

**Term 1, Number 1  
Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017**

*Achieve and Succeed*



**Welcome back to Argyll East School 2017!**

Tēnā koutou kātoa,  
Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school. It's fantastic to see lots of happy faces, busily catching up with friends, moving into new classrooms and excited to be back at school. Everyone looks well rested, refreshed and a little taller! AND welcome to our newest students - Tor, Zoe and Max - lovely to have you in our junior class. Our beginning roll is 64.

We have lots of fun learning planned for the first term. This Thursday afternoon we welcome Emma Williams and her bittern finding dog Kimi to school and on Friday morning we are once again treated with a visit from the staff of the National Aquarium. A great start to the term.

To promote the upcoming Ovation NZ Go Kidz Triathlon Series, we are running **our own fun triathlon at school - next Wednesday 8th February**. Students have been organising teams of three to participate in the Swim, Run and Wheels (including scooters, skateboards, rollerblades and bikes). We will start at 9:00am and invite you to come along and join in the fun. We will have a shared morning tea after our event. Please bring a plate. Everyone is very welcome!

On Friday 10th February we are having a Welcome Back to School BBQ. Teachers will be in their classrooms from 5.30pm to answer any questions you may have. This will be followed by a short information session at 6pm and a barbeque provided by the school. BYO drinks and refreshments. We look forward to seeing you.

In 2017 we are undertaking an inquiry into whether we can improve student learning through developing greater communication of learning to families. To begin our inquiry, we are collecting information about our current practices. Today you will receive an email with a short questionnaire that will help

us to plan our next steps. We would really appreciate receiving responses from all families. Trialling **Seesaw** - an app for sharing what is happening in the classroom - is a first step in our inquiry. The following link gives a basic outline of what to expect. <http://web.seesaw.me/parents/> We look forward to getting Seesaw up and running over the next few weeks.

This year I will be running guitar lessons every Tuesday for half an hour at lunchtime. If you would like your child to be involved they will need to have their own guitar and a clear file to keep their music in. Give me a call if you have any questions. Lessons will start Tuesday 14th February.

Over the Christmas holidays we had some property developments scheduled. Unfortunately the resealing of our court was not completed as the contractors ran into a problem with ground softness. We are hopeful that this will be remedied within the next week. We also had new carpet laid in the office and lining (autex) on the walls. It's looking great but also unfinished due to a shortage of autex which is due to arrive from Auckland in the week beginning 20th February. We'll keep you posted.

Special thanks to the Brans family for their help over the holidays with the chooks and keeping the pool clean and ready for the beginning of the school year. Thanks also to Ian Cameron for spraying the clover on the front lawn to keep the bees at bay and for the fertilized eggs - we look forward to some little chicks in the near future. Thank you to Hamish and Amy Davidson who came to school in the holidays to help in the shade house. Thanks to Hilton Jensen for dealing with our rubbish over the holidays - much appreciated. And best of luck to Emma Boyd who begins her teaching career at Havelock North Primary School. Thanks for your help with the cleaning last year.

I look forward to a great year working with you and your children. Please give me a call or send me an email if you have any concerns or ideas you'd like to share. Our doors are always open so call in any time, you are always welcome!

Nga mihi mahana,

Julie Thelwall  
Principal

#### WELCOME TO NEW STUDENTS



Welcome to Tor Jevon-Dalgaard, Zoe Shorten and Max Ellis who join our school this year.

#### OVATION NZ GO KIDZ TRIATHLON SERIES

The **Ovation NZ Go Kidz Triathlon Series** focus is all about participation and giving it a go. The dates for 2017 are : **Argyll East School - 18th February, Sherwood School - 4th March, Waipukurau School - 18th March**. The Teams section is ideal for those new to triathlons, with 3 year group sections. No placing prizes however everyone has a chance of winning some AMAZING SPOT PRIZES – an MGP scooter to be given away at each race and for those that enter all 3 races they go into a special prize draw to win either an android tablet or digital camera. Details and entry forms can be found at:

<http://www.sporty.co.nz/shbchb/Events-1/2017-Ovation-NZ-Go-Kidz-Triathlon>

#### CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go to the Tidswell family on the death of Rhys over the holidays. He was a past pupil of the school as were his children and he was a great supporter of the school and the community. He will be greatly missed.

#### CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Jackson and Jakob on the birth of their new brother, Tivatto.

#### AUDITIONS FOR THE SOUND OF MUSIC

This year the Waipawa Musical and Dramatic Society is putting on "The Sound of Music" and looking for interested children to be in the show.

Pre-audition 'Meet the Director' evening 7 pm 5th February 2017 at the M&D Clubrooms, Kenilworth St, Waipawa (next door to the CHB Municipal Theatre)

Following that, auditions will be on 25th and 26th February Phone 0278578124 after 5th Feb to book an audition time

Show dates: 13-22 July 2017

Like us (Waipawa Musical & Dramatic Club) on Facebook for up-to-date information

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

<b>February</b>	
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Waitangi Day</b>
<b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	Fun Triathlon
<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	Welcome back to school and meet the teachers BBQ
<b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	Ovation Go Kidz Triathlon at Argyll East
<b>March</b>	
<b>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Ovation Go Kidz Triathlon at Sherwood School
<b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	Ovation Go Kidz Triathlon at Waipukurau School