



Notes from Mr Sands:

Ngā mihi mahana ki a koutou, warm greetings to you all.

Well we are halfway through the term and the teachers have completed most of the testing. Each teacher, is required to do an inquiry into their practice. This term is about scanning looking for possible issues to inquire into. This needs to be based on the children's academic progress. From this scanning process the teachers will form an inquiry group which they will use to measure the impact of changes they make to their practice. The changes made must be supported by research.

Next **Wednesday 14 March** there is a NZEI Stop Work Meeting. This is where the teaching staff will meet in Stratford to discuss the Collective Agreement conditions. Because of this we are asking parents to pick their children up at **1.45p.m.** If you are unable to I will remain at school to look after them until 2.50p.m.

This week we have had professional development in digital technologies. The facilitators are Jacqui Sharp and David Kinane. The teachers and children are very excited as we will be using digital technologies to support the teaching of writing and mathematics.

A friendly reminder about basketball as the last day to return the basketball notices is Friday 9th March.

The Midhurst School Fundraising Committee (formally PTA) met last Friday to organise the up and coming Quiz Night (26th May). Many thanks to those who showed up and those who gave their apologies. Sonia Fale and Adele Wellington are doing a fantastic job organising the committee and the events.

As part of our Self Review we have reviewed all the policies and some of the procedures. It is our intention to put many of these on our website. Miss Tett is currently looking at reviewing the website to see if it meets our needs and the needs of our Whānau. Once this has been done we will upload the School Charter Documents and the Main Policies and Procedures.

Thank you to Paul Short who came in last Thursday and gave a demonstration to our children with his many different drones. Truly amazing technology as one very big drone is used to bring in the cows to the milking shed...Wow! We are looking at having him work with our seniors to build their own personal drone in term 4 (they can keep it).

Tomorrow (Thursday) we begin religious Instruction for those families who have given permission for their children to participate.

Thank you to Bev Heine for the organisation of this.

Finally the surveys are flowing in, thank you for completing them.

Kiaora rā

Graham Sands



Teacher?
 I prefer the term
 Educational
 Rockstar!

WHAT'S ON

Friday 9th March	Kaitake Assembly
Monday 12th March	Taranaki Anniversary
Tuesday 20th March	Golf Whole School
Friday 23rd March	Panitahi Assembly
Friday 30th March	Good Friday Easter
Monday 2nd April	Easter
Tuesday 3rd April	Easter
Friday 6th April	Kahui Assembly
Monday 9th April	Athletics Day
Tuesday 10th April	Postponement Day for Athletics
Friday 13th	End of Term one



Georgia Payne
 Lucas Shotter

MIDHIRST FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Grocery Raffle Winners - CONGRATULATIONS

Week 49 Ticket No. 160
 Diane Welch

News from the Classrooms

Kāhui:

Hello Everyone,

This week we are starting to use SeeSaw in the classroom. SeeSaw is all about what we are doing at school. The children can upload photos of their work, video their thinking and write, draw and create on it. Parents are able to respond and invite other family members onto their child's personal page with a QM code. We are really looking forward to experimenting with this over the year. If the note didn't come home, please let us know.

This week we are looking at 2D and 3D shapes, the letter Pp and the letter Uu and it's sound. In reading we are looking at what we do when we come across a hard or new word. Our overall theme this week is "The 3 Little Pigs." We will be retelling the story in writing, creating 'Wanted' posters for Mr Wolf and sequencing the story in reading and writing. We will also be looking at construction of houses in PBL and using a fan to see how strong we have created them. We still have cases of nits so all dress ups will be washed and then returned once our outbreak is over. We are also encouraging the girls to keep their hair tied up.

We also have also had three cases of school sores confirmed. To prevent this spreading we have taken the shared pens away and they will be disinfected. The children now have one pen in their literacy box that they use. We have had a hand washing discussion about how to wash our hands and to try and keep things out of their mouths. We are also encouraging the children to use their own felt tips and pencils in Learning through Play. If you would like to send a pencil case along with felts etc in, you are most welcome to. We care about our Kahui children and want to reassure you we are doing all we can at school to prevent this from spreading. We will also be making contact with the Public Health Nurse to come and do a hand washing lesson with us. Have a great week everyone. **Caitlyn and Julie**

Panitahi:

Tena Kotou Katoa,

We had another great week in Panitahi class last week. We really enjoyed our school swimming sports and would like to say congratulations to all of our swimmers who gave it their all and contributed to a great event. A special congratulations to Retita and to Troy who came first overall in year four! Also a big thank you to all the parents for your help and support in making our swimming sports such a successful event!

You may have noticed that we have planted our garden outside the classroom, we are going for a herb garden so if any families have any herb cuttings we would really appreciate a few extra plants in the Panitahi garden!

This week we are still focusing on the virtue of Responsibility and we are doing some writing around the key competency of 'managing self' and why it is so important for our learning. Encourage your tamaraki to share their thoughts and understanding as this will help them in their writing and oral language around this Topic.

I hope you all have a great week! Nga mihi, **Wendy McKenna**

Kaitake:

What a great display Paul from GoDrone NZ (based in Inglewood) put on for our school last week with his exhibition flying of a number of different drones. He began with his largest drone, used for aerial photography, followed by his racing drone which caused high levels of excitement and great gasps from the children as it rose to great heights at tremendous speeds. He finished with his smallest drone and showed a variety of flips and tricks that these little drones can do.

Well done to all of Midhirst students for their amazing behaviour and awesome swimming at our whole school swimming sports on Friday. It is wonderful to see how well everyone is doing. This was confirmed by the excellent results we had at the Rural Schools Swimming Sports (Years 5 - 8) on Monday - our best results ever. The number of students who made it into their year group finals was outstanding (we had finalists in all but one category). In each of these races we had at least one placing and sometimes two. We also came third in the intermediate relay race and second in the senior relay race. In class students are working hard and completing some very good work. It is our assembly this Friday - it would be great if you could come along and see what we have been doing. **Wendy McGregor**

Paritutu:

Congratulations seniors, week 5 was outstanding, thank you to everyone that gave their best at the school Swimming sports, supported other swimmers, cheered for everyone and helped out the other students in the school. Thank you parents and students for helping to rearrange our York Road Loop Track walk #1, it was a fantastic day. Best of luck to the two teams and individual swimmers competing in the Turnbull Cup swimming competition on Wednesday 14th March, thank you Sara for helping out the teams in my absence. I look forward to another fantastic week.

Colleen Tett

Midhirst School Swimming Sports

Congratulations to everyone that took part on Friday and swam their best. Special mention to those students who received a trophy.

Hills Shield - Parents Vs Turnbull Cup Team: Parents - Graham, Adrian, Matt, Brett

Learners' Trophy Y1/2: Brady Reed

Junior Boys Y3/4 Champion: Troy Jamieson

Junior Girls Y3/4 Champion: Retita Kabwea

Intermediate Boys Y5/6 Champion: Campbell Robertson

Intermediate Girls Y5/6 Champion: Nicole Fale

Senior Boys Runner Up: Nathan Du Plooy

Senior Boys Y7/8 Champion: Hayden Kinera

Senior Girls Runner Up: Tegan McNab

Senior Girls Y7/8 Champion: Bailee Robertson



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