



## TERM ONE, WEEK TEN 2017

Dear Parents/Caregivers/Whanau,

The use of technology in schools is often a hot topic and seems to appear as a workshop at almost every teacher conference on offer in some shape or form. At TCS technology is seen as a tool for learning. It isn't the biggest factor towards ensuring a student achieves success in their learning (many things are ahead of ICT in that respect) but we are ensuring that our students are learning how to use digital technology effectively and in a God-honouring way.

The staff read and discussed an article recently about the use of ICT (namely computers and tablets) for junior students. The article suggested they shouldn't be used in school by students before age 9 years. Some of the research to support this included the inability of students to concentrate for sustained periods of time. We also believe that excessive use can reduce younger students' oral language skills and their imaginative play/creativity because they are used to being 'fed' everything from the screen. We want our children to develop a wide range of skills at TCS and that includes problem-solving and using creative skills which will enable them, ultimately, to develop new ways of thinking and doing things and, we would hope, impact the world for God in a positive way in the future. To this end, we are trialling removing tablets and laptops from the Year 1-4 classrooms until the end of the year. Instead of being rewarded with computer time or doing follow-up maths or reading activities on the computer in class, they will be encouraged to draw or build or create things. We have purchased Lego sets for the three youngest classes and the look of delight on the students' faces as the sets were delivered was great to see. Year 1-4 teachers will continue to use ICT to share ideas, songs and movies with students and we'll still continue to use laptops and chromebooks for Year 5-10 students because we have seen some wonderful, positive learning for those students. It's a matter of balance and ensuring our children across all levels are developing the talents they have been given in many different ways.

*Ma te Atua e manaaki*

God bless,

Bethany Rentoul.

### Congratulations

Well done to **Tafu Tafunaina** for placing 5<sup>th</sup> in Javelin in the South Island Secondary Schools Athletics Competition.

Well done to **Heidi Uys** in the South Canterbury Primary School's Sports Association for Swimming, with the following results: 1<sup>st</sup> in 50m breast stroke,

2<sup>nd</sup> in the 50m free, 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 25m breast stroke, 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 25m free in the 11-year girls' competition.

## IMPORTANT NOTICES

### No Swimming Next Week

Due to other events happening next week, there will be no swimming on the last day of term, 13<sup>th</sup> April.

### Winter Uniform

Year 9 ties are now available to purchase from the office. \$20, cash only.

Next term we change to our winter uniform – for girls this means they wear long navy blue socks or tights. For boys, there are long-sleeved green polos which can be purchased from the uniform shop (open every morning, 8.30 to 12.30). These are optional. No sandals to be worn in the winter months please. Year 9 and 10s wear long-sleeved white shirts and ties. The shell jackets for Year 9s will be provided to them next week, and these will be to activity expense accounts.

### Pie Warmer

Next term the pie warmer will be available for heating lunches on Mondays. Subway will still be available on Fridays, and we hope to organise sausages sizzles or noodles for one other day per week.

### Procedures Update

The following procedures are being reviewed and updated this term. If you would like to make a suggestion for how these could be improved, please let us know at the school office. Copies can be found on the school website or obtained from the school office upon request.

- C3 Cultural Diversity
- PS3 Beginning Teachers
- PS7 Staff Leave
- HS20 Smokefree Schools
- HS14 Separated Parents
- HS19 Bicycles

We will also be reviewing the requirements regarding hair in the uniform procedure. If you have any thoughts on the wording for this to enable it to be more specific, please let us know at the office.

### Mufti Day and Bake Sale

Tomorrow, 7<sup>th</sup> April, we will be holding a St John Gold Heart Appeal - a mufti day with gold coin donation AND bake sale. All donations of baking to be dropped at Office on the morning of the 7<sup>th</sup>. The bake sale will take place in the car park at 3pm.



## **Rural Schools Netball**

An update on Rural Schools Netball –Coaches will soon or have already contacted our students regarding what teams they will be in and when practices are. The following information informs you of fees and starting dates. Games are played at the netball courts by the Southern Trust Events Centre on Morgans Road.

Year 3/4 Competition: This will be every Friday afternoon 3.30pm -4.45pm starting with a 15-minute skill session followed by a 5 v 5 game made up of four 8 minute quarters. Children will be in teams of 7. The cost is \$50 per player for 10 weeks. Starts Friday 5th May.

Years 5- 8 Competition will run for 15 weeks and be played Saturday mornings starting on the 6th May.

Year 5/6 Competition: This is a modified game of 6 v 6 made up of four 8-minute quarters. The cost is \$75 per player.

Year 7-8 Competition: This competition is traditional 7 v 7 netball. Players must rotate positions. The game will be made up of four 10-minute quarters. The cost is \$80 per player.

Fees will be charged onto activity expenses accounts.

Please ask Mrs Thompson or Mrs Nareki if you are unsure about how our teams will work.

## **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

### **Immunisation Week**

May 1-7 2017 is Immunisation Week. This year we are focusing on ensuring our older children and teens are up to date with their Immunisations. This is a reminder for parents/caregivers to check that your child has had a complete course of vaccinations for their age. If your child was born after the 15 November 2005, and you are not sure what vaccinations that have had, you can contact Lynette on 03 6872317 to check their status. If your child was born before this date you can check with your child's GP Practice Nurse. If you require assistance accessing catch-up vaccinations please phone Kiri or Niamh on 03 6872435.

Children turning 11yrs from July 2017 who have not previously had the chicken pox virus or who have not received a vaccination for the chicken pox virus are also entitled to 1 free vaccine from their GP Practice. Please contact your Practice for more details.

### **Entertainment Books**

Orders for the Entertainment Book need to be in at the office by Thursday 13th April. This is a fundraiser for the PTA.

## **Basketball Draw**

4.00 pm: Boys Duty Team

4.45 pm: Boys vs Point Dragons Crt 2

7.45 pm: Girls Duty Team

7.00 pm: Girls vs Bluestone Babes Crt 1

## **Prayer Meeting**

We have a weekly prayer meeting on Thursday at 9 am in the staffroom. If you have any prayer items or requests, please let us know and we can write them into the book.

## **Just a thought...**

How many times have I talked to God with my children today?

How many times have I spoken about God to my children today?

## **Absentees**

If your child has been absent for whatever reason, please provide a note when they return to school with the dates and reason for their absence. If your child is away due to sickness for more than 3 days in a row, a medical certificate must be sent to the school upon their return.

## **SCHOOL CALENDAR**

6 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Swimming
12 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Aoraki Swimming
13 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Last Day of Term 1
1 <sup>st</sup> May	Term 2 begins
27 <sup>th</sup> May	Cheese roll making

## **COMMUNITY NOTICES**

### **Mrs A's Music School - Enroll for Term 2**

Students of all ages sing or play their way to something special

- 🎵 Students are taught by experience musicians in our studio at 10 Quarry Rd Timaru.
- 🎵 Individual or Group Lessons: Singing; Piano; Guitar; Bass; Drums; violin; Brass; Recorder; Ukulele, Theory.
- 🎵 Contact: Jannette Aldridge 027 686 4877

### **Junior Stamp Club**

Meets Monday April 24<sup>th</sup>, 10am-Noon at 213 Church Street (Bible Chapel Church Hall).

Free programme for Primary School students to discover the World's greatest hobby. Provided by the Timaru Philatelic Society. Queries: Alistair Pike 6883817



**Artfull Crafts Holiday Programme**

Come to Artfull Crafts for crafty fun during the holidays! Cardmaking Thursday 20th April, 1:30pm - 3:30pm, \$15. Steampunk Clock Thursday 27th April 1:30pm - 3:30pm \$30.

Bookings can be made online at [www.artfullcrafts.co.nz/classes](http://www.artfullcrafts.co.nz/classes) or phone 688 8566, or email [info@artfullcrafts.co.nz](mailto:info@artfullcrafts.co.nz).

Artfull Crafts, 24 George Street, Timaru

**Chipmunks Timaru Holiday Programme**

\$40 Full Day, \$35 School Hours

Exciting Activities for April School Holidays, we are even offering Horse Riding. Our programme works around you and is flexible, you pick and choose if you would like your child to attend trip day or not. Enrol at <https://chipmunks.aimyplus.com> or call Julia 0274272659

**Kiwi Squash – Give Squash a Go**

Squash for Years 5 –8

Timaru Squash club is offering FREE 'Have a go' sessions. Equipment provided. Sessions will be fun and interactive. Term 2 programme information available. Check out our website for any further information [www.sporty.co.nz/timarusquash/](http://www.sporty.co.nz/timarusquash/)

Monday 3rd & 10th April & Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> April, 4.00 -5.00 pm. Cost: FREE

Timaru Squash Club, Brunswick Street

Contact: Linda Kenny - 0274248504

**YMCA South and Mid Canterbury**

Free YMCA holiday activities: The YMCA holiday programme is back! If you are aged 11 – 17, this is for you! Get active this term break from April the 18th to the 26th. For further information call 6883682, or go to [www.ymcasc.org.nz](http://www.ymcasc.org.nz). Find us on Facebook.