



Newsletter
Welcome
Term 1 2026
Leading Our Learning - Whai Akoranga



Thursday 12 February 2026

Kia Ora Parents, Caregivers, and Ward School Whānau,

We have had a fantastic couple of weeks to kick off 2026! It has been awesome to see all the students get into their routines. As we move forward into the heart of Term 1 we want to keep the positivity flowing. As part of our School Values focus we have started the term concentrating on active participation and involvement in learning inside and outside the classroom. As a staff we have chosen a whakatauki for Term 1 to back up this expectation - **Tama tū, tama ora, Tama noho tama mate - Literally - he/ she who stands lives he/she who sits dies - For us:** when you actively participate, you will be on the path to success; when you choose not to participate, it will make life more challenging!

Meet the teacher evening

Thank you to the whānau that attended our Meet the Teacher evening last night. It was a fantastic opportunity to catch up and reconnect after the summer break. If you were unable to attend and have questions, please make sure to check in with your child's classroom teacher

Swimming

Swimming is always a key focus in our P.E at the start of the year. We are extremely fortunate to have Whānau member Sue Murray back in the school to lead swimming lessons with all of our tamariki! She has a wealth of swimming knowledge, and it is awesome to see the students getting the most out of their time in the pool. This week, Wave Pool and Reef visited the Seddon swimming pool to get in some extra diving practice ahead of next week's Seddon/ Ward Swimming sports. Thanks, Miss Benseman, for organising this! You should have received a notice requesting help with transport to this event (Wave Pool & Reef only). Thank you in advance for your support. We can't participate in these events without it. Spectators are more than welcome. The event will run on Thursday, the 19th of February, from 11:00 am until about 2:00 pm



Netball Taster

Today, we were lucky to have Kim Stephens from Marlborough Netball visit the school. Kim was able to run each class through a short half-hour taster session to get the tamariki excited about the upcoming netball season. Look out for netball sign-up information later on in the term.



Fundamentals

Next week, all three classes will work with staff from Stadium 2000 as part of the fundamental skills programme. Students will learn the rules, skills and movements of a variety of games and activities such as dodgeball, volleyball, ultimate frisby and some heart-start water aerobics in the pool! (Please make sure students bring their togs and a towel.) All activities are modified to suit age and ability levels. It is a great week to develop both fine and gross motor skills. I will make sure to get plenty of pics to share in the next newsletter!

Wave Pool Fundraiser

Who doesn't love a hot cross bun? Wave pool are selling Hot Cross Buns to help make their end-of-year camp more affordable and accessible for every year 3, 4 and 5 student. Your support helps us keep costs down and ensure all our students can take part in a memorable and inclusive camp experience. We are going to Bridge Valley in Nelson at the end of October. Please help us by supporting our fundraising efforts. Thanks for your support! Check out the link for more details [Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser](#)

Senior Year 7/8 Technology

Just a reminder that our Year 7 & 8 Students will start technology on Monday (16th Feb). Students travel by bus to the Tech Centre in Blenheim. Here they get to study subjects such as Bio Technology, digital technology, Food technology and Hard Materials Technology. While the Tech Centre endeavours to get the students away promptly from town, there can sometimes be delays in the children getting back to school. When this happens, our south bus can be delayed as we wait for children, but Candi is very good at letting you know if or when this happens. Note that all technology dates can be found on the calendar on our school website or the calendar on Skool Loop.

Dominion Salt Works

We would like to extend a massive thank you to the wonderful people at the Dominion Salt Works. They have recently announced that they want to support the local community and have chosen several organisations to donate to, and we are lucky to be one of them. This year's donation will go towards meeting the ever-rising costs of Camps and Education Outside the Classroom to the benefit of all of our students.



Just for Laughs! (aka Mr Sangsters Dad Joke of the week!)

What did the drummer call his twin daughters

Anna One, Anna two!

Ngā mihi nui,
Aaron Sangster - Principal/Tumuaki

Together



Respectful



Adaptable



Creative



Kind



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Important Term 1 Dates

Date	Event
Feb 16-20	Fundamentals Skills
Feb 16	Yr 7/8 Technology Day 1
Feb 19	Ward/Seddon Swim Sports at Seddon
Feb 20	Golf Fundraiser
Feb 26	Reef Assembly
Feb 26	Lions Dinner - Fundraiser
Feb 27	Rural School Swimming Sports in Blenheim
Mar 3 & 10	Mako Rugby Taster
Mar 12	Wave Pool Assembly
Mar 22	Flaxbourne Show (100 Year anniversary)
Mar 26	Rock Pool Assembly
Mar 27	Marlborough District Swimming
Mar 28	Reef Assembly
Mar 24/25	Parent Interviews
Apr 1	Reef Assembly End of Term 1 for Students
Apr 2	Teacher Only Day - Maths - PD
April 23	Lions Dinner - Fundraiser