

# PANUI - NEWSLETTER

*Kia ora koutou  
Nau mai haere mai  
Haere mai  
Ki runga o tenei Kura  
He Kura mahana  
He Kura Pounamu*

## Our Broad Rich Curriculum

### Sandy's Spot

#### Parent/Teacher Get Togethers

Thank you for such a great turnout to our community sausage sizzle/information evening and to our parent/teacher get togethers.

We really appreciate the way you so freely shared information about your young person, your family and your culture. We hope that we also shared some insights as well as common understandings about your young person.

We believe that together we can provide a rich quality education for every child to ensure that he/she reaches their potential in every way.

If you did not manage to meet up with the teacher please chat to them about making a time that works for you both. These conversations are invaluable.

Thanks again everyone.

**Arohanui,  
Sandy**



# MT COOK SCHOOL GALA



**SATURDAY MARCH 10 10am – 2pm**

**We need:**

- **Everyone to come – it is such a fun day**
- Toys, books, children's clothes to sell – bring them in whenever you can
- People to help set up the hall for the three days before
- Delicious food from our many communities
- People to help on the day on a roster in the various stalls
- Cakes/sweets for the cake stall on the day

If everyone helps/contributes a bit it will be another fantastic day for our community

**Please talk to your child's teacher or to Sandy**

# What we do

At Mt Cook School...



We are learning through play in Kereru.





Check out this piece of  
**AWESOME WRITING!**

My mother is short and slim. She is a great mother to me, she supports me so much. She loves to see me play with her hair. My mother is black and beautiful. She is my young friend and encourages me. She helps me with my homework and teaches me how to play Indian games. So I feel my mother is like an angel in heaven with me. I can be a bit strict sometimes but my mother is kind not all my mother. But I need to understand all my mother. But year my mother assigned me for some days swimming, gymnastics, cricket, soccer, and I really enjoyed it. It's really interesting to take care of her.

Dhruv  
TIW#





In **Takahe** and **Katipo** classes one of the sources of inspiration for writing that we have used is from Toitoti magazine which publishes children's writing. There was a letter written by Joe Chan to his legs. Students used this as a basis for formatting their own letter to a chosen body part. Here are a few examples we are sharing with you.



Thursday 15 February

Dear Legs,

I would like to thank you for all the things that you do for me like making me move to and from many places, for putting up with the time I grazed you guys and heck everything!

You guys are looooo....ng, hairy, squishy dudes. I hope you and my feet get along because you have been together for aaa....ges.

You have been working very hard and after a recent accident I feel you deserve a break. I have thought about it and I planned that I will get a wheelchair so you can relax as long as you want.

Love from,  
Koen



Thursday 15 February

Dear Ears

Thank you a lot for letting me hear so well and to listen to important things. I am very happy that I can actually hear because other people I know can't hear at all.

I am sorry that when I go swimming, water gets inside you or when I go deep in the pool you start to hurt. You feel soft like a bit of felt.

Ways I can help you are by not listening to so many things and not going too deep in the pool and also trying not to get sick and sleeping lots.

Thank you again from your  
owner,  
Eve

Thursday 15 February

Dear Toes,

I just want to thank you for keeping my balance, teaching me how to be graceful when I dance and most importantly keeping me company.

You know ever since I could remember I always wondered about your soft pale sausages but over the past few years you have become tough, tanned fat sausages. You are very dainty and have taught me how to dance.

Now I must apologise for walking on my toes most of the time. Therefore I propose a holiday. From now on I will try to walk on my heels, take off my nail polish and give you a bath.

Yours sincerely,  
Lucy

Thursday 15 February

Dear Hands

Thank you for helping me write, draw and text. Thank you for helping me do my hair especially for dance, helping me get dressed, put on my shoes and to link my writing.

You look like my father's hands – skinny and bony. I'm sorry for the pain I make when I write for too long.

I will reward you by giving you a manicure. I will use you less, play fewer games and give you a break now and then.

Love,  
Tiana

Dear Hands

Thanks for helping me eat all that delicious food and if it weren't for you I'd be dumping my face in the delicious food and probably ruin it!

You have been a great help to me, but I haven't actually returned the favour ... but I can't think of anything. I mean even if I stay in bed I'm going to be turning and fumbling around and sometimes I'll be moving my pillow with you soooooo I'm terribly sorry. I promise I'll return the favour eventually, but sorry.

But, sometimes you get sweaty and you slip when I'm on the monkey bars but that's okay. Other than the fact that you still do it!

It's fascinating how much weight you can hold up and you're quite small, not to be offensive.

It's great to know you and I'll let you have a holiday soon.

Your thankful owner

Lucas  
Katipo

Dear Mouth

Thanks for chewing up all the food. You have helped me a lot over these past years. Although you have very bad breath and the fact that I have to keep you clean you are a very good body part.

You talk to people for me. You produce the slinkiest burps in the world which my friends love so much.

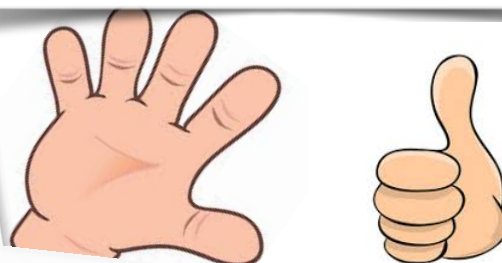
But you do have a bad side for instance you're stutter which I hate. Once again me having to brush you from time to time and keeping you closed but that's okay. Just make sure you improve.

So, I thought for a long time and I have decided that you can have a nice long holiday. This would be good for both of us. This will give your great voice a bit of a rest. So hence forth I will stop talking.

Thank you for reading.

Your thankful owner

Christen  
Katipo



Dear Teeth

Thank you for chewing my food. Apart from biting my tongue and lips you've been very helpful. I now realise I haven't paid m debt so I've decided to give you a holiday. Yes, I love talking but on the holiday ... I must keep silent.

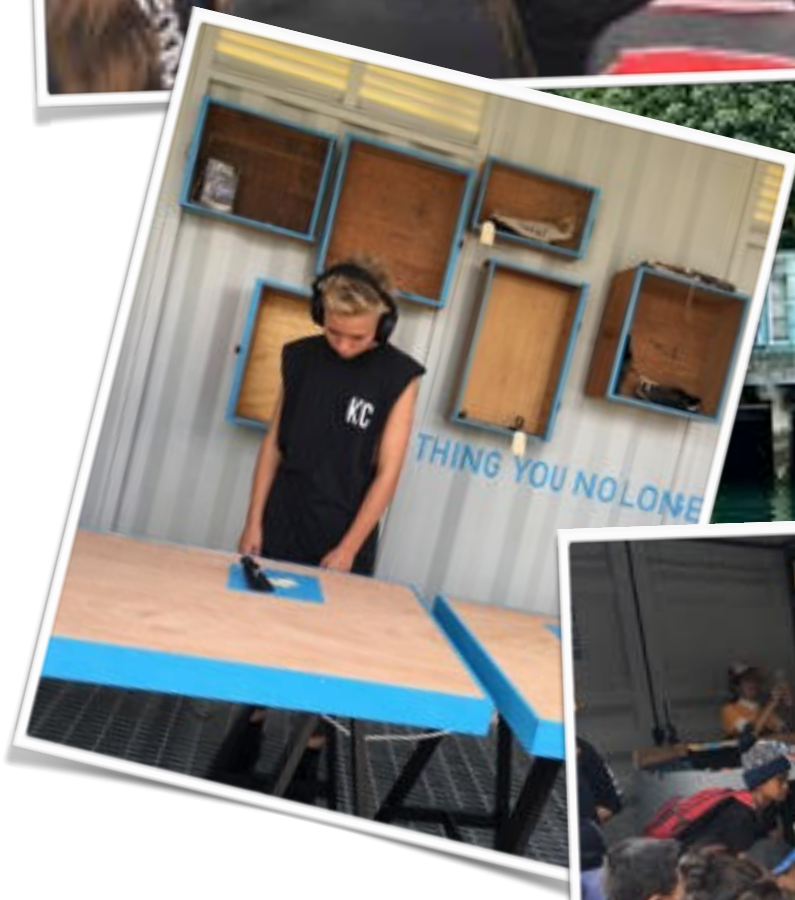
Your happy owner

Isabela  
Katipo Class





**The Senior School** had two Friday trips to the Performance Art Arcade at the Waterfront and attended two workshops: *Objects in Dialogue*, and *Sense of a Stranger*. What a strange experience to meet **just** the hand of a stranger! (photo below)









# From your Library...

*This rock is ours, you're welcome here.*

*"I am what I am," she quietly hummed.*

*You never know what is going to happen.*

*One child, one teacher, one book and one pen can change the world.*

*I think of all the boys I could be, I am most comfortable being me.*

*But will the forest still be there when we come back?*

*There is more to my story. It is a long crazy story...*

*Spyder had saved the day – and the cake!*

These are lines from eight of the picture books we have read in the library during class visits over the past fortnight. Your child(ren) might recognise the words and be able to tell you about the story. We often have great discussions during class visits over books, with children telling of their experience of something that has sparked a memory, or an observation they have made during the reading. Some picture books are simply a lot of fun, some are more sophisticated and have a message in them. These seven are a mixture of both. They are all new books to our School Library, and will go up on the shelves next week ready to be issued.



*I will defend the importance of  
bedtime stories to my last gasp.*

*~ JK Rowling*

# Communication

## Absences

If your young person is going to be away please ring and leave a message at the office or you can email the office on [office@mtcook.school.nz](mailto:office@mtcook.school.nz)

## Lateness

If your young person is late please ask them to come to the office to let Briar know that they have arrived.

## Teacher emails

Teachers check their emails before and after school so if there is something that you want to let the teacher know you can email the teacher. Email addresses are on the class newsletters that have come home with your young person.

Once the electronic rolls have been taken in the classroom we do a double check to make sure that anyone who has been recorded as absent is absent and then Briar will ring home.

Our aim is to ensure that we know where everyone is and to get a 100% success rate in terms of not ringing home if your child is already at school. We know how anxiety raising this is. If we slip up with this we apologise and Sandy would appreciate it if you can let her know. Her email is [principal@mtcook.school.nz](mailto:principal@mtcook.school.nz)

# Supporting our kids

## Be Sunsmart – Sunhats are compulsory

If children are playing outside and in the playground during morning tea and lunchtime they must wear a sunhat.

**Please make sure that your child has a named sunhat in his/her bag** and we would appreciate you talking about the importance of this with them. Caps are acceptable. **A hoody or a beanie is not a sunhat.**

## Great healthy food, clothing and footwear

The start of the year is especially tiring for our kids (and staff) as we all adjust to the changes and get back into routines. We can give our children energy for their learning by:

- Making sure they have a good breakfast to start the day
- Giving them healthy snacks for morning tea
- Making sure they have a good lunch and plenty of it - sandwiches or rice or pasta for example give energy for the afternoon. Bags of crisps and a biscuit do not give our kids the right sort of food to really support the energy needed for learning. Learning is hard work and needs the right fuel.
- Providing them with a suitable drink - water is the best possible drink and to keep it cold try putting a bottle 2/3 full in the freezer over night and then putting it in your child's lunch bag



**Just a reminder that sweets and fizzy drinks, including energy drinks, are not allowed at school.**

#### **Suitable clothing and footwear**

With the hot weather

- light summer clothes help our kids work as well as being active without getting overheated
- shoes to run and climb and help us be active also help our children to have fun with their friends
- sunhat of course

**Please talk to your child about the importance of all of these things and support them to have everything they need that would be great.**

## **Other information to start the year**

#### **Newsletter**

For those of you who are new to Mt Cook School you will receive a school newsletter once a fortnight. This will keep you informed of what is happening during the term and the year in syndicates and across the school.

#### **School Donations**

2018 donations are \$20 for the year or \$5 per term. If paid by March 31<sup>st</sup> they are \$15. As you will be aware our school donations are very low. As a board we have made the decision keep the fees low to ensure that they are affordable for all of our families. We also have families who offer to pay more. If you are in a position to pay more the board suggests an amount of up to \$100. The school would be very appreciative of any additional funding without changing our donation amount. Thank you for your support with this. Just a reminder that this is a donation to the school and that you can claim it on your tax.

#### **CARPARKING – PLEASE DROP OFF ON TORY ST**

Just a reminder that drop off and pick up needs to be on Tory St or the slip road Martin Square and **not anywhere in Sages Lane. Te Papa over the road** has asked that we **don't park** in their area as it blocks access and is not safe. You can park in The Warehouse carpark and walk down as the first 90 minutes is free. Thanks for your support with this.

#### **School Hours**

School begins at 8:55am and finishes at 3:00pm. It is very important that children arrive before the bell goes in the morning. The first few minutes of the day in class are vital for the setting up of the day. Please make sure that your child arrives on time. We know that there is the occasional emergency but in general we expect children here at 8:55am. **On Tuesdays school will finish early at 2:55pm for staff meetings.** If you are picking up your child at 3:00pm please be punctual. The school is not responsible for children after 3:00pm and children must be picked up on time. Remember that there is After School Care if you are unable to pick up your child at 3:00pm. Please encourage your young person to be at school 8:45am each day.

### **After School Care – Monday – Friday 3-00pm – 6-00pm**

The YMCA continues to provide After School Care for our children as well as a school holiday programme. They have been working in the school for a year and we are very pleased with the programme that they are providing.

For further information you can contact them on 02108436523 or pop in and see them in the school.

### **School Lunches**

**Cube bakery** continues to provide school lunches this year on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. These can be ordered before school in the office. Children then come to the office at lunchtime to pick up their orders. Menus are at the office.

**Sushi Tuesday** – Tuesday lunch is sushi that must be ordered at the office by 8:45am or online.

### **Addresses and Phone Numbers**

If you have changed your address or phone number recently please let Briar know. It's really important that we have accurate information.

Thanks a lot for your help with this.

### **School Banking**

School banking continues this year. We believe that it is really important for our children to have an understanding of financial literacy and how to manage and think about money. Too often our kids think that the source of money is the "hole in the wall".

ASB have a very good school banking set up. If your child does not have a bank account and you would like them to do so pick up a form from Briar at the office. For children to be filling in the deposit envelope and bringing it into school and placing in the box gives them a great sense of where it all starts and how savings work.

**School banking day is Thursdays.**

### **BOT (Board of Trustees)**

Our Board of Trustees members are:

Phil Hawker BOT Chair

Frances Fraser

Jo Hendy

David Lloyd

Sue Perry

Sandra McCallum Principal

Liam Carran/Simon Depree (Staff Reps)

The next meeting is **Tuesday 13 March at 7pm.**

### **Mobiles at school**

Some students need to bring mobiles to school to make contact with parents/caregivers at the end of the day. These will be locked in a teacher cupboard for the school day and returned at 3-00pm. Remind your young person to hand these in to the teacher on arrival at school. Thanks a lot.



# Dates for the term and year

## Important Dates for Term 1

School Gala	Saturday March 10
Good Friday	March 30
Easter Mon and Tues	April 2 and 3
Term 1 ends	Friday April 13

## Important Dates for 2018

Queen/s Birthday	Monday June 4
Labour Day/long weekend	Friday October 19/Monday October 22

## Term Dates for 2018

Term 1	Thursday February 2	–	Friday April 13
Term 2	Monday April 30	–	Friday July 6
Term 3	Monday July 23	–	Friday September 25
Term 4	Monday October 16	–	Tuesday December 18

**I have not failed, I've just found 10,000 ways  
that don't work.**

***Thomas A. Edison***



# Community Notices



For a child it is in the simplicity of play that the complexity of life is sorted like puzzle pieces joined together to make sense of the world.' — L. R. Knost

Working closely with parents and whānau, our passionate teaching team forms trusting relationships with each child to provide a calm, safe and stimulating environment in which they can flourish.



Mt Cook School grounds, 160 Tory St | 021 158 4606 | [office@mtcookpreschool.org.nz](mailto:office@mtcookpreschool.org.nz) | [www.mtcookpreschool.org.nz](http://www.mtcookpreschool.org.nz)

**FREE ESOL CLASSES FOR ADULTS** at Aro Valley Community Centre, 48 Aro Street. Classes begin on Thursday 15 February. There will be two classes:

- Intermediate 9.30-11.30 am
- Elementary 12.30-2.30 pm

Classes are two hours long, with tea, coffee and biscuits provided.

For more information, contact Aro Valley Community Centre - 04 384 8499 or email [community@arovalley.org.nz](mailto:community@arovalley.org.nz)

KEAS	CUBS	SCOUTS	VENTURERS	ROVERS	LEADERS
<p>Scouting offers fun and friendship, challenge and everyday adventure to 15,000 girls and boys across New Zealand. We have a positive impact on young people and have vacancies in your area.</p>			<p><b>ADVENTURE PLUS!</b></p>		
<p>Keas – ages 5-8 Cubs – ages 8-11 Scouts – ages 11-14</p>			<p>For more information: Please call or email us 0800SCOUTS or <a href="mailto:LNI@scouts.org.nz">LNI@scouts.org.nz</a></p>		
<p>0800 SCOUT</p>			<p> <b>SCOUTS</b> New Zealand</p>		
			<p><a href="http://scouts.org.nz">scouts.org.nz</a></p>		