



Arthur Street School

Thursday 24th March 2016

Newsletter No. 4

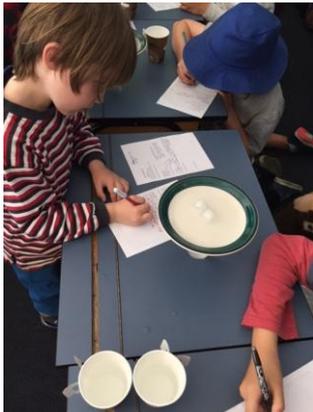
Term 1

Kia ora whanau,

It was fantastic to meet many new parents last week at our 'Welcome Picnic' for all our families, but especially our families who are new to our school community. Families ate in small groups and then shared in a cuppa and cake, kindly donated by our school PTA group. This was a fantastic opportunity to meet and greet new families at an informal occasion. Many thanks to the PTA, Board members, Staff and all the families who attended.



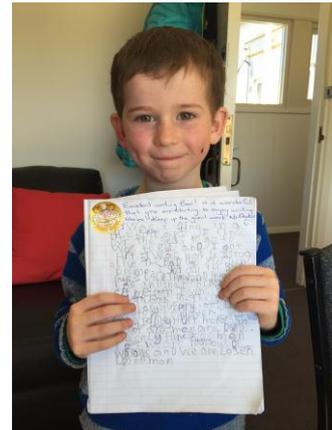
Also this week it was wonderful to see families coming to our school assembly. Can I once again extend an invitation to all our families to come along and share in our school assembly which is held every second Friday. This term, assembly starts at 11am and is held in the school hall. Our next assembly will be on April 1st (no joke!) The school's 'Innovation' themed Science programme continues across the school. Here is Room 1 sharing in an experiment with one of the senior classes (Room 7).



Have a wonderful Easter break with your family. Please remember that school is open again after Easter on Wednesday 30th March. There is NO SCHOOL on Friday 25th, Monday 28th and Tuesday 29th of March.

**Nga mihi,
Kim Blackwood
Principal**

Arthur Street Stars



Ben Doherty - Room 3



Assembly Award Winners



3rd Place Triathletes
Abdul Obaidullah, Jesse Hanan
and George Hamilton - Room 7

Arthur Street Happenings...

Room 4 children have been taking turns at trying out simple science experiments at home. Their experiences are then recorded by writing an account and including photos of the experiment in a little book. The book is then shared with the rest of the class during oral language time. Thank you to all parents who have supported our class in this science project. We have had some varied and interesting experiments.



Amber Woods



As keen vexillologists Room 8 have been following the flag debate with interest. In our most recent flag survey, 65% of the class would vote for the present New Zealand flag. Interestingly this mirrors some of the polls done throughout the flag referendum process. On Wednesday 23rd March the school had an opportunity to vote in the 'Children's Referendum' although the results would not change the final flag count, it is a great way to be involved in the process.

Children's Voting Results

	
46	87

'The Flag Debate'

If NZ does decide to change the flag, possibly NZ may then decide to become a republic (that means there would be no Queen or King as our head of state). Maintaining peace would be much harder and trade with other countries maybe affected by not being part of the Commonwealth.

The \$26 million for the flag referendum could have been spent on other things such as hospitals, the poor and other important things.

We have recently commemorated the 100th anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli, where soldiers fought under the NZ flag. So it is a major disappointment that John Key woke up one day and decided to change the flag. I don't think that the returned servicemen and women would really appreciate the changing of the NZ flag.

These are some of the reasons why I think NZ shouldn't have a change in the flag, just keep the one we have.

Jakob Oskam-Schmidt

Event Date and Time

- Good Friday – Friday 25th March (No School)
- Easter Monday – Monday 28th March (No School)
- Easter Tuesday – Tuesday 29th March (No School)
- Assembly – Friday 1st April In Hall 11am
- Wear Green for Mufti day in support of St Johns – Tuesday 5th April.
- PTA Meeting – Tuesday 5th April 7pm Staffroom
- Swimming Sports – Wednesday 6th April at Moana Pool
- Book Sale School Hall – Wednesday 13th April
- Last Day of Term 1 – Friday 15th April
- First Day of Term 2 – Monday 2nd May

