



Wednesday 20 March 2024

It is amazing how quickly the end of term rolls around. We have recently been involved in many activities and events, with a few more to come in the next three weeks. Please check regularly for notices and messages as to what is next on the calendar. Thank you to all of you who have helped out with transport, coaching or supervising over the term, your support is very much appreciated.

Paid Union Meeting - Thursday 28 March

Next week, teachers are attending a Paid Union Meeting (PUM) to negotiate with the Ministry of Education, regarding the Teachers' Collective Agreement. We appreciate your support, as we try to negotiate more favourable outcomes for all of our children. Teachers will be updated on the Mana Taurite | Pay Equity campaign, as well as discussing and voting on how to address the most important issues to them. School will not be fully staffed from **1pm on Thursday 28 March**. All union members are required to attend a meeting to discuss the Government's offer. We would appreciate you taking your children home at lunchtime (1pm) on that day.

Swimming Sports

Congratulations to all of our students who competed in the recent School Swimming Sports. It was certainly great to see so many students keen to demonstrate their skills. It was also fantastic to see so many parents supporting all the children in this event.

Since then, a number of students have competed at the South Wairarapa Swimming Competition. 26 of our students have been selected to compete at the Regional Swimming Competition, being held in Masterton today. We wish them all the best.

Student Leaders

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected as School Leaders for 2024. During the year, these students, along with other senior students will have the opportunity to develop their leadership skills, as well as create a positive profile for themselves within the school.

Head Students

Ada Wilkie Ben Herrick

House Leaders

Milla Funnell Brooke Marshall Sarah Kirkup Jessica Campbell

Learning Conferences

Thank you to everyone who attended the recent Learning Conferences with your child's teacher. These are extremely valuable opportunities to support your child's learning, so thank you for making the effort. If you were unable to attend, please feel free to make contact with your child's teacher to arrange a time to meet that suits you. Having your child witness your interest in their learning is invaluable.

Moving March

It is wonderful to see all of the students, and parents, who are walking, biking or scooting to school during Moving March. Being active is important for mind and body, and doing this to and from school allows the day to start and finish in such a positive way. It's not too late to join the movement – let's get active!

Easter Break

This is a reminder that the Easter break for schools in NZ (always has been) includes Good Friday – 29 March, Easter Monday-1 April AND Easter Tuesday-2 April. We look forward to welcoming everyone back from the long weekend on Wednesday 3 April.

Strategic Plan

During the recent Learning Conference meetings, the Board of Trustees engaged with a number of you regarding the Strategic Plan direction for the next three years. Thank you to all who provided feedback and made comment as it is an important part of the process. I am sure the Board are willing to engage with any of you who were not heard, but want to contribute. Feel free to contact a Board of Trustees member and share your thoughts.

Pine Trees

After careful deliberation, and much discussion, the Board of Trustees have agreed to have the pine trees on Roberts Street removed. For many years these trees have been a health and safety risk, with branches often breaking during windy conditions. As you would agree, the last thing we would want was someone getting injured from a falling branch. The plan is to have the removal completed during the next school holidays. Before you ask, we are unable to allow our parent community to have access to the firewood – this is another health and safety risk.

Emergency Contact Details

Thank you to everyone who has returned the Emergency Contact Details update form. It is very important that we have the latest contact information for you.

School Uniform

This year the school has changed our uniform supplier to a company locally and we are currently working with them to restock our Polo's and our ½ zip pull overs. We have placed an urgent order for both items as we know the weather has suddenly got colder. Please remember, your children can wear a black thermal/ T-shirt under their polo's and a warmer jacket while outside and all our classes have heat pumps.

Thank you for your continued support. Please remember that there is a half day on Thursday 28 March for the Paid Union Meeting, And that we have an extended break for Easter, which includes Tuesday 2 April.

Regards

Craig Nelson

Principal

Martinborough School