

## From the Principals Desk

### A School to Be Proud Of

The first week has flown by and the planning for our term one programmes is well under way. It has been great to witness the positive and enthusiastic manner in which children and staff have started the school year.

### Supporting School Events and Committees

Our programme this term is a busy one and we welcome parents to attend our PTA meetings, upcoming camps, swimming sports, and help out as parent support on class trips. Without your assistance here these events would not be the success they are.

### PTA Meeting Tonight

**TONIGHT** Wednesday, 8th February at 7.30pm in the staffroom.

We would love to see some new faces to get lots of great ideas for the New Year, so bring along some friends!!!!



### BOT Meeting

The first BOT meeting for the year will be held on Monday 20 February at 7.00pm in Staff room.

### School Bus Travel

Parents are reminded that the school bus service runs under strict rules and regulations for health and safety reasons. If your child travelled by bus last year you should have already viewed and signed a bus transport contract with the school. If in doubt, please check with the office? Bus pupils will also receive a reminder of the behaviour expectations while travelling on the bus. If you are picking your child up after school and have not advised the office in advance please ensure that the teacher on bus duty is informed.

### School Speed Zone

You will be aware that we have had school speed zone signs installed in the last week. These are activated before and after school for the safety of your children. Please be aware the area is policed on a regular basis. Special thanks to the parents who have been actively in contact with the council's road safety section to get these installed.



### Use Of The Bus Bay For Parking

Parents are welcome to use the bus area to drop off and pick up children AFTER the school bus has arrived and departed. Please do not park immediately in the gateway or on the disabled parking area. **It would be most appreciated that vehicles are not left unattended for any length of time** so as buses and large service vehicles can still access the area if need be.

### Starting time at School

Our school prospectus clearly states that children should start at 8.45am. This means that children should arrive at school in plenty of time to be in their classroom by this 8.45am. It was noticeable in term 4 last year that some children were arriving late on a regular basis. Please try to ensure your children arrive at school on time.



### Finishing the Day

Our bus bell goes at 2.40pm when bus children are released to go to bus lines. For all other children the school day finishes at 2.45pm.

If your child is not attending afterschool care it would be appreciated if he or she can be picked up from school promptly at 2.45pm.



### Sun Safe

Karaka School Safe Sun Policy states that during Term 1 & 4 children are required to have a suitable hat that gives protection to the face, ears and neck. We strongly suggest that our official school hat is the most suitable for this.

### Swimming

Swimming is an important part of the school physical education programme. Please ensure that your children bring their togs and towels each day. If your child is unable to swim a note will be required on a day by day basis.



### Important Dates

08	February	PTA Meeting. 7.30pm
20	February	BOT Meeting, 7.00pm
28	February	Junior Team trip to Butterfly Creek
01	March	Middle Team to Awhitu
09	March	Class Photos
13	March	Year 5 & 6 to Volvo Ocean Race Village
19	March	BOT Meeting, 7.00pm
26 to 30	March	Year 7 & 8 Camp at Tui Ridge Park
5	April	Last Day of term one.
23	April	Term Two begins
23	April	BOT Meeting 7.00pm
21 to 25	May	Year 5 & 6 Camp at Camp Benson Kawau Island



### Lunchroom

The lunchroom will be open this week. We are pleased to be opening the lunchroom this year on Thursdays for sushi and Fridays for hot pies, sausage rolls, pizza etc. The lunchroom will be open each Thursday and Friday from 8.20am - 8.45am. The menu and price list remains unchanged from last year (see school website: [www.karaka.school.nz](http://www.karaka.school.nz) . Suppliers have advised that there will be some increases over the next few weeks. We will advise of any price increases in the newsletter as these become necessary. We will need two new helpers for Friday mornings this year (8.15am until approx 9.30am alternate weeks) - all volunteers sincerely appreciated - if you could be available please leave your contact details with the school office.



### Karaka Netball Club Registration

#### **Registrations start TONIGHT!**

Wednesday 8 and Wednesday 15 February from 5.00 – 7.00pm

Karaka Sports Park, Cnr Linwood and Blackbridge Roads, Karaka

**Fees to be paid when you register – cash/cheque/EFTPOS available but no credit card facilities, cheques payable to Karaka Netball Club**

**FEES:** Future Ferns/Juniors \$125      Intermediate \$135

### Drury Football

Drury Football Registration - open now for 2012 season, all ages, lots of fun, low fees, great value for 3 terms of sport! For details, see [www.druryfootball.co.nz](http://www.druryfootball.co.nz) or Angela Ph: 297 7483



### Majors 'n' Minors

Franklin-based Majors 'n' Minors music studio is delighted to announce that "local girl" Sarah McDowall has re-joined the teaching staff after several years of playing and teaching in the UK. Majors 'n' Minors can now offer even more individual teaching spaces in singing, violin, cello, clarinet, saxophone, piano, recorder and theory. There are also spaces available in performance vocal groups and "Brainfood" classes for babies to 6 year olds. Please contact Lynda 2385861 for further information or visit the website [www.majorsnminors.com](http://www.majorsnminors.com).