

Dunsandel School Newsletter

PRIDE Participation Respect Initiative Determination Excellence



Monday 30 January 2012

Important Dates

30 January

School starts for 2012

6 February

Waitangi Day school closed

7 February

PTA Meeting

16 February

Swimming Sports @ Southbridge

21 February

PTA AGM

23 February

School Sleepover (NB change of date)

8 March

Ellesmere Zone Swimming Sports

14-16 March

Life Education Truck @ School

29 March

Canterbury Swimming Sports

30 March

School Cross Country

4 April

Ellesmere Zone Padder Tennis

5 April

Last day of Term One

To be returned to School

*Emergency Contacts Form 2012

*Information about your child form – to your child's teacher

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From the Principal



Welcome to the 2012 school year. I trust you all had a safe and

enjoyable holiday break with your children. I have enjoyed hearing from the children what they did during the holidays during my travels around the classrooms today.

Today we welcome the following children to our school

Room One - Jack, Kiana, Joseph and Mason.

Room Four – Frances and Mia

Room Six – Shania and Miricara

Our classroom teachers for 2012 are:-

Room One Miss Tracey Harrold

Room Two Mrs Trish Muir

Room Three Mrs Anna Robinson

Room Four Mrs Toni Barns

Room Five Miss Jane Anderson

Room Six Miss Penny Wood

Teaching staff have been busy at school during the holidays to ensure our children have a great year of learning, experiences and opportunities ahead of them.

With this newsletter your child should also come home with the following

*Dunsandel School Information Booklet for 2012

*Emergency Contact Form 2012

*Bus Service Booklet 2012

*ICT Cyber Safety Agreement and Copyright Release 2012

*Child Information Sheet 2012

The Emergency Contact Form has two sides that are required to be filled in and returned to the school office. The children information sheet will help teachers – please send these back to the class teacher. I thank-you in advance for your prompt attention to this.

There are times when you need to make contact with your child's teacher. If you have a message for a teacher please use the school phone answer service (Option 4) – codes for teachers are in the Parent Information Booklet (sent home today). For messages regarding buses and absences – these should be left on the school answer service as well – Buses Option 3 and Absences Option 2.

It was disappointing to have some vandalism of our school between Christmas and New Year – broken glass bottles in the swimming pool area, a tag which

was etched into the front foyer door window and the bending back of the netball hoops. If you know anything about this please either see me or contact the Leeston Police.

We currently have property projects being completed at school – these include a soak hole by the library, extra seating by Rooms 4/5 and at the end of the hall, an amphitheatre grassed area, extra concreting outside Room 3 and the repainting of the netball/tennis and padder tennis courts. All areas of construction are fenced off by the Russell Lilley Builders. Thank-you to the teams of parents/caregivers/friends of our school who helped clear away trees etc from the school (Ken Lee, Warren Sheat and Gary Michael) and who helped pull down the fence between the school house and the PlayCentre (Stu Cameron, Robin Holmes, Nathan Currie Gary Harris, Scooter Palmer, , Brent Miller, Walter Ramsay, Will Colenso, Stu Cameron and Graham Wells) – very much appreciated. We look

forward to these projects being completed in the very near future.

A new initiative for communicating with you this year is an information text service which is outlined in Page 4 of this newsletter. This will not replace any of the current forms of communication we have in place but rather will add value to how we communicate with you. It is an information service only. There is no compulsion to join but I hope you will consider receiving these school texts.

We will have our first assembly of the year on Friday starting at 230pm in the school hall. All parents and caregivers are most welcome.

Last year we indicated that the school sleepover for this year would be on 9 February, however in light of the property projects currently being completed we have moved this to the night of 23 February. More details will in upcoming newsletters.

Please add the following important dates to your calendar – these are on page one and five. Please note the school swimming sports are on Thursday 16 February and we have moved the School Cross Country to term one – Friday 30 March.

As with the start of any school year a lot of information has been sent home today – please take time to read it and return the emergency contact form to the school office and the child information sheet to your child's teacher.

My staff and I are looking forward to sharing a great year with you and your children in 2012.

Enjoy the first week back.
Warm Regards
Dave Robinson



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Smiley faces and nervous anticipation at first Assembly for the children in 2012. All teachers shared their holiday highlights and the children found out about what was happening in Term One.

School Stationery

This week each child will be distributed stationery from the Office if required, as it is acceptable to use up old books first and/or some parents have sourced stationery over the holidays.

The school will check each child has a full stationery set and send home an account at the end of the month if any stationery is purchased.

Please note that all children may not be supplied stationery until the end of this week.

If you have any enquiries, please contact Felicity at the Office.

End of Day Procedure for You and Your Children

A reminder that our end of day procedure is as follows:-

Bus children to meet in the school hall in their bus teams where they will be organised by teachers and the bus monitors.

Children being picked up from school, walking home or biking home are to leave through the green gate with their parent or whoever is picking them up. This is so all children can be sighted by a teacher.

On the emergency contacts form there is a section that asks you what will be the normal procedure for your child/children on each week day. If there is a change to this it is important you let the school know.

Thank-you for your co-operation with this procedure.

Medication

It is essential that the school knows of children suffering from allergies which require treatment, and that the appropriate medication (please ensure it is not out of date) is kept at school. The medical background should be entered on the enrolment form when your child begins school.

Short term medication – Staff will not be administering short term medication – if you feel it necessary to give your child antibiotics or short term medications please feel free to come to school to do this or alternatively before and after school and before bed.

Swimming

Please ensure your child/ren have togs at school each day. All classes are scheduled to swim each day weather permitting. If your child is not swimming a note or phone call of explanation needs to be given to the class teacher. Our school swimming sports will be held on Thursday 16 February at the Southbridge Swimming Pool. Further details and permission forms will be sent home next week with the newsletter.

The Ellesmere Zone Swimming Sports are scheduled for Wednesday 9 March at Southbridge Pool.

Life Education Truck

The Life Education Truck will be at school 14-16 March. All classes will attend sessions with the Life Education teacher. There will be a parent information session on the Life Education Truck on the 14th of March at 2-45 for anyone who would like to attend and meet with the educator.

Keeping In Touch

The school newsletter is distributed every Monday of the school unless there is a public holiday eg Queens Birthday. This is the primary way that we communicate to you regarding school events and news. Each class teacher will have a class newsletter – this is generally glued into your child’s homework book.

We also have a school website (www.dunsandel.school.nz) which has school information including copies of the school newsletters for the term, Board and PTA news and school event photos.

Text Alerts for Dunsandel School Parents and Caregivers.

After running a trial towards the end of 2011 using texts as a reminder of events at school and using the feedback received we have decided to use a text alert service in 2012 for parents. This is not replacing newsletters or any of the other forms of communication we have but is an additional service for 2012. There is no compulsion to join.

Instructions on how to sign up for this are below.

Twitter can be used as a cost effective way of the school getting messages to our parent and caregiver community. It is free to receive texts if you are a Vodafone or Telecom customer with your mobile phone.

You don’t need to become a Twitter addict to get access to this service. After signing up you never need to look at Twitter again.

For our school Tweets will be short messages which we send as:

-Daily and Upcoming event reminders .

On a computer signup at www.twitter.com

You do not have to enter your real Full Name

After this screen skip the next steps

Once set up on the computer, grab your mobile phone

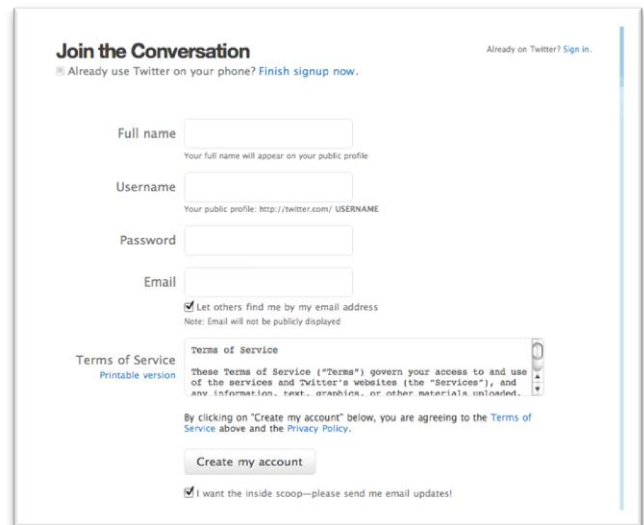
1. Text **follow dunsandelschool** to 8987
2. Wait for a reply
3. Reply with the Twitter **username** you just created
4. Wait for a reply
5. Reply with the **password** you just created
6. Wait for a reply
7. Reply with **OK**
8. Text **follow dunsandelschool** to 8987

You are now in business. **You don’t need to visit Twitter Website again.**

To stop texts

Send OFF @dunsandelschool to 8987

Any problems with signing up please let me know.



The screenshot shows the Twitter sign-up page titled "Join the Conversation". It includes a link for "Already on Twitter? Sign in." and a note: "Already use Twitter on your phone? Finish signup now." The form contains fields for "Full name", "Username", "Password", and "Email". Below the "Email" field is a checked checkbox for "Let others find me by my email address" with a note: "Note: Email will not be publicly displayed". There is a "Terms of Service" section with a "Printable version" link and a "Create my account" button. At the bottom, there is another checked checkbox: "I want the inside scoop—please send me email updates!"

PRIDE

The PRIDE vision is an important one for our staff and children. Each term we place particular emphasis on one of the parts of the PRIDE vision. For Term One there will be focus on Participation and Excellence.

PRIDE	Participate	Respect	Initiative	Determination	Excellence
	Join In	Treat others like you would like to be treated	Think for yourself	Try hard and don't give up	Do your best
Key Competencies	<i>Participating and Contributing</i> Active Participants Work effectively Rights, Roles, Responsibilities	<i>Relating to Others</i> Responsible Good Relationships Respect for Diversity	<i>Thinking</i> Learners Intellectually Curious Divergent Thinkers Self Reflective	<i>Managing Self</i> Confident Self Motivated Positive Attitude	<i>Using Language, Symbols and Texts</i> Communicators Confident Users of Receptive language and ICT Takes Pride
Focus for 2012	Term One	Term Two	Term Three	Term Four	All Year Long

Other Dates for 2012 to put on your calendar

Term Two

Wednesday 25 April ANZAC Day School closed

Friday 27 April Families Day

Tuesday 22 May Ellesmere Zone Cross Country

Monday 4 June Queens Birthday School closed

Wednesday 13 June Canterbury Cross Country

Term Three

Friday 27 July-Sunday 12 August 2012 London Olympics

Tuesday 7 August Ellesmere Zone Winter Tournament

Thursday 30 August Canterbury Winter Tournament

Term Four

Friday 19 October Country Day

Monday 22 October Labour Day School closed

Friday 26 October School Athletics

Tuesday 6 November Ellesmere Zone Athletics

Friday 16 November Canterbury Show Day School closed

Tuesday 27 November – Friday 30 November Year 6 Camp to Mount Cook

Friday 14 December Last day of 2012 school year

Term Dates for 2012

Term One

Monday 30 January to Thursday 5 April

Term Two

Monday 23 April to Friday 29 June

Term Three

Monday 16 July to Friday 28 September

Term Four

Monday 15 October to Friday 14 December



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Principal

Dave Robinson
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Deputy Principal

Tracey Harrold
tracey@dunsandel.school.nz

Board of Trustees Chairperson

Chris Allington

PTA President

Lee Chappell



PTA News

The PTA welcomes back from the holidays all the existing and new families.

PTA Overview

The PTA's aim is to bridge the gap between parents and school and fundraise for extra resources that the school budget doesn't allow for. Parents can help out as little or as much as they like, every little bit helps.

We meet once a month, about the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Notices of meetings are in the school newsletters. Meetings are open to all parents/guardians. Great chance for a catch up with other parents.

There is a PTA Noticeboard in the school foyer with contact numbers, information about fundraisers etc

If you would like any further information about the PTA please contact one of the current committee members or get your child's teacher to point us out at school.

Current Committee

President - Lee Chappell, ph 3254 064, kev.lee@xtra.co.nz

V-President - Bec Marshall, ph 3254 373, becmarshall@live.com

Secretary - Greta Currie - ph 3254 228, nagra@xtra.co.nz

Treasurer - Marion Seyb - ph 347 6831, marion@lonegoat.co.nz

Up coming dates for PTA

Tuesday 7th Feb - Meeting 7.30pm in meeting room beside Room 6,
Agenda will be posted on the Noticeboard

To add something for the Agenda please email Greta Currie

Tuesday 21st Feb - AGM 7.30pm, Venue TBA

Community Notices

Dunsandel Tennis Club

There will be a meeting on this Wednesday 1st February at the Dunsandel Sports Centre at 7pm. All parents welcome.

Tennis practice starts this Thursday at 3.15pm – 4pm.

Important dates:

Interclub starts Saturday 11th February

Ellesmere Champs Sunday 19th February

Interclub finishes Saturday 24th March

Any queries please contact Gary on 3254-120