



HEATON
NORMAL INTERMEDIATE
SCHOOL

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Heaton Normal Intermediate School *Newsletter 14 March 2013*

Kia ora whanau

I am about to head off to visit Rhodes house students and teachers who are the last house to go on camp. The weather has been very kind to us and the balmy autumn weather has been a real bonus. Every camp has gone very well and I have received a lot of positive feedback from students, teachers and parents. Thank you very much to the parents who came along and helped on camps. It has been much appreciated. We would not be able to take our students on camp without you and I have received great feedback from house leaders about your involvement and support. We will be doing an evaluation and seeking feedback from students, teachers and parents soon.

Spanish and French lessons will be starting next week. Everyone who expressed interest in learning either language will be able to do so, either in the first or second half of the year. We do have 3 or 4 spaces available in advanced Spanish and French as well as the beginners' classes in French and Spanish. If your child is still interested the form can be downloaded from the newsletter section on our website. I am meeting with the students early next week to let them know the group they are in so please return the completed form to the office by Monday morning.

Just a reminder that valuable items should not be brought to school as it is difficult to keep them totally secure. This includes iPods. Students who are bringing money for payments need to put the money in an envelope with their name, class, what the payment is for and the amount of money that is enclosed. **They are to put this in the payments box in the office at the beginning of the day before they go to class.**

We are very proud of our students in their Heaton uniform and we expect that students wear their uniform to reflect pride in themselves and as Heaton students. All students must wear their school uniform to school but they may wear their PE uniform home if they have sport or PE right at the end of the day although we do prefer them to change back into school uniform. If PE uniform is worn home it must be the complete uniform rather than a mix of school and PE uniform. Thank you for your support with this.

Nga mihi
Andrea Knight, Principal

Board of Trustees Elections

***Want to be involved in the future of Heaton Intermediate?
Do you want to be an active leader in our school community?
Have you considered becoming a member of the Board of Trustees?***

We are electing a new Board of Trustees on 30 May 2013 and we would warmly like to invite you to consider being a part of the exciting new future of Heaton and education in Christchurch as part of the Heaton Board of Trustees.

We are having a **social evening on Thursday, 14 March** for anyone interested in a challenging, dynamic role, or just to find out what it is all about! There will be a chance to talk to current Board members and staff about what is involved and the nuts and bolts of what the role of the Board of Trustees has with the school. You are more than welcome to come along to our Board meeting, starting at 5.30 p.m., with a meet and greet starting at 7.00 p.m. Light refreshments will be provided.

We will be calling for nominations for parent representatives by Monday, 15 April. If you are interested in more information about what the role of a trustee entails, please feel free to contact either Andrea Knight, Principal, on knigha@heaton.school.nz or myself on pam@fashionbiz.co.nz

Pam Phipps, Chairperson, Board of Trustees



Normal Intermediate School

PTA News, February 2013

**PTA Annual General Meeting – Wine and Cheese!
Monday, 18 March 7.00 p.m. in the staffroom**

*Would you like to know more about Heaton Intermediate?
Would you like to hear from the Principal and meet other parents?*

All new parents are welcome to come along to the 2013 Annual General Meeting of the PTA. We promise that it won't be too long, you won't have to join, there will be free wine and snacks and you could become part of a small but effective team that helps provide lots of extra resources for our children. In the past two years we have provided financial support for the arts computer technology, sports, and the library as well as other projects. We hope to see you on **Monday, 18 March at 7.00 p.m. in the school staffroom.**

If you are unable to make meetings but would like to be added to a list of helpers that the PTA can contact for help with extra events, please email Jennifer Leahy on Jennifer.leahy@clear.net.nz

We will have a short (as short as possible!) meeting and then Andrea Knight will speak to the meeting and answer your questions. For any enquiries please email Jennifer.leahy@clear.net.nz

Mathematics at Heaton, Susan Rogers

Identification of students' needs

Mathematics teaching and learning at Heaton is based around each student's needs and begins by identifying where students are. Before coming to Heaton, Year 6 students sit our mathematics entrance test. This gives us an initial picture of your child's strengths and weaknesses as well as helping us to identify students for further testing to go into our mathematics extension class. We have both a Year 7 and a Year 8 extension class, and these classes are taught by Mrs Rachel Bates three mornings a week.



In addition to the Heaton entrance test, early in the year students sit a number knowledge test (IKAN) which is a graded, timed test designed to find strengths, weaknesses and stages in such areas as fractions, place value and basic facts. This test is repeated twice more during the year so progress can be monitored. Each student receives a record sheet with their results so they know what areas they need to work on.

For each of the three domains of number (addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, and proportions and ratios) all students sit a pre and post test to help identify their stages and methods of solving different types of questions. Along with teacher observations, class work, and other assessments all this information helps us to build up a picture of your child's achievement and next learning steps.

Curriculum coverage

Heaton follows the Numeracy Project with the number and algebra strand taking up approximately half the year. Students achieving below stage 7 (level 4) have a greater emphasis on number than students achieving at stage 8 (level 5). As students move up through the stages, the time spent on addition and subtraction reduces, while the time on multiplication and division, and proportions and ratios increases. For this reason, the Year 7s, on average, will spend more time on addition and subtraction than Year 8s.

Each term has a component of number and one other strand (geometry, measurement, and statistics and probability). This term, most classes began with statistics, which is topical with the recent census. As we move into the second half of the term, Year 7s are mainly focusing on addition and subtraction, while Year 8s will be working on multiplication and division.

Presenting mathematical ideas in real life contexts and problem solving are integral parts of the programme. Students are encouraged to explain and justify their ideas, ask questions and explore their ideas. The development of number knowledge sits alongside this so students become confident in, for example, their basic facts. The use of Mathletics assists students with practising some of these important skills.

Mathletics

Every student has their own login and as a parent, you can receive a weekly report emailed to you if you sign up (free) on the Mathletics website. (You will need your child's login and password to do this.) There are different areas to the site. Live Mathletics is a great place for your child to practise their recall of basic facts and increase their speed. With ten levels, there is plenty of scope for all students. Teachers are able to monitor each student's progress in both this area and the activities section. Activities can be set by each teacher that relate to topics being covered in class, focus on areas that need additional practise or provide further opportunities for extension.

Text Alerts for the Heaton Normal Intermediate School Community

*Messages you receive will be **urgent** messages only*

Sorry, not currently available on 2 degrees.

What to do

1. Text Follow HeatonInt to the number 8987 on your cellphone.
2. You will receive a message asking if you want to tweet but at the moment we will not be using this feature.
3. From here you will receive messages from HeatonInt on your phone.

To stop texts

Send OFF@HeatonInt to 8987

Coming Events

March

Thursday, 14	Board of Trustees meeting, 5.30 p.m., Boardroom
	Board of Trustees social evening 7.00 p.m.
Friday, 15	Year 8 swimming sports, Wharenuhi Pool, 1.00 – 3.00 p.m.
Monday, 18	PTA, Annual General Meeting, 7.00 p.m. Staffroom
Monday, 25	Heaton Swimming sports, Wharenuhi Pool, 8.15 a.m. – 11.45 a.m.

April

Tuesday, 16	Intermediate swimming sports, Wharenuhi Pool, 9.00 a.m.
Friday, 19	Reports sent home

Term Dates for 2013

Term 1	Monday, 4 February	to Friday, 19 April
Term 2	Monday, 6 May	to Friday, 12 July
Term 3	Monday, 29 July	to Friday, 27 September
Term 4	Monday, 14 October	to Thursday, 19 December

Additional Holidays

Good Friday	Friday, 29 March
Easter Monday	Monday, 1 April
Easter Tuesday	Tuesday, 2 April
Queen's Birthday	Monday, 3 June
Labour Day	Monday, 28 October
Anniversary Day	Friday, 15 November

Community Notices

Christchurch Avon Cross Country running. Winter Club of the Year 2010-2012. Coaching, competition, fun. Registration day and Easter egg hunt, Saturday 23 March 1.30 p.m., Burnside High School lower field. For more information Web: <http://chchavon.wordpress.com>, Email: Christchurch.avon@gmail.com

Phoenix Athletic Club Inc. 2013 Cross Country team for fun, exercise, friendships, fresh air and plenty of mud! Our athletes are the focus and the future of our club and sport. Registration day Sunday 24 March 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m., 88b Hinau Street, Riccarton (down long drive way 1st house on left). Enquiries please contact Geoff Bryce (coach) 348 4240, 021 051 5297 or

thebryces@xtra.co.nz. Visit our cross country section at www.sportsground.co.nz/phoenixathletics and click on 2013 cross country tab.

Shirley Rugby League Football Club. Registration Day Thursday 14 March and Thursday 21 March at McFarlane Park (Skipton street entrance) from 4.30 p.m. Sausage sizzle for players who are registered and who registering. Please bring a copy of your birth certificate.

Natyam 2013, Fourth Annual Bharatanatyam Dance Recital. Elmwood Normal Intermediate School Auditorium, Aikmans Road. Saturday 23 March 6.00 – 7.30 p.m. \$12.00 per person. Bharatanatyam, a traditional dance style that originated in India, is often called the embodiment of music in visual form. It makes use of dramatic expressions of the face and movements of the body to narrate a story that is at once graceful, powerful and compelling. For more details and tickets please contact Anuradha Ambalavanar, Ph: 358 3105 or Email: anuambal@gmail.com.