

#### Kia Ora Koutou Katoa,

The term has started well and children are really focussed and working well.

The trip to China was a fantastic experience and an eye opening one too. We have limited understanding of the life and conditions for students in that country, which was clearly highlighted on this trip. Our children are very fortunate.

A few quick stats: their average class size is 55 (one student I spoke to had 75 in his class), the school day is 8.30 – 3.30 but then they are expected to do electives until 5.30, most secondary students work/study/attend school 7 days a week, one school I went to has less area for 2500 students than we do at Roto for our 70 students.

The purpose of the trip is to form a partnership with 2 schools there: principals sharing ideas, teachers sharing skills and communication between our children and theirs. There is the possibility of some of their students coming out to NZ to do a short term stay of 2 weeks and attend classes at Roto-o-Rangi which would be an awesome experience for our students who are learning to speak Mandarin.

Pink Shirt Day is happening on tomorrow, Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May.

We will be holding a whole school photo after Bible in Schools to show our support for stopping bullying. This is a fun conclusion to Anti-Bullying Week. This ties is beautifully with the Values that we have at our school. Even though we have lovely children and supportive families, there are still small things that go on which stops some children enjoying school. We are noticing the difficult to catch tactic of changing friendships — some children who allow children to be friends one day but then not the next. The emotional anguish this causes is a form of bullying and we would appreciate every family having a conversation about how mean this tactic is.



Tomorrow, all children are invited to wear as much pink as they can on the day and bring along

a monetary donation which will go towards numerous organisations to help deal with the consequences of bullying. It is also a fun reminder that we need to do to stamp out bullying in our school, especially if we have been a bystander – seen the bullying happen but done nothing about it. This is the fastest way to stop bullying in our school. The children having the courage not to stand by and allow bullying to happen.

#### SCHOOL CLOSURES

This term the school will be closed for 2 days: for the teachers strike and for a Cambridge wide Teacher Only Day.

On May 29<sup>th</sup> all teachers will be going out on strike – Primary and Secondary teachers because of stalled contract negotiations. As a result the school will be closed for the day.

On Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June nearly all schools in Cambridge will be holding a Teacher Only Day, therefore our school will be closed on this day too. All the schools in the Cambridge Community of Learners are joining together to participate and learn from NZ and world-renown educationalists, whom we simply could not afford to do if we weren't in the COL.

This also means that the day will be available for families to visit the Fieldays without missing any school time. Therefore we also ask that if families are going to the Fieldays, please go on the Friday.

#### **BOT ELECTION**

Nominations are now called for the Board of Trustee Elections. Roxy is the Returning Officer for the Elections and can be contacted for further information and forms.

A nomination form will be coming home today for each parent/caregiver eligble to vote in the election.

Previously, it was stated that there are *two* positions available for new parent representatives. This is true in part, as *three* BOT members are wishing to stand once again to continue their work for our school. However, they still need to be elected. Hence there are 5 postions available.

If there are more people nominated than positions available, a voting election will take place so further details and voting papers will follow.

If you would like to make a positive contribution to the shape and future of our school please make sure you nominate and vote!

Nominations will be accepted up until 12 noon on Friday 24th May.

#### THE WINTER MONTHS

The weather is turning colder and there has been quite a few children off sick over the last week or so.

Please follow the recommendations by the Ministry of Health and keep sick/recovering children at home. They also state that if your child has vomited or had diarrhoea then they should not return to school for at least 24 hours after the last episode — not the next morning, but at least 24 hours later. Returning earlier just increases the chances of spreading the "bug" to other families.

### PHOTOS FROM CHINA

Here are a few photos from Mr D's trip to China.







# **WARM MILOS TOMORROW**

Our wonderful PTA will be serving up warm milo to our tamariki tomorrow at morning tea. Thank you to staff memebrs at Vege Fresh for donating the milk and the PTA and parents who have donated Milo and marshmallows (and time!) to make this happen. If you would like to a similar donation please contact the PTA to see what would make be helpful.

# JUNIOR TOUGH GUY AND GAL CHALLENGE (MUD RUN!)

Here is a very different activity children can participate in! If you were keen for your child to enter it we could try and make a school team for the Hamilton event on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June. **So far we have only had one child interested!** There are two grades available: 1.5km Ankle Biters for year 3-4 and 3km Little Nippers for year 5-6. Please let Roxy in the office know if your child would like to participate. The cost for this event is \$25 if we book our places before 20<sup>th</sup> May.

#### **HOT FOOD WEDNESDAY RETURNS**

During Terms 2 and 3 the children can bring along food to be warmed up in a pie warmer. It MUST be in a suitable container/wrapper for placing in a pie warmer. Other hot food options are not available - so no 2 minute noodles, instant soups etc, which requires teachers to heat them. All food must come in a wrapping/container with the child's name and room number written on it, otherwise we cannot guarantee they will get their own food.

#### **ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS**

Last year's book is due to run out on 1<sup>st</sup> June so it's a great time to purchase a new book! Copies of this voucher-packed book are available from the school office or online. Feel free to share the Facebook post that will be posted on our Roto-o-Rangi FB page soon, to encourage others to purchase through us and support our school fundraising efforts!

#### **MINIBALL**

We're a bit short on Miniball players this term, possibly as it has moved to a Monday afternoon and clashes with other activities. If you would like to play, or even fill in occasionally, please contact Roxy or Pam.

#### SCHOOL ACCOUNTS

Thank you to the parents who have set up automatic payments for their school accounts, this is much appreciated. Please contact the office if you are unsure about your account, or to discuss payment options.

## **KOWHAIWHAI DESIGNS**

We are still hoping for some design from our parents to paint on our school pou. Please send through your ideas to the office via email or your child.

# WRITER'S CORNER.

#### Room 4

One day there was a bad pot and he had a crack in the pot and A hole on top of the lid and all the tea came out of the pot.

The tea flooded the world and everyone died, and the horses and cows and a camel died too. There was some tea in the pot and the people taped the pot up. And they all got to drink the tea and the people were happy it was fixed when they taped it all up.

The end

By Lily

#### **COMMUNITY NOTICES**

#### **MUSIC LESSONS**

Music House provide weekly lessons for children. The lessons are provided during school time so no rushing around after work to get to a lesson. The quality of the group lessons is outstanding so don't miss out on this great opportunity. Guitar, drums, ukulele, keyboard. Contact them on 07 808 0235.



#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

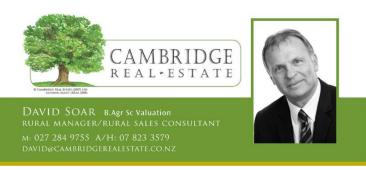
Pink Shirt Day – anti-bullying week
BOT Meeting – 6pm staffroom
BOT Elections
School Photo Day - Sports and family
PTA meeting – 7.30pm Staffroom
Waipa Rippa Rugby Competition
Teacher Only Day – Fieldays Friday
B <mark>OT Mee</mark> ting – 6pm staffroom
Winter Sports Day
Mid-year reports and Poutama come home
Student/Parent/Teacher conferences
Year 5/6 visit CMS production
Levity Beet – travelling musician
performance



Matariki is coming up in June.
Watch this space for more info on what we'll be doing!

# Thank you to the kind sponsors of our newsletter





CAMBRIDGE REAL ESTATE MREINZ LICENSED (REAA 2008 47 ALPHA STEET, CAMBRIDGE 3434 P: 07 823 1945 F: 07 823 1946

















