

2 July, 2021

Kia ora

Thank you for sharing in our Matariki Breakfast this morning. This opportunity to acknowledge the Māori New Year has become a favourite event at Clarkville.

Jenny Collinson has been teaching PE to Clarkville students on Thursdays for the last two terms. Thank you Jenny for your engaging programme and for your contribution to Clarkville School over the last two terms. Next term, Grant Buchanan will return to his role as PE teacher.

Congratulations to our Teacher Aide, Helen Frith, who recently received a Christchurch City Council Community Service Award for her significant voluntary service to Lifeline.

## Learning Conferences

We have redesigned our approach to learning conferences this year to ensure that students, parents and teachers have an equal opportunity to talk and ask questions. We hope that this will contribute to an increased sense of partnership in support of your children. The poster on the next page describes the roles we can each play in the learning conference and it includes suggestion questions for parents.

Once your conference is completed, I invite you to provide feedback via our very simple survey at the school gate. You will be invited to place a sticker on the page that best represents your experience.

## Wellbeing

The wellbeing part of our Wellbeing and Learning model focuses on our school culture, our relationships and the wellbeing of every person. We have captured some thinking from students about what they understand about wellbeing and we know that the values expressed are learnt first at home. Here is a snapshot of their thinking:

What does wellbeing mean to you?

### Whakarewa

Looking after yourself  
Looking after the people around you  
Listening to your body  
Being grateful  
Welcoming our new friends

### Tūhura

Happiness, kindness and laughter  
Not caring about what others think of you  
Keeping physical fit  
Be kind to everyone  
Being brave, don't give up and stand tall

### Hōpara

Being forgiving  
Stepping out of your comfort zone  
Feeling like you're in the right place  
Being respectful to others  
Helping others

### Matawara

How you are as a person  
Being happy as a group  
Doing something you love  
Staying healthy  
Balance in all four areas of well being

# Learning Conferences

## Effective learning conferences:

- Help students reflect on their learning
- Celebrate progress made so far and develop new goals
- Encourage students, parents, and teachers to engage in open and honest dialogue
- Provide specific information about progress, achievement and next steps
- Value student wellbeing and acknowledge strengths, passions and interests

## Question suggestions for parents to ask children:

- What are you most proud of in your learning?
- What have you been successful with?
- What have you found challenging?
- Is there a challenge that you have overcome?
- What can I/we do to help you at home?



## Question suggestions for parents to ask teachers:

- Does my child participate well in class?
- Is my child progressing as expected?
- What do they do well?
- What do they need help with?
- What can I do to help?
- Does my child seem settled at school? How do they get along with others?
- Are there any areas for concern?
- What's the best way to contact you if I want to follow up on anything we've talked about?

## The roles of students, parents and teachers in learning conferences

### When students are talking about...

- Some learning I am proud of
- Something I would like to improve or learn

#### Parents can be...

- Interacting
- Asking questions
- Encouraging

#### Teachers can be...

- Supporting and prompting
- Clarifying goals
- Encouraging

### When parents are talking about...

- An area of growth for my child that I am proud of
- Something I would like to see them improve or learn
- Information about my child's life outside of school

#### Students can be...

- Listening
- Responding to questions

#### Teachers can be...

- Listening
- Responding
- Supporting

### When teachers are talking about...

- Where your child sits against the curriculum levels
- Where your child has been successful and next steps
- Checking that you understand your child's progress

#### Students can be...

- Listening
- Responding to questions

#### Parents can be...

- Listening
- Questioning to understand

# From our Board

Tēnā koutou whānau

“Good communication is the bridge between confusion and clarity”. Nat Turner

On behalf of the Board, I have been involved in developing a Communication Plan for our school community. The purpose of the plan is to:

- tell our Clarkville families/whānau what’s happening, when and why.
- involve all families/whānau in their children’s learning.
- improve the information flow between us and our community.
- make sure we hear what people want to tell us and how we can improve (including compliments)
- have strong school supporters in the community.

Over the weekend I was speaking to a parent of a year 5 student, they had just read the “Reporting to Parents” document. They were delighted to understand the curriculum levels and other information around student achievement. This highlighted to me that although as a school we do our best to keep parents informed, sometimes we don’t know what you don’t know.

The hope is that our Communication Plan will give all parents a guide to find the information they are looking for, a process for meeting staff, giving feedback, and knowing what’s happening in our school.

Please take a minute to have a read.

Regards  
Rachael Spencer  
Board Member

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## 2022 School Terms

<b>Term 1:</b>	Wednesday 2 February - Thursday 14 April	(102 half days)
Public holiday:	Waitangi Day, Monday 7 February, Good Friday, 15 April	
<b>Term 2:</b>	Monday 1 May - Friday 8 July	(96 half days)
Public holiday:	Queen’s Birthday, Monday 6 June Matariki, Friday 24 June	
<b>Term 3:</b>	Monday 25 July - Friday 30 September	(100 half days)
<b>Term 4:</b>	Monday 17 October – Friday 16 December	(86 half days)
Public holidays:	Labour Day, Monday 24 October Canterbury Show Day Friday 11 November	
Teacher Only Days:	TBC	

# FROM OUR ENVIRO GROUP

## LOOKING BACK, PLANNING FORWARD



This year Mrs Edwards has taken over from Molly as mentor to our enviro group. Thank you Mrs Edwards, it's great to have you working with us. We have welcomed lots of new faces to our group, from Discover through to Aspire. It's great to see that we have so many students who are passionate about caring for the environment and making a difference. We held a "major review" meeting, revising all the actions the enviro group has made over the past few years and the list is seriously long. It was really satisfying to see just how much we have achieved as an Enviro School. Here are just a few actions that we discussed.

- Making bird feeders
- Running a worm farm
- Growing vegetables
- Litter free lunches
- Planter boxes made from P.E balls
- Cooking and eating our own vegetables
- Soooo much mulching at SilverStream Reserve!!!

. Next we asked ourselves three big questions that made us think hard.

1. How have we worked on decision making?
2. What have we learnt about sustainability and the environment?
3. What actions have we achieved in our school environment and beyond our school environment?

Now that we had looked backwards it was time to focus on the future, so we brainstormed what our next actions might be. This was really exciting because we came up with lots of possible actions that we would love to lead.



- Give our glass house a total makeover and make it a healthy and fresh growing environment.
- Rebuild the worm farm and restock it with worms.
- Investigate the pros and cons of introducing leaf-cutter bees. (Don't worry, they don't sting!)
- Go green making compost in new compost bins, one per team for lunch scraps.

Now that we have big ideas and ambitious plans we are going to get busy! Our group will meet every Monday at lunchtime and anyone with passion and positive energy is welcome to join us.

We'll keep you posted on our progress!

Clara-Jane Long

# Philosophy Corner

## Philosophy Corner

Here are some philosophical questions around a theme that you can use to spark conversations at home.

Through your discussion you can come up with a definition to explain what a holiday is. Defining what an idea is and isn't is an important part of philosophical discussions.

### Holidays

1. What is a holiday?
2. When is a holiday not a holiday?
3. Do holidays need to be relaxing?
4. Do holidays require travel?
5. What is your dream holiday?
6. What is the best thing about school holidays?

Do the adults and children in your house share the same ideas or do you have different perspectives?



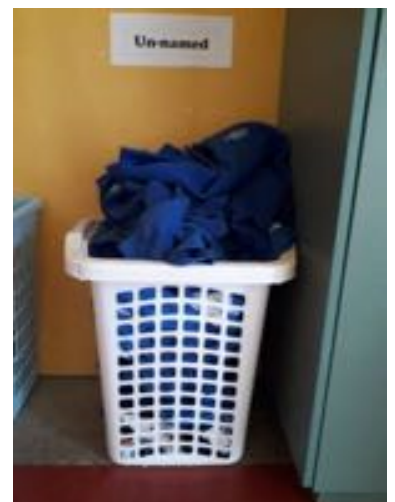
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## Uniform

There is an enormous pile of lost property in the Library foyer, sadly much of this is unnamed, not clearly named or has the name of a previous owner, so we are unable to return it to the rightful owner.

The school holidays are an ideal time to check that all your uniform is clearly named.

If you are missing uniform, please check in the Library.





# Lost Property!

Please come and search through the lost property in the library foyer for your child's clothes. We have uniform and weekend wear, drink bottles, a pair of shoes and pairs of swimming goggles.

A lot of the uniform is unnamed. Don't forget we have an ongoing fundraiser with **Precious Labels** now who create labels for all these sorts of things! Follow the link below, find our school's name and away you go!

<https://www.preciouslabels.co.nz/current-fundraisers/>



Your friendly PTA

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**Reminder: Mon 5 July and Wed 7 July**  
School will finish at 12.30 so conferences can begin at 1.00pm

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# Sport at Clarkville



Thursday sport in action

## Sport Calendar

Term 2 Week 9: Year 5 and 6 Basketball tournament option for interested parties please contact Mr B

**Team 3**

Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Wk 1 26/7					
Wk 2 2/8					
	Mini Ball entries open				
Wk 3 9/8		Mini ball entries close			
	Basketball entries open				
Wk 4 16/8					
	Duathlon entries due for children who qualify				
Wk 5 23/8		Minball starts			



# Calendar of Events

please note the dates in your diary

July	5 & 7 School finishes @ 12.30 so Learning Conferences can start at 1pm. Bus will run at 12.30 5 Learning Conferences start at 1pm. 6 Learning Conferences, start at 3.10pm 6 NZ Playhouse performance at school 6 PTA meeting, staffroom, 6.45pm 7 Learning Conferences start at 1pm 8 Learning Conferences, start at 3.10pm 9 Fish & Chips (order via Kindo) 9 Chocolate Bars for sale after school 9 Assembly, 9.10am 27 Term 3 starts 30 Sausage Sizzle (order via Kindo)
August	6 Pizza for lunch (Year 8 fundraiser, cash orders in the Library before school) 6 School Disco 13 Subway lunch (order via Kindo) 13 Chocolate Bars for sale after school 18 Board Meeting, 6.00pm 19 School Ski Trip, optional (date to be confirmed) 20 Pizza for lunch (Year 8 fundraiser, cash orders in the Library before school) 27 Sausage Sizzle (order via Kindo)
September	3 Pizza for lunch (Year 8 fundraiser, cash orders in the Library before school) 10 Fish & Chips (order via Kindo) 13-19 Te Wiki o Teo Māori 14 PTA meeting, 6.45pm, staffroom 22 Board Meeting, 6.00pm 24 Sausage Sizzle (order via Kindo)

## 2021 Term Dates

**Term 2:** **Tuesday 4 May - Friday 9 July**  
 Teacher only day: Friday 4 June  
 Public holiday: Queen's Birthday: Monday 7 June

**Term 3:** **Tuesday 27 July - Friday 1 October**  
 Teacher only day: Monday 26 July  
 Term starts: Tuesday 27 July

**Term 4:** **Monday 18 October – Thursday 16 December**  
 Public holiday: Labour Day: Monday 25 October  
 Public holiday: Canterbury Show Day: Friday 12 November