

fraser



crescent school

NEWSLETTER

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Newsletter 20

9th December 2022



Important Dates

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 12 th Dec | Year 6 Social – Brewtown |
| 13 th Dec | Senior Prize Giving 2:15pm |
| 14 th Dec | Final Assembly 12:00pm |
| 14 th Dec | End of Year - 1pm finish |

2023

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 31 st Jan | First day of school 2023 |
| 6 th Feb | Waitangi Day holiday |
| 6 th Apr | End of Term 1 |
| 7 th Apr | Good Friday |

**Please note we close at 1:00pm on
the last day of school.**



From the Principal

Final Newsletter – 2022 Reflection

Another very busy year is rapidly coming to a close. As I normally do, I have chosen to pick out a few highs and lows from over 2022.

The low points

The start of 2022 had its challenges with the extensive building work causing disruption throughout the school. This included all classes having to move, major roofing work, losing the dental clinic office space, our Hub, the staffroom, and the field as the bike track was completed. With so much work going on, this also created lots of issues with parking. On the bright side, once the work was all finished, we have ended up with a better school, with improved facilities.

Covid. We have all had to deal with the impact of Covid over the last few years, but the first half of 2022 saw our school community with a record number of cases. This meant lots of people being really unwell, missing time at work or school, along with lots of other issues. This also meant a lot of time off school for many of our students. The other negative aspect of Covid early in the year was asking our parents and caregivers to stay off site and out of classrooms where possible. This makes it more challenging to build positive relationships between the home and school.

The Highlights

All the trips, events, sports and extra things on offer. I am a big believer in not having our Fraser Kids miss out on things, especially due to Covid. This year had seen a record number of extra events, clubs, trips and opportunities for our kids. Previous newsletters over the year have many photos of the extra cool things our kids have been involved in. It was fantastic to see less things cancelled due to Covid and our kids were extra keen to get involved in events like DanceSplash, Tough Guy n Gal, Hutt Fest and the Upper Hutt Cultural Festival. Our annual sleepover which couldn't happen due to Covid restrictions, turned into a super exciting FriYay event, with tonnes of fun activities and a big screen movie. We had a couple of fun PB4L celebrations including the Fraser Carnival and the more recent Stokes Valley Pool trip.

Another highlight of 2022 has been the huge increase in our Active Fraser Kids playing lots more sport. This has been further helped by the school employing Sarah Millar as a part-time sports coordinator. We have had heaps of children playing netball, touch, basketball, badminton and more. Involvement in sport is really important for our kids, as they learn so many skills from getting involved.

We have done really well this year with getting lots of additional funding. This has helped with things like camp costs, getting more bikes, and another shipping container on the way. We have also received funding to get lots of children involved in more activities in the community, and lots of money to support our arts and cultural programmes. A big shout out here to Sarah Adgo, for all her efforts with the grant applications.

Camps and the outdoors. I have written a bit about all of the excursions and activities, but I want to do a special mention about our camps. We had Zoo Trips camp/sleepover for all our Year 4 and 5 children. These are lots of fun and give our students an exciting look behind the scenes at the Zoo, as well as seeing all the action that occurs at night. Last week our Year 6 Children took part in their 3-day camp to Makahika, just out of Levin. Our Year 6 camp is a really fun event for the kids, as well as teaching them a range of new skills and challenges. I want to thank our staff who organised the camp, as this is a massive additional undertaking. I also want to acknowledge our amazing camp parents, who gave up their time to support our Year 6 kids. Without their help, our Year 6 Camp cannot happen.

This year has seen the development of a number of Māori initiatives throughout the year. This has included the new Kaea leadership group, Te Reo extension, participation in a Matariki festival and a new Mātauranga Māori Trophy for Year 6 children. Our Kapa Haka tamariki have been really fortunate to work with Matua Pat from Maidstone Intermediate, and this has led to a couple of stunning performances at both Hutt Fest and the Upper Hutt Cultural Festival. It was great to have held a Whānau Hui earlier this term, which will give the school some direction for the future.

An ongoing highlight of working at Fraser Crescent School is our wonderful school community. 2022 has been a bit different, with a need to keep parents, family and whānau out of the classroom for the first half of the year. At one point in Term 1 we were almost forced to close the school due a number of staff being impacted with Covid. Instead, we asked our school community to see if they were able to keep some children at home. This support enabled us to keep the school open for families who really needed it. It was great to see lots of parents and caregivers come along to our Halloween Disco, and there was lots of support for our Junior Prize Giving/Quest assembly. Your support though the year has been really appreciated.

2023 Classes

Earlier in the week we had a trial class visit for our students in years 0-5 to their new teachers/classrooms for next year. A notice also went home advising parents about their child's class for next year. Class lists are on display on classroom windows at school. The table below shows classes, year levels and teacher placement.

Room	Year Level	Teacher/Notes
2/3	New Entrant	Carla Milroy and Fiona Fitzgerald (new Junior Team Leader)
1	2	Lana Parton
4		New class to start in the middle of the year
5	3	Yvonne Calder
6	3	Kaitlyn Whatton
8	2	Tim Dixon-Blake
9	4/5	Lucy Fox
10	4/5	Janine Bullard
11	5/6	Rebecca Jackson (DP covering Holly King's Maternity Leave)
12	5/6	Zoe Draper
		Benzi Rodrigues – Released Deputy Principal

Leaving Staff

As is often the case at this time of year, we have a couple of staff leaving us. Tessa Runciman is finishing up with us at the end of this year. Tessa started a class in Room 4 in the middle of this year, as we moved a number of students out from Rooms 2 and 3. Tessa has worked at FCS in the past and did a fantastic job of settling the children into her new room. The colourful Clare Barlow is also leaving the Fraser Family at the end of this year. Clare has filled a number of roles within the school over the last decade or so. Clare is always super positive and so much fun to work with. She is passionate about doing what's best for our Fraser Kids. On behalf of Fraser Kura, I want to wish both Clare and Tessa all the best for the future. We also have Stacy Hardman and Holly King on maternity leave at the beginning of next year. We wish them both all the best for the arrival of their little ones!

Year 4-6 Senior Prize Giving/Quest Assembly – 2:15pm Tuesday 13th December

This year we have split the Fraser Quest Assembly into two separate events, based on the children's year level. Early this week we celebrated our Junior Prize Giving, which was really well attended by parents. On Tuesday 13th December at 2:15pm we will be holding our Senior Quest and Prize Giving assembly in the school hall. Parents, caregivers and whānau of children in Years 4-6 are welcome to join this event.

Final Assembly – 12:00pm on Wednesday 14th Dec.

We will have a short final assembly starting at midday on the last day of the term (Wednesday 14th Dec). This gives us an opportunity to farewell our Year 6 Students and present the Year 6 Trophies in front of all the students. Parents and whānau are welcome to join us. **Note that we finish at 1:00pm on the last day of school.**

Hampers

The lovely team at Nourish Trust are once again donating a number of Christmas Hampers to families in need. Please feel free to email me at principal@frasercres.school.nz if you (or someone you know at school) would like to receive a hamper. It's an expensive time of year, so please let us know if we can help ☺



Board of Trustees Update

Our Board of Trustees met earlier in the week to review our 2022 student data. This information focussed on whole school Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Competency targets, and Equity, Attendance and Engagement targets. The Board were mostly pleased with the data, but we are seeing attendance issues negatively impacting on our student achievement data. The Board have ratified our 2023 Budget, and it was great to see that there were no areas which were significantly reduced. The Board have set funds again to increase student engagement, reduce economic diversity factors, increase student attendance, as well as continuing to support lots of sport, cultural and arts opportunities. Our Board would like to finish the year by wishing you and your whānau a happy and safe Christmas break.



Breakfast Club

The last Breakfast Club for 2022 will be 9th December 2022. We will start up again on 31st January 2023.

Pool Keys for the 2023 Swimming Season

Pool keys will be available from the office if you would like to hire one for the season. The pool will open after 9th January 2023; this will be confirmed via email. Come and see Kathie early next week if you are keen. The cost is \$80 per family for a key. On average it costs the Board over \$10,000 a year to maintain and operate the pool.

Home and School Association

Our Home and School Association would like to thank you for all the support you have shown over the year. Each year our Home and School Association aim to raise over \$10,000.00 which is spent on the fun and extra things for our Fraser Kids.



SKIDS – On site after school care

SKIDS have been running now for a few weeks with a group of our lovely Fraser Kids. This is a handy option for parents, as the children can walk to our hall after school. Please let us know if you would like more information about SKIDS after school care.

Ngā mihi nui – Have a safe and happy break.

John Channer

Next Newsletter 10th February 2023

Latest Photo Gallery



Our Bike Crew with their new hats



Christmas themed Art Attack



Makerspace Catapult Project



Learning Through Play Fun



Christmas Fraser Quest



Meet the teacher – Via Zoom!



Year 6 Camp Makahika Pics



Year 6 Camp Makahika Pics



Junior Prize Giving



Junior Prize Giving



Trip to Nga Manu