

WELCOME TO OUR
Weekly Newsletter

Principal's Column

All of a sudden we are at the end of Week 4 and it feels a long way back to the first day of school for the year.

Toni Batey, a qualified community swim instructor, has been visiting the school taking our children for swimming lessons. Swimming is part of the PE and Health curriculum in New Zealand schools and is a life skill and as many of us live so close to rivers, irrigation ponds and the sea, swimming skills can be considered life saving. Beginning last week, Toni has had the children participating in a series of eight lessons. The lessons end next week with two trips next Tuesday and Wednesday to the Kaikoura Aquatic Centre for the lessons requiring deeper water, more information is coming later in this newsletter. We also have two catch up lessons which we have missed because of rain which will be held here at school.

The children have been thoroughly enjoying the lessons in the warm water in our school pool and it's been great to see the improvement in their skills. Toni has remarked how much she is enjoying the warmer water too! We are having a swimming splashtacular next Friday the 28th of February at 1pm. More information is provided elsewhere in this newsletter.



Attendance Matters

At our board meeting this week, I shared our Term 4 attendance data. This is coming to us in a new format with the current government keeping attendance at school in the spotlight. Their goal is to see 80% of students attending school 90% of the time by 2030. I have shared a snapshot of our attendance for Term 4 below. It makes for interesting reading.

Splashtacular Swimming Display

Friday 28th February
1-3pm

Come and cheer on our swimmers!

Term 4 Summary

How many students regularly attended school this term?

 **Regular Attendance**

67%

Compared to 56% in Term 4, 2023

 **Irregular Absence 24%**

Compared to 28% in Term 4, 2023

 **Moderate Absence 8%**

Compared to 13% in Term 4, 2023

 **Chronic Absence 2%**

Compared to 3% in Term 4, 2023

What were the main reasons given for absence this term?

1.  (M) Illness / Medical Absence 52%
2.  (E) Accepted (but unjustified) 27%
3.  (J) Justified (other) 9%
4.  (G) Holiday 8%
5.  (T) Unexplained / Trivial 5%

How many students were on time to class?

77% of students were on time to class

Definition of lateness depends on school attendance policy.

Interestingly, one day off every two weeks or 19 days across the school year is enough to place a student on that 90% mark. We do know that time off school is necessary for wellbeing, especially in the case of illness. We also know that non-attendance can have an impact on learning and progress. We are really keen to work in partnership with our school community to see our attendance rates get to above 80% of students attending 90% of the time. Our goal is to have engaging classes that encourage students to attend and support their progress. Our staff meetings now include attendance as a focus and we will be communicating with families when attendance is under 90%.

A and P Show preparation is well underway. Annie has been working on the roster for the gates which is a fundraiser for the school. We are asking for parents and staff to do an hour or two on the gates to support the fundraiser which is worth approximately \$900 to the school. There are a few spots remaining, please call Annie and fill our roster and support the fundraiser.

Along with our traditional art display, the classes have been working on entries for the decorated pinecone, painted rock and egg carton sculptures. This Friday morning after Piwakawaka assembly, we will be doing our sand saucers and completing all other entries. So far, there have been copious amounts of paint, glue and dazzle applied! Make sure you have a look at the entries from Suburban when you visit the show on Saturday.

Ngā mihi nui
Kylee

principal@ks.school.nz

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Mainpower Swimming Lessons

Timetable for Mainpower swimming lessons

Tuesday 25th February/Wednesday 26th February

9:30am - Piwakawaka and Titi leaving school

10am - Piwakawaka lesson

10.25 - Tītī Group 1 lesson

10.45- Bus returns to school empty to collect Toroa

10.50 - Tītī Group 2 lesson

11am - Toroa arrives

11:15am - Toroa Group 1 lesson, bus returns to school with Piwakawaka and Tītī

11:45am - Toroa Group 2 lesson

12:30pm - Bus returns to school with Toroa

Mainpower swimming lesson permission slip
Please return the below form by Monday 24th February

I give permission for _____ to
go by bus to the community pool and back on Tuesday 25th and
Wednesday 26th of February.

Parent's Name _____

Parent's Phone Number _____

Parent's signature _____

Kaikōura Suburban School
150th Jubilee
April 2026

We are looking for interested people with knowledge of our school to join the organising committee for our 150th Jubilee to be held in April, 2026. If you are interested in helping to organise 150 years of schooling at Suburban, please contact Annie on office @ks.school.nz
As soon as we have a committee we can start organising the celebrations!

KSS STUDENT VOICE

Kapa Haka

On Monday the 10th of February we started doing Kapa Haka with Whaea Peko, Koha and Kurapa.



A and P Show art

The theme for this years A and P show is past present and future. Come and check out our entries at the show!

Swimming with Toni

We are learning how to swim with Toni. We have been practising streamline position and gliding.



Piwakawaka Class



The Piwakawaka students have been creating lots of pieces for the A&P show with a focus on patterns. The biscuit entries have patterns on them and the pine cones have a bead pattern wrapped around them. The painted stones have a colourful pattern with a shape in the middle.

Make sure you head to the sheds at the show to check out everyone's hard work.

TITI CLASS

Titi class has also been working like wee Trojans on their entries for the A&P show. Our big focus was looking at houses from the past, present, and future. From the looking of them, lots of us will be living under the sea in the future.



Toroa Class

Two weeks have flown by in Toroa where we have focused on routines and testing to find out what we can do. Reading groups are underway, in Maths we are working with our brand new Numicon equipment, and in Spelling, we are working with The Code and practising our letter patterns to correctly spell words. When we aren't doing any other things, we are working on our A&P show art and egg carton sculpture. Toroa is a busy place and both Mrs H's are keeping us going at a cracking pace. We're all doing our best to do the right thing to earn cash for our class banking system.

THINGS TO BRING TO SCHOOL

Book bag- to protect precious reading books on the journey home and back to school.

Swimming togs - as long as the weather is ok we will swim every day.

Permission slips - Mana Ake leadership group work and Swimming lesson transport permission.



A&P Show Gate Roster

A&P Show Gate Personnel Saturday 22 February 2025

Little Oaks Preschool Gate - For General Public

7am - 9 am	9am - 10am	10am - 11 am	11am - 12 pm	12pm - 1pm	1pm - 2pm
Kylee	Natalie	Kylee	Kylee	Kylee	Josh
Ezra	Ezra	Sarah	Sarah	Amanda	Tania
		Carmen	Lauren		
		Lauren	Richard H		

Main Gate - Competitors

7 am - 9-am	9 am - 10am	10 am - 11pm	11am - 12pm	12pm - 1pm	1pm - 2pm
Jaye	Kaca	Pip	Stef	Sharyn	
Debbie	Kate	Christina	Mel	Abby	

Top Gate

8am - 9am	9am -10am	10am - 11am	11am - 12pm	12pm - 1pm	1pm - 2pm
Nadin	Nadin	Josie	Rebekah	Annie	Annie
		Matt	Jo W	Tim	

Top effort everyone! Enjoy your day, we appreciate your time!!