

Photo of the group from Highlands & maybe Cup winners if there is enough room??

Farewell Year 6 Leavers

On Tuesday evening we farewelled forty five Year 6 Leavers. We celebrated this special group of young people by acknowledging all they have achieved during their time at Cromwell Primary, and more specifically all that they have contributed this year, as senior role models in the school. For our Year 6 children it marks the end of one era, and the beginning of another. The end of this road, but the beginning of another journey. These Year 6 students have helped to set the tone in our school and have made a significant contribution to our very successful year at Cromwell Primary. The Ako Team - Jayne Fitzgerald, Karen Gallagher, Louise Haig, Charlotte Rawcliffe and Erin Hall organised the evening programme and we were thrilled to be joined by a large group of parents, extended family and friends who shared in this very special occasion including the children's "Last Words".

Celebrating the 2018 Year 6 Cup Recipients

Congratulations to the following students who received special awards at the Year 6 Leavers' Function.

- Cromwell Primary School Trophy for Academic Excellence – **Sean C**
- Walker Trophy for Best All Round Sporting Achievement – **Elliet Y & Sam F**
- Morton Family Trophy for Contribution to The Arts – **Madeleine L & Kees J**
- Bekker Family Cup for Citizenship – **Laura B**
- Leyser Family Trophy for school values – **Evie M**

Dear Parents and Caregivers

This is our final newsletter for 2018. We can reflect on another very busy and successful year at Cromwell Primary School. Our students have had the opportunity to participate in a huge range of academic, cultural, sporting and leadership opportunities throughout the year. Many of our students have performed and achieved at very high levels in their particular fields – all have represented the school very well. We are still collating and analysing our end of year data, but we are hoping that we continue to have high percentages of students achieving at or above expected curriculum levels. We are proudly celebrating our Chess Team qualifying for Nationals in Auckland, our ODT Spelling Quiz Team placing second in the Central Otago Quiz and record numbers of students entering ICAS assessments and qualifying for regional sporting events. Other 2018 highlights include:

- Formation of the Cromwell Community of Learning (Te Kāhui Ako o ngā awanui) which has seen a significant lift in the collaboration between the three schools and six Early Childhood Centres.
- Ending the year with our highest ever roll – 324 students.
- Visits from the Black Sticks, Starlab and the Science Road Show.
- School Hangi & welcome whakatau every term.
- Celebrating student leadership with the Sir Peter Blake Awards.
- \$300,000 Innovations Funding Grant from Otago Community Trust for ICT.
- Kapa Haka performances at Murihiku Festival in Invercargill and Central Lakes Polyfest in Queenstown are great examples of how we are continuing to strengthen the cultural dimensions of our school.
- Construction of our new, four classroom senior learning hub commenced
- Learning celebrations have included Space Extravaganza & Exhibition & Ancient Egypt Living Museum.
- EOTC Week experiences including Camp Columba, Marae Trip and a range of local based activities.
- Miss Joyce being voted the Paper Plus & More FM “Best Teacher in Central Otago”.
- Youth Mural Art Project
- Additions to the playground with the playhut and swing.
- Visiting performers – Kahurangi Dance Group, NZ Playhouse Theatre Groups “Rocking Red Robin Hood”, Stig Wemyss (book narrator) and the Cirque Grande (visiting circus).
- Our Levels of Responsibility have ensured that all students are very clear about our expectations of behaviour and the importance of being self-managing and personally responsible for their actions and decisions.
- Finally we have received so much positive feedback about the great behaviour our students display when they are attending events outside of school. From the staff at Cardrona and the Highland Park Team, to the A.J.Hackett staff

who commended the Year 6 students on their excellent manners during their trip to the bungy. I believe that as a school community we should feel very proud of the wonderful young citizens of the future we are helping to shape.

Important Dates End of Year 2018

- Thursday 13th December Hārewa Dance Production 6:00pm
- Friday 14th December – reports go home
- Monday 17 December 10:30am – students meet new class & teacher for 2019
- Monday 17 December 1:30pm – school carols and farewell to our Year 6 students.
- Tuesday 18 December – school closes at 1:00pm for the year

Important Dates Start of Year 2019

- Monday 28 January school office reopens
- Tuesday 29 January – new families to the school meet with teachers
- Wednesday 30 January – Term One 2019 commences for all students. Students are to go straight to their new classrooms with their stationery.

Community Thanks

Alongside the work the children are doing at school, is the very important involvement of all our parents. This happens in a multitude of ways – homework support, attendance at assemblies and presentations of learning, parent help in the classrooms and the library, transport and supervision on field trips and to sporting and cultural events, coaching teams, resource management, school lunches, fundraising, school grounds development..... the list goes on. However, we do genuinely appreciate all the support we have had throughout the year, as many of the activities we undertake would simply not have gone ahead without your support. Thanks everyone for all you have done throughout this year, you have made a difference. Make sure you include on your Christmas wish list some quality time to spend with family and friends. Have a safe and enjoyable break and on behalf of the Cromwell Primary School Team, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Thanks from the CPS Team

The staff would like to thank families for the gifts, baking and other treats that have been dropped off to classrooms, the office and the staffroom over the past two weeks. We all really appreciate your generosity in the spirit of Christmas.

School Email for 2019 – admin@cromprimary.school.nz

Farewell Ms Gallagher & Mrs Rawcliffe

We are sad to be farewelling two staff members at the end of the year. Karen Gallagher who joined us in 2015, is heading to a new position as Year 8 Dean at Cromwell College and Charlotte Rawcliffe who has worked part-time in our school since 2012. Karen has been based in Ako and has made a significant contribution to the digital and collaborative Ako learning environment, as Senior Sports Coordinator and also our Kapa Haka Group during her time with us. Charlotte has provided Classroom Teacher Release, GATE programmes and job shared with Karen G this year. We wish Karen & Charlotte all the very best for 2019 with their exciting new challenges and directions – you will both be missed.

2018 - The Year of Growth

This year has been a year of significant changes. Our roll has grown to 324. The new roll growth classroom building project has commenced and will hopefully be ready for use in Term 2 next year. Our multipurpose building fund has reached an impressive \$1, 250,000 and we are hoping to get this project finalised early in the New Year. This project will certainly take the pressure off our current lack of space, so watch this space during 2019. We have employed additional staff members in response to our growing roll. We have had to relinquish the use of the Junction Suite as our school library again this year, as currently we have 55 Years 3/4 students based in there. Lots of changes to adapt to, but the one thing that has not changed is that we continue to be a high performing school. We encourage the children to be the best learners and people they can be, and the staff work tirelessly to ensure that all students receive the best possible learning opportunities in order to ensure individual success.

Student Council End of Year Message

Thanks everyone for supporting us this year. We raised \$750.00 for Ronald McDonald House and \$350.00 for the safety matting to go underneath the new swing. Today we collected approximately 700 cans for the Cromwell Food Bank in our annual “Christmas Carols for Cans” partnership with ECE. Thanks to our choir and guitarists who provided the entertainment. We have really enjoyed representing our classes and we hope that we have helped to “make a difference” at school. Merry Christmas from Madeleine L, Nevaeh R, Gabby S, Peiton K, Bella T, Joseph W, Tom L, Ollie D, Grace de V, Harper R, Oscar S & Lily G-J.

House Leaders

Throughout the year our House Leaders have been running their own lunch time activity programme every Friday. They have come up with some amazing activities including sand pit competitions, Talent Shows, sack races, sports including touch, basketball & rippa and lots of other exciting activities for all the children to enjoy. Well done to the house leaders for showing such initiative and outstanding organisational skills. Special thanks also to Karen Gallagher & Jayne Fitzgerald for supporting the House Leaders so well.

Buses & Final Day Arrangements – Tuesday 18 December

On the last day of school, Tuesday 18 December. **Please let the school know by the end of this week if you children WILL be using the buses at 1:00pm on Tuesday afternoon. If we do not hear back from families, we will assume they will NOT be travelling on the buses that afternoon.** We will need to advise the bus company as soon as possible about this, because most years the buses have not had to do an afternoon run due to the early finish and children being collected by parents from school. Please note however that the afternoon buses will run if families require this. School closes for the year at 1:00pm on Tuesday 18th December.

End of Year Attendance & Absences

We are responsible for accounting for every individual student until the close of school at 1:00pm Tuesday 18th December. We are happy for families to regard Monday as being the last day for students, as Tuesday will be a resource management, classroom clean-up day which will be easier without the children. Please ensure that you notify the office if you child **WILL** be attending school on Tuesday morning, as

we do need to account for every child. If we do not hear from you, we will mark them as being absent. This will enable teachers to record attendance details accurately. Alternately you can contact the office by phone 445 0264 or email (admin@cromprimary.school.nz). We remind parents that there is no afterschool care on Tuesday, as we are officially closing at 1:00pm.

After School Care Hours 2019 – if you are intending to use this service you will need to make a new booking in the New Year. No bookings will be carried over.
Hours of operation - 3:00pm-5:30pm daily
Permanent Bookings - \$8:00 per session
Casual Bookings - \$10.00 per session.

2019 Classes & Stationery

Children had an opportunity to meet their 2019 teachers and classmates today. During this “meet & greet” session students received their stationery lists for next year. Class stationery lists will also be available at Paper Plus and from our school website.

Student Profiles

We would appreciate the speedy return of student profiles by Monday 17 December. If your child’s profile is not returned before the end of the term, please drop them at the office or send these back on the first day of 2019. A photocopy of student achievement information was included with the profiles for parents to keep. Year 6 students and students who are leaving the school are able to keep their profiles.

Thanks SOKs

We would like to acknowledge the wonderful work of our SOKs Committee this year. Highlights of this year have included school discos, chromebook raffle, new recycle bins for each classroom, playbased & action station learning gear, UE-Booms for Ako and the Scholastic Book Fair. It is important that we acknowledge Nikki Livingstone (President), Shelley Baird (Secretary), Paula Hansen (Treasurer), Tanya Reddy & Sharon McCulloch (School Uniforms), Sara Booth & Monique Lobb (School Lunches), Raewyn Whitworth (Scholastic Book Club) for their roles on the committee. This year your efforts have included a \$1000 hardship fund, a successful Scholastic Book Fair, meals for families and the SOKs Ski Trips. We all appreciate your hard work on behalf of your children. You have really made a difference in our school.

Return of School Resources and Sports Uniforms

Please have a good hunt around home for any school reading and library books, sports uniforms, touch tops etc. We would like all school property returned as soon as possible. Any school property you may have at home can be dropped off at the office until 1:00pm on Monday 17 December

December Update Principals & Teacher Employment Contracts

You may have heard that primary teachers and principals have overwhelmingly voted to reject the Ministry of Education’s latest collective agreement offers. While the latest offer for teachers included a salary increase, it failed to address the important issues of class size and planning and assessment time, which underpin the crisis in education and difficulties in teacher recruitment.

Disappointingly, we end this year without the necessary movement from the Government, and with still not enough to meet the needs of children, schools and teachers.

This may mean further industrial action next year, although we are very much hoping for a negotiated outcome – the Government has received a very clear message that educators are desperate for the teacher shortage to be fixed before it becomes a full-blown disaster.

Public polling has also showed continued strong support for what we are trying to achieve for our students and the future of the teaching profession. School parents in particular see the struggles we already face in hiring teachers and finding relievers when teachers are sick.

We greatly appreciate your continued support as we continue our campaign to ensure a quality public education for every child.