



10th Feb 2025

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

All Welcome:

Tomorrow night we are incredibly fortunate to have Ruud Kleinpaste (The Bugman), Geoff Brunsdon, (NZ Conservation Trust) and Simone Smits (Te Manahuna Aoraki Project) join us for a talk about environmental education and our children becoming “nature literate.” Please feel welcome to bring your children to the evening as this would be opportune to hear and connect to those who are helping to drive the learning for our kids.

AN EVENING WITH
Ruud Kleinpaste (The Bugman)
Geoff Brunsdon (Bumblebee Conservation Trust)
Simone Smits (Te Manahuna Aoraki Project)

Everything is connected and every creature has a job to do. We simply can't live without plants, trees, fungi, birds... And certainly without "bugs". Join us for an open talk where we consider a world without Biodiversity. Discover how we can keep our ecosystem healthy and become Nature Literate Kiwis.

“All Welcome “
Lake Tekapo School Community Space
Tuesday 11th February @ 6:30pm

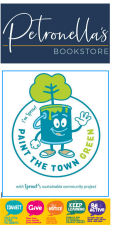
Te Manahuna Aoraki (and the Mackenzie Country) is our perfect playing ground






Curriculum:

Book Reviews Planning Guide




Name: _____


Taking Risks and Trying




Thinking Booklet




The Bugman Initiative



Name: _____





This term staff are focused on working alongside Ruud and thinking about all things “Bees” and biodiversity. Sitting beside this is the work on “Thinking Skills, Swimming, Triathlon.” The resources for the classroom have been staff generated and we are happy for you to supplement the spelling and basic facts work that goes home. We have tried this in the past and can assure you that there is enough work within the booklets for students to independently work through at home. Staff continue to undertake the Professional Development in Literacy and Maths and once the resources have been received and reviewed we will deliver this. We will continue to work with Petronella’s around Book Reviews and the Book Club and we are wanting to continue with the Local Legends Biographies once the term settles.

The Board of Trustees are meeting to look at and review the School's 3 Year Strategy Document and to ensure that the planning and reporting requirements for 2025 are in order. With changes to the curriculum in both Maths and Literacy, this will become a major focus for the Staff and Board of Trustees in the next 2 years.

Open Door / Student Welfare:



The staff are very keen to maintain the open communication that happens naturally at the beginning and end of day. This is the privilege of being in a small school with minor concerns, or positives, able to be shared. If you would like a time to speak with staff about any concerns or issues, it is advisable to make a time so that we can give the time necessary and a considered response, rather than being glib or rushed in our response.

The School's complaints procedure has been attached to this newsletter along with the link to the Schooldocs log in: [SchoolDocs Login](#)

Student Attendance:



Every student. Every day.

School starts at 9:00am and we fully realise that there are changes during the school day for families. Can we ask that if you are late or need to pick your child(ren) up early, that you make contact with Jane in the office on [027-3748734](tel:027-3748734), so that we are aware of this.

There is new legislation in 2025 around student attendance and engagement. As a parent or caregiver, you, alongside our school, play a key role in building strong habits of regular school attendance. If a student misses one day of school every two weeks, they miss more than a whole year of school by 16 years of age. All students are legally required to attend school every day and it is a shared responsibility to make sure students attend and engage in learning from when they first start school.

You must let the school know if your child is going to be absent or intends to be absent for a portion of the school term for whatever reason, like a tangi or medical procedure. Family holidays or taking time off for extracurricular activities (not organised by school) are not acceptable reasons for being absent.

Knowing if your child is well enough to go to school can be tricky. Health guidance to support you to decide is available here. If you are still unsure, get in touch with us and let's work together to support your learner.

If you're struggling at home with getting your child to school, talk to us. Over the next few weeks Jane and I will be deciphering the attendance regulations and we will inform you as to the changes for us at Lake Tekapo School.

Staff Meeting Times:

Please be aware that the staff meet before school on a Monday and after school on a Wednesday at 3:15pm. These meetings are vital for organisational purposes and planning and we would hope that parents/caregivers respect these times to be left for staff.

Communication/Newsletters:

The school does its best to communicate all information through email, Educa, Facebook and text, but we are still finding that some messages are not being read. Please take the time to read through the information provided and we will endeavour to also go "back to basics" with a newsletter taken home in school bags.

School Phone:



Jane holds the School phone at the office and we would appreciate all communication from home to school to go through this phone 027-374 8734. Staff are receiving individual messages that need to be relayed and we would prefer these to go through one channel. Thank you for this.

School Hats:

As the weather continues to provide us with lots of sunshine, students need to be protected from the UV rays with a school sun hat. If your child/children do not have a school hat, can this item please be purchased from the NZ Uniform Shop as soon as possible, as if they are unprotected by a hat, they may be asked to remain either indoors or in shaded areas at break times.

Hall Hire and the Community Room

The school embraces the opportunity to have Community and Parent groups in our Community Space as was originally intended. This does require organisation both with times, locking and unlocking and furniture and equipment needed for the different groups. If you are wanting to book the Community Space, please contact Jane with details, so that the booking can be made. If you are unable to make your booking, can you also contact Jane, so that the school knows this. School Email: office@tekaop.school.nz Phone: 027-374 8734

Comments for Educa - Reporting to Parents



In week 4 (February - Monday 24th -25th) the staff would like to hold goal setting meetings with your child(ren). These meetings will be to seek feedback and next steps for your child(ren) and to ensure that the triangulation of Teacher, Student, Parents are on the same page. Part of this reporting can be achieved through the Educa Platform and the staff have pulled together a brief for parents to reference as they comment on their child(ren)'s post.

Here are some ideas to help get us started, we don't have to overthink it!

Start simple / closed comments

- I am so proud of you.
- Great piece of writing!
- This made me laugh.
- Awesome!
- It looks like you worked hard on this!
- Thank you for sharing this.

Extend it / Open comments

- I love this piece of writing/drawing/problem etc. What would you do differently next time/how could you improve this?
- What made you decide to share this piece of work with us?
- How did you feel once you had finished this piece?
- How could we help you at home with this?

You will have some ideas too! Remember that if it is an individual story, only the teachers and yourselves can see it. If it is a group story, all of the parents and teachers can see the comments. This might help you to write what comes naturally to you and your family. Please feel free to write in your first language too! We are not judging

your comments. It would be wonderful to see higher engagement in the posts. Our tamariki are proud of their work and we as staff are too!

Upcoming Dates:

Tuesday 11th February	Rudd Kleinpaste Evening - School Community Room, 6.30pm
Tuesday 18th February	BoT Meeting, 5pm
Monday 24-25th February	Goal Setting Interviews
Friday 28th February	LTS Triathlon
Tuesday 18th March	Mackenzie Swimming Sports - Fairlie

Term Dates:

Term One:	Monday 3rd February - Friday 11th April
Term Two:	Monday 28th April - Friday 27th June
Term Three:	Monday 14th July - Friday 19th September
Term Four	Monday 6th October - TBC

Please sign and return the attached form back to school by Friday, 15th February.



Agreement for Students to Use Google Workspace for Education:

I (name of parent) give consent for my child/ren.

..... (name/s of child/ren) to access and use the Google
Workspace for Educational purposes as per the terms and conditions set out by Google - for
full terms of use and conditions please click on this link: [Google Terms & Conditions for
Education](#)

Date: