



# NEWSLETTER

Term 2, Week 3: 15th May 2024

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School Bank Account: 12-3290-0003608-00 ASB Masterton

Please remember to notify the school office of any absences before 9am each day.

Please remember to **SLOW DOWN to 40kms** between the signs near our school.

Remember you must **SLOW DOWN to 20kms** when passing a stationary school bus!!



**Happy Week 3, whānau!** I may have been away for only a few days, but it's always SUCH a heart-warming thing to come back, and be welcomed with smiles and hugs from our kidlets! We really do have a lovely bunch of kids, who mostly do the right thing, and we are all proud of them.

**Nau mai haere mai ki to tātou kura/Welcome:** Last week (Week 2) we had four new learners join our kura. Actually, Brooky has returned to LJR, bringing along his brother, Bodhi who is 5 yrs old and has joined Anna and her littlest learners in our Junior Room. We also have Aaleyah (Y5) and her sister, Aleyna (Y4) who have joined Ronel and her class in the Middle Room. The girls, and their mum and dad, have moved here from Australia recently.

**Booktown Opening kapahaka combined schools performance:** I was absolutely gutted to be stuck at home on Friday night while our guys performed their hearts out alongside Featherston and St Teresa's schools at the Featherston Booktown Karukatea Festival 2024 Opening Night. Ronel sent along five videos of each of the waiata and the haka. I have to confess to a few tears of pride, especially seeing how our littlest guys, right up the front, just haka'ed the heck out of it!

**Pink Shirt Day:** This Friday we are fundraising for Pink Shirt Day. A 'slip' is coming home today with your eldest or only so that you can order them a sausage in bread (with onions if they choose!) for their lunch on that day. It's also a day where they can wear a pink shirt if they have one. Please adhere to the 'pink shirt as an alternative to a school shirt' theme, please.

**Year 7/8s Technology Days:** Still no news on this, Year 7 and 8 parents. As soon as Gina (tumuaki of Featherston School/ Te Kura O Paetūmokai) has filled the role, we will kick into our kidlets Technology days again. Watch this space!

**Volunteers called for a spot of gardening and mulch spreading:** The wonderful Abhi came into see Jo and I this morning with the great idea of us getting in touch with the local Featherston sawmill and getting a truck load of mulch delivered as soon as possible. They are currently selling a truck load for \$170, and we thought we could get one, then ask any of you who have time to come into school on a weekend, or even stay after school one day, and just get to spreading the mulch onto our garden. Once its delivered (I'll have them dump it behind our tool shed) I can let you know, and then it would be truly amazing if we could have some help with that. We have all the tools and the wheelbarrow inside the garden shed, so just help yourself. I don't want to schedule a working bee this term (we'll save that for just before our Country Fair (previously known as our Ag Fair/Lamb & Calf Day)

**Our Skool Loop app and Zero Data:** This amazing company are now providing free data to access to our Skool Loop app. Please see the information further in this newsletter which tells you how to change your settings to make use of it.

**Lastly, and very sadly . . .** Our lovely Judy, Mrs Poole, who teaches in our Little Junior Room (LJR) has had to make the tough decision to resign. We all wish her the very best, and she will remain in our thoughts. Noho ora mai rā, Judy, stay safe.

Ma te wā!  
Tana Klaricich

"In a world where you can be anything, be kind . . ."

If you haven't already done so, please download our **Skool Loop** app to your phone so you can keep right up to date with what's happening at school, and receive any important notices or emergency notifications: <https://www.skoolloop.com/> If you need help downloading the app, come in and see Jo or me.

## Term 2 Dates to Remember

**Pink Shirt Day:** Fri 17 May, more information to follow

**Teacher Only Day:** Fri 31 May

**King's Birthday:** Mon 3 June

Back to school on **Tues 4 June**

**Featherston Cluster Cross Country:**

Fri 7 June, at Kahutara School

**Last Day Term 2:** Fri 12 April

We are gratefully supported by:



## 2024 School Term Dates

**T1:** Wed 7 Feb - Fri 12 April

**T2:** Mon 29 April - Fri 5 July

**T3:** Mon 22 July - Fri 27 Sept

**T4:** Mon 14 Oct - Thurs 19 Dec

We are gratefully supported by:



## Arrival Time at School

Just a gentle reminder that children should **not** be arriving at school before

**8.15am**

## Changes to your family details:

Please let Jo know if you have moved house, changed phone numbers, or your children's caregiver details need amending, and she will update that information within our School Management system.

# School 'Happenings' . . .



This made us all giggle . . . !!

Happy Mothers Day to all teacher moms! You regularly need to clarify whether you're talking about your actual kids or your class.



## Junior Room Newsletter, Term Two 2024

Term Two already! A warm welcome to our newest Junior Room tamariki and their whānau. Archie, Arlo, George and Bodhi have all settled in so well already.

We have a fantastic term of learning lined up.

We will continue to build on foundational literacy and numeracy skills through stories, hands on exploration and daily practice.

Other areas of focus this term include:

- Exploring a range of science concepts through our House of Science kits that come to school each fortnight. This term we get to explore science through the themes of Volcanoes, Fossil Fuels, Mighty Microbes and Measurement.
- Learning about Māori myths and legends, the significance of Matariki and the different ways that this can be celebrated.
- Being healthy through physical activity, such as running, relays and other fun fitness games. We have begun training for the upcoming Cross Country, which is always a fun event! We will also be learning about healthy and positive relationships and some mindfulness strategies to help us focus and be calm.
- Learning basic drawing skills and exploring different mediums for creating artworks, including tempera paint, water paint, crayon, oil pastel and dye.
- Regular singing of waiata and continuing to develop our kapahaka performance.
- Developing our digital fluency skills through basic coding and learning to use tools to capture and share our learning through Seesaw and Chatterpix.

### A few important reminders:

**Naming school uniforms:** Please make sure school uniforms are named and do check the labels as children's clothing can get mixed up at times.

**Change of clothes:** Now the colder wetter months are upon us, a change of clothes in schoolbags is highly recommended for those times when tamariki get wet or muddy at school.

**Home reading:** Bookbags come home each day with a reading book for your child to read at home. They may be able to do this independently, or with help from whānau.

**Seesaw:** A great way to connect with the learning that is happening at school. We hope to have more regular posts this term as the tamariki learn how to capture their own learning and share it to their Seesaw journal.

**An invitation...** in the coming weeks I will be hosting an afternoon workshop to share about the Better Start Literacy Approach that we use here at South Featherston School. This will be an informative session where you learn about the approach, how we use this at school and how you can help support your child at home. Please do attend if you are able to, and for those who have attended one in 2023, you are very welcome to come along for a refresher.

Lastly, a reminder that I am happy to talk through any questions or concerns you may have. Please feel free to pop in for a chat or send an email.

*He waka eke noa. We are all in this together!*

Ngā mihi,

Anna Hull

A little message to the LJR whānau (prior to Judy's resignation)

Kia ora koutou,

Welcome back Little Junior Room to Term Two 2024

It is good to be back.

We have already had a busy start to the term with commemorating ANZAC Day in class, where many of our tamariki were able to share their knowledge of historical events that are important in our lives. We were very fortunate to share Sandy's family war medals which made history very real for the tamariki. It was good to see the knowledge, respect and reverence that children displayed when looking at the medals. There was a lot of discussion about family members who went to war and some of the children shared their experience of the Dawn service.

This term will also see the exploration of the Matariki the Maori New Year. We will be exploring some planting around this time and investigate the star cluster of Matariki (Pleiades). Writing and art will revolve around this topic.

There will also be exploration of Science in Little Junior room with the help of the Science kit that has arrived to explore food for thought. This should be a fun time for their busy minds.

## Middle Room Term 2 Newsletter

Welcome back to term 2 Middle Room!

An extra big welcome to our three new tamariki: Jaxson Rendel and his family who joined us, and our two sisters Aaleyah and Aleyna Vaughan and their family. We are looking forward to getting to know you all and I am sure you are going to enjoy your learning journey here with us.

This term we kicked off with some learning about ANZAC day and looked at life in the trenches and everything those brave soldiers had to endure. We looked at not only human heroes, but different animals who helped during the war.

In Mathematics, we revisited 3D shapes and their properties (faces, edges and vertices). This week we started looking at fractions, adding and subtracting them and how to convert improper fractions. These kids have such inquiring minds and to an extent, our learning path will be guided by their investigations and questions.

In Reading, each group will have different learning goals and also more individual ones for those who need them. Our big focus will be comprehension, inference and re-telling or summarising what we have read.

In Writing we have been looking at checking our writing, reading through it to make sure it makes sense, and using interesting, descriptive words to capture our audience's attention. We are also still focusing on the planning of our writing to ensure we get all our great ideas down on paper in the right sequence with a gripping start, interesting middle and conclusive ending.

We are excited to have the house of science kits again this term and there will be loads of learning happening around these!

Cross country will also be during this term and we will take some time out of every dry, sunny day to train for this event.

We also have Matariki to look forward to closer to the end of this term. This is always a highlight and such a lovely opportunity to combine learning with beautiful art projects.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Looking forward to a fabulous Term 2 with these lovely students!

Kind regards,

Ronel Johansson

[ronel@sfs.school.nz](mailto:ronel@sfs.school.nz)

## Senior Room Term 2 Newsletter

Kia ora Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to Term 2!

Gosh, Term 1 raced by so fast, I can't believe we are in May and marching steadily towards the middle of the year ☐.

This term our literacy programme is centred around speech writing. Years 7 and 8 have an opportunity to head to the South Wairarapa Speech competitions in June so we have started writing our speeches now to give them time to get their speeches polished and ready to present.

We are beginning to look at our local area for inquiry, this also ties into our literacy and there will also be a small Maths component and a larger Science component as we look at the land formations and Geology of the area.

Our Math focus this term has started with fractions. I can't stress how important it is for these tamariki to learn their times tables, this is something that you can help with at home. Songs, flashcards, posters and plain old repetition are the best ways to help your child with these. Without this knowledge they get stuck doing long strategies and find it difficult to progress.

We have been lucky enough to have been given some mindfulness journals which we are beginning to work through, it gives the kids a chance to write about what's going on for them and the way they are feeling. It also works on building resilience and finding acceptable ways to deal with conflict.

Cross country training has begun as well, great to see so many running in sensible shoes, it's much easier for them (and better for their bodies) to run in appropriate footwear. Crocs and gumboots are not appropriate footwear to run in. We will also be using the data from our running (lap numbers) for a statistical investigation later in the term.

Our poetry unit went amazingly well last term and we have done some awesome pieces of art as well, we'd love you to pop in at some stage and have a look.

As always, if you have any questions or issues, please get in touch.

Kind regards

Kerri

# COMMUNITY NOTICES



*Speak UP*  
**STAND TOGETHER  
STOP BULLYING**  
KŌRERO MAI, KŌRERO ATU, MAURI TŪ, MAURI ORA

**EVENT DETAILS:**  
**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May**  
Wear 'Pink' Day, and  
\$2 Sausage Sizzle lunch

Mental Health Foundation  
mauri tū, mauri ora

PINK SHIRT DAY 2023

## “Shave for a Cure”

One of our amazing mums, Sadie Prestidge, is doing this years “Shave for a Cure”, which raises money for leukaemia treatment and research. She will be shaving her head for the cause!

Sadie would love to have as many people as possible donate to this, and would be keen to try and raise about \$800. She will be shaving her head on 25th May.

Here is the link to Sadie’s donation page:

<https://www.shaveforcure.co.nz/sadie-prestidge>

Thanks from **Sadie!**



