



## **WEDNESDAY 13 DECEMBER 2023**

## Newsletter End Of Year

This year has been fantastic. Looking back on all that is and all that was.

We need to thank a lot of people who have made this year so successful. Paul, who has changed the look of the school and supported us to create a nursery and teach us how to split flaxes etc to grow on multiple plants. I don't think the grounds have looked so good in the time I have been here. He is always thinking of ways he can make it look a little bit better. I know that the students have learned a lot from him this year.

Leanne, how has raised so much money through so many different ways this year. Honestly I rolled my eyes when she told us that we were going to sell donuts as a fundraiser, I have apologised many times since, due to the staggering amount it made. The Ciabatta bread, Apples, and her work with the Friends of Cannington has also contributed to the annual fundraising total.

The Friends of Cannington have achieved so much from such a small group of parents. The deck outside the library, and the swings are well used additions. Thank you to all those that have helped with the fundraising through the Friends of Cannington by either buying items, donation of items, and/or donation of time and effort. Special mention here to Leanne, Helen, Alyce, Bridget, and Richard. Richard this year has done most of the building work around the school, and looking at the quality of the deck build we have been lucky to have him working here. Each and every time we hold an event where we invite schools to visit such as Lake Takapo School, Albury, Fairlie Primary, St Jo's Fairlie Andrew always drops of the bales for the obstacle course or allows us to use the farm for the cross country. The parents who always turn up to help out during these events make our school look coherent and all working to the one end. What stands out for us is that it isn't the same people each time turning up to help.

This year our students and Cannington have benefited from having Asher working with the Juniors. We were lucky as a school to hire someone of her calibre and our students are the better for it. Next year Asher takes on a permanent role at Bluestone School in the junior syndicate. We wish her well and know that she will become an essential member of their team. This year Mrs Hough has taught for three days a week while I took on the Kahui Ako role. Ann brings a different approach and level of understanding in so many areas from her previous roles and







this makes our students more rounded in what they learn. This year Ann has been working with other schools in the Te Manahuna area to help develop their SENCO approach and criteria around supporting students at risk of not engaging in the New Zealand education system.

Next year we have Dawn starting with us as our full-time teacher aide. Dawn comes with an excellent skill set having held this position previously at Albury where she also was the office manager. Again we have been lucky to attract someone with such a strong skill set to work with our students. We can already see how our senior students will benefit from the ICT skills that Dawn will share with the seniors.

Finally, we come to the person that the school absolutely requires to run smoothly and that is Lady Rachel. Without Rachel, the wheels would actually fall off. Rachel is able to navigate the MOE sites such as EDpay, that I find myself wanting to launch the computer at the wall, with ease and appear calm.

Lastly, it remains for me to thank you as the families for your support of Cannington School, and for supplying students that want to learn. This makes our work here so easy. All the people above do not see this as a job, or a career, rather they see this work as a vocation. Effort is put in, and time is invested, not for the money but because they believe it is the right thing to do. I am lucky to work with the people I do.

## IMPORTANT DATES

15 December 2023 Prizegiving – last day of Term 4

31 January 2024 First Day Term 1

6 February Waitangi Day

28 March Teacher Only Day – PACT Day

29 March Good Friday

1 April Easter Monday

2 April Easter Tuesday

12 April Last Day Term 1

25 April Anzac Day

## **REMINDER**

End of year Friday 15<sup>th</sup> from 12:30pm shared lunch and bring a dessert if you like. We will be serving baked ham, new spuds, and salad with pavlovas later.

The assembly will start at 1:30pm.

Look forward to seeing you all here.

Asher, Leanne, Rachel, Paul, Ann, Jade and Deane.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday!

