Syndicate students,

Welcome to the 2012 school year. We look forward to working with all parents and building a partnership to support your children's learning.

Clifford Syndicate for 2012

Mrs Sue McLaren (Syndicate Leader & Deputy Principal) and Mrs Pat Mitchell Room 9 / Year 1 Mrs Mitchell will teach on Mondays and Fridays.

Ms Isobel Ford Room 11 / Year 1 and New Entrants

Mrs Anne Gardner Room 12 / Year 1 and New Entrants

Mr Tim Goulter Room 13 / Year 1 and New Entrants

Mrs Jane Anderson will be the release teacher for Rooms 11 and 13.

Term 1 Programme

Literacy: learning to read and write

Mathematics: number and statistics

The Arts: singing, moving to music and creating artworks while learning about colour

Science: The living world / slugs and snails

Health: feelings, friends, and making good choices

Physical Education: swimming

Home Learning

You can support your child's learning in a number of ways.

Spend time to listen to what they have to say and discuss their school day with them.

Talk about things that happen at home that they can write about.

Each day children will bring home a reader they have read at school. Hear them re-read the story and then talk about the story. Give positive feedback for their efforts. Keep the Home Reading Log filled in each night and ensure the reader and reading log are returned to school each day.

Read to your children as often as possible and talk about the stories. Read fairy tales and nursery rhymes.

High Frequency Words: Children will have a packet of high frequency words to learn. Please practise for 3 minutes each day.

Parent Help

If you are interested in helping in the classroom please talk to the classroom teacher. We usually wait until classes are settled into their new routines and then welcome parent help.

Reporting to Parents

There will be an opportunity to meet with teachers on Wednesday 15 February but it will not be a time to discuss individual student progress. There will be an opportunity for a parent-teacher conference later in the term.

For new entrant children parent-teacher conferences are held once children have been at school for 6 weeks. The focus of this meeting is to discuss 'how you can help at home'. All students receive a written report and an opportunity for an interview in the term of their 6th birthday and 6 months before or after.

An email has been sent out to the parents, please check your child/children's bag for a hard copy if you do not have an email address.

Reminders

- Please name all clothing.
- Send a brimmed hat. Our policy is '**no hat no play**' in terms 1 and 4.
- Ensure your child has a water bottle.
- Please check the swimming timetable so you know what days your child needs their togs.
- Check what day your class library day is and ensure library books are back at school by that day.
- Please update the office with any changes to your contact details. If you have email, please check your email address is correct.

Wanted

- Old T-shirts or shirts to use as paint shirts.
- Magazines and newspaper.
- Small boxes and other materials for construction.
- Ice cream containers, plastic bottle tops and egg cartons.

Swimming days

Room 9: Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

Room 11: Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

Room 12: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday.

Room 13: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday.

Library days

Room 9: Monday

Room 11: Tuesday

Room 12: Monday

Room 13: Wednesday

Assemblies: Friday 2:30 in the school hall.

Friday 17th February hosted by Room 9

Friday 2nd March hosted by Room 11

Friday 23rd March hosted by Room 13

Room 12 will host an assembly early in term 2.

If at any time you have any concerns or queries please talk the classroom teacher. Remember we can't help if we don't know something is wrong. If you feel your concerns are unresolved then please talk to Sue McLaren (syndicate leader).

We look forward to working with you and thank you for supporting your child's learning.

Sue, Isobel, Anne and Tim.

THE ARROW SYNDICATE

Welcome Back

We hope you all had a wonderful break. We would like to welcome any new families to the syndicate.

Assemblies

There will be no Arrow Syndicate assemblies for the first two weeks of this term.

Syndicate Newsletter

Early next week you will be emailed a link to our syndicate newsletter which will be available on the school website. It will outline what we will be doing for the term and when our assemblies will be.

Melissa, Julie, Paula and Bek

THE WHITBY SYNDICATE

Welcome Back

We are all looking forward to a busy term in the Whitby Syndicate. Our camps at Marahau begin with Room 1 heading off in week 4. Please ensure you have read all of the notices about camp fully and returned them to the school office by this Friday. Just a reminder that students need a brimmed hat at school, along with a drink bottle. We look forward to seeing you at the Meet the Teacher evening.

Kathy, Kirsty, Tash, Lyn and Hugo

FROM THE LIBRARY

News form the Library

The library, for the second year in a row, ran a Summer Holiday Reading Programme. Last year the feedback from participants and their parents was very positive and encouraging.

This year we were fortunate to gain sponsorship from the following local businesses;

88 Valley Engineering
Nig Bryant Logging
Waimea Contract Carriers

We would like to thank these businesses and also parents and staff who contributed.

Without their support we would not be able to run the programme.

SPORTS NEWS

There is a lot to organise this term as most summer leagues will start either this week or the next. It is important therefore that you read the following information carefully and **please ensure all registration forms and payments are returned to the office before the due date. If we do not receive enough interest we will not be able to enter a team.**

REGISTRATION FORMS

These can be downloaded from the school website or picked up from the office. If you have any queries regarding sports information you can email the sports co-ordinator at Kathy.ameen@wakefield.school.nz or pop into the library and speak to me directly.

UNIFORMS

All students in Years 3-6 are expected to wear one of the new Wakefield School Tops when playing in a Wakefield School team. If your child is in the juniors and they don't have one of these tops yet, a similar shade of blue t-shirt will be acceptable.

COACHING

We rely heavily on parental support with all our sports teams. If you have expertise in an area and would like to be of assistance then please let me know. Having said this we are grateful for any offers of help. With most of the sport played at this age an enthusiastic coach is the best asset a team can have. (You don't have to be an expert)

MINI SOCCER

We have entered a team in this league the last three seasons. The Competitive Grade is open to children in years 3 -6. It is played on a small field, is 5-A-side with no goalies and a minimum of 5 players per team.

Venue: Saxton Field

Day: Tuesday 4.30 or 5.00pm

Fee: Entry this term is free!

Start Date: Tuesday 21st Feb

Registration forms are due back Friday 10th February

SUBWAY LUNCH ORDERS



There will be no Subway lunch orders this week. Wakefield School are exploring other healthy lunch options and will hopefully finalise these in the next two weeks.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTION

Board of Trustees By-Election

Nominations are invited for the election of 3 parent representatives to the Board of Trustees. A nomination form and a copy of this notice will be posted to all eligible voters. Additional nomination forms can be obtained from the school office. The voting roll is open for inspection at the school and can be viewed at the office during normal school hours from Monday 13 March.

Electoral Roll closes at noon on Wednesday 22 February 2012

Supplementary Roll closes at noon on Wednesday 7 March 2012

(Parents should ensure that their contact details held by the school are correct as all electoral information is posted)

Nominations close at noon on Friday 9 March 2012 and may be accompanied by a candidate's statement. There will also be a list of candidates' names, as they come to hand, for inspection at the school.

Voting papers are posted between 9 -14 March 2012.

The poll closes at noon on Friday 23 March 2012.

Signed
Delyth Jones
Returning Officer

Board of Trustees By-Election – what's it all about?

This by-election is brought about by the recent resignation of Janine Higgins (Chair), Rob Stevens (Treasurer) and the earlier resignation of Andrea Cottrell.

So have you considered standing for election for the Wakefield School Board of Trustees? It is a great opportunity to give something back to the school community and be a part of the decision making process.

Boards are elected every 3 years with the next election taking place in 2013. However those trustees elected through this by-election will serve the remainder of this board's term which ends in April 2013. In this case it's an ideal time to give school trusteeship a trial over the remaining year of the board's term. If you enjoy the role, you may wish to stand again in 2013, if not you don't need to accept a nomination in 2013.

Board members are actively involved in school decision making and liaising with parents and teachers to ensure a positive, safe and engaging learning environment for all.

For further information or queries on what it's like to be a Board of Trustees parent representative please contact any of the current BOT parent representatives.

Janine Higgins
Rob Stevens
Stu Hore
Grant Chaney

COMMUNITY NOTICES

The Community Notices have been moved to the Wakefield School website. To view contact information for local community groups and community notices please click on the link below then select from the drop down menu:

<http://www.wakefield.school.nz/what-s-on/>

These notices are updated daily, so please do make time to check out what's happening in our community!

If you do not have access to a computer in your home please feel free to drop by the school library to view the website.