



TINWALD SCHOOL

Respect, Responsibility, Honesty

NEWSLETTER - 2023

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Sunday 16 July 2023

Welcome Back to Term 3

Please note the following dates for Term 3:

- 17 July Term 3 Begins
- 24 July Board of Trustees, 7pm in the school office
- 25 July Parent/Teacher Interviews
- 2 August Tokorozawa High School visit
- 3 August Parent/Teacher Interviews
- 15-21 August Life Education

Parent/Teacher Interviews – Term 3

Parent/Teacher interviews will be on Tuesday 25 July and Thursday 3 August. The school uses an online booking system and it is available here:

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/6r37s>

or by scanning this QR Code



Year 5 and 6 Winter Sports

The teachers of Year 5 and 6 are looking for hockey and soccer coaches for the Winter Tournament next term. Please contact Katie Sullivan or Fiona Cameron if you can help.

Tinwald Corridor Upgrade and Traffic Survey

The Tinwald School Board of Trustees would like to have a better picture of how our children are transported to and from school. This coincides with the current work on the Tinwald Corridor and will help the BOT make decisions around student safety. Below is a link to a quick survey, we would appreciate as many responses as possible. The Board will look at the results at it's next meeting.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NR3QMDJ>

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey.

A Reminder About School Closure Due to Snow

It seems a rarity at the moment, however this is the term that has had the most chance of a snow day in previous years. Each year a reminder is sent out about why a decision is made in regards to our school being open or closed due to snow.

Firstly, the decision to close every single time is based on a number of factors. I do realise that a decision made to close a school for a day or more, impacts on families and can put pressure on parents. This decision is not taken lightly and must come down to operating the school safely. Therefore, when making the decision I have to consider the following:

Senior Staff: We have 2 senior staff (Principal, Deputy Principal) whom can make daily operational decisions. They are authorised by the Board of Trustees to make these decisions. Therefore, I would require a minimum of at least myself or the Deputy Principal at school in case these decisions need to be made during the day. Our Deputy Principal has classroom responsibilities and would need to be released for the day.

Teaching Staff: We have 12 fully registered teachers for 271 children. I would require a minimum of 9 to operate the classrooms. Although not all children may

turn up, I have to operate on the premise that they do, and therefore must be assured that I have the teaching staff to cover all classes. Not all of our staff live in town, we have staff who travel from outside of Ashburton, so I must make sure I can have staff at school.

Power and Water: The school must operate with drinking water, operating toilets, classrooms heated to a minimum of 18 degrees and sufficient classroom lighting. If we lose power or water, then we cannot operate.

Safety around Buildings: The school must take all steps possible to have a safe environment. Usually melting snow that freezes following a snowfall, is the most common reason not to open the school. This is because we have multiple pathways that must be cleared and not all access is through the school indoors.

Early Closing: If snow begins falling during the day and road access for motorists starts to become an issue, we may begin advising parents of an early closure via our text system. We would also advertise this on local radio stations and on our facebook page.

Late Opening: If we were unable to open for classes at 9am, we would advertise a later opening time. We would advertise this via our text system and on local radio stations and the facebook page.

Please use these webpages and phone numbers – we may not be able to answer the phone at school during a snow event.

Tinwald School Facebook - www.facebook.com/Tinwald-School

Classic Hits Cancellation Line – 307 8787 – listen to cancellations in the region

Port FM Facebook Page – <https://www.facebook.com/pages/PORT-FM-Ashburton>

Yours sincerely, Peter Livingstone, Principal