



Newsletter
Week 1
Term 1 2025
Leading Our Learning - Whai Akoranga

**Let's stay
on...
Together
Respectful
Adaptable
Creative
Kind**

Friday 31 January 2025

Kia Ora Parents, Caregivers, and Ward School Whānau,

Welcome to 2025! I hope you all had fantastic and relaxing holidays. Teachers have been busy getting classrooms prepared for an exciting new year and new term. We welcome Teacher Robyn McConchie (Whaea Robyn) who will be working with our students in the Reef this year. This is our first newsletter for the year and just an opportunity to give you some key dates for the Term ahead See table at the end of this notice. Teachers will be sending out a welcome email with a few more details on what is happening in class shortly. Please note that as advised last year school will not be open on Friday the 7th of February giving you the opportunity for one last long weekend before we get down to business.

Reminders -

Just a reminder that it is important that children come to school with the correct school uniform. Purchases can be made from the [Uniform Shop](#). We do have some second-hand hats \$5 and sports tops \$10 for sale (limited numbers and sizes). We will be having a big push on hats for this term. Students must have a red wide brimmed or bucket hat to play outside in terms 1 and 4. We have talked to the children about “no hat no play” Students without hats will be asked to sit under the big tree outside Reef in the shade. We will not have spare hats available at school. In the past, they have been treated poorly and left in a number of random places but more importantly, the sharing of hats is not a healthy practice and can spread bugs, especially headlice. So we ask that each student provide their own named hat. Since last year we no longer have sports tops available to borrow. As above we have a few for sale but we would like each student to have their own sports top available for sporting events and outside the school activities..

Welcome/ Meet the teacher evening

On Wednesday 12th of February we will hold a welcome celebration/ sausage sizzle at school. Please note it will be earlier than usual. We are looking to hold this event from 4:00pm until 6:00pm as there are road closures in place on the Weld pass from 7:00pm and teachers will need to be able to leave in time to get home. This will be a chance to catch up with classroom teachers, other parents and reconnect with the school after the summer break. Teachers will hold brief meetings in their classrooms to share expectations, programmes and answer any questions you might have. Note this is not a one on one about your child, this will happen at the end of this term, it is a general chat to get an overview of the upcoming term/ year.

4:00pm Welcome

4:15pm - 4:35pm - Rockpool

4:40pm - 5:00pm - WavePool

5:05pm - 5:30pm. - Reef

6:00pm Finish

Communication

The Skool Loop app is our preferred method of getting out important information to you. If you haven't downloaded it already I strongly encourage you to do so. When you sign up you can choose the groups you wish to belong to like classrooms, sports etc to make sure you are getting the information that is relevant to you. <https://skoolloop.com/en-nz/parents/>

Teachers will also use our student management system (eTap) to send a weekly email to parents. This will be a short email that might include a highlight for the week and reminders/ notification for what is coming up. If you need to contact teachers an email is our preferred method of contact

Rock Pool - nicolec@ward.school.nz

Wave Pool - mbenseman@ward.school.nz

Reef - robyn@ward.school.nz

Principal - principal@ward.school.nz

Staff are generally available to answer emails between the hours of 8:00am and 5:00pm. Note teachers can not respond to emails during class times. If you are emailing outside of these times we do endeavour to respond as soon as possible but it may be the next day. If matters are urgent during the school day then please phone the office (03) 57 56837 and we will get the message to the teachers. Due to privacy reasons, we will not be able to give out personal details and cell phone numbers unless the staff member chooses to do so. You are more than welcome to pop in and see us for quick questions and queries but if you are wishing to discuss any issues in more detail please make an appointment at an appropriate time to do so.



Just for Laughs! (aka Mr Sangsters Dad Joke of the week!)

How does a Butcher introduce his wife

Meat Pattie!!!

Ngā mihi nui,
Aaron Sangster - Principal/Tumuaki

Together



Respectful



Adaptable



Creative



Kind



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Important Term 1 Dates

Date	Event
Feb 3	School Starts
Feb 6	Waitangi Day
Feb 7	School Closed (Waitangi)
Feb 10-14	Fundamentals Skills for Rock Pool and Wave Pool
Feb 12	Meet the Teacher Start at 4:00pm
Feb 14	Rock Pool Assembly

Feb 17	Yr 7/8 Technology Day 1
Feb 21	Ward/Seddon Swim Sports at Seddon
Feb 27	Netball Taster Day
Feb 28	Rural School Swimming sports in Blenheim
Mar 7	Wave Pool Assembly
Mar 21	Marlborough Swimming Championship
Mar 23	Flaxbourne Show
Mar 28	Reef Assembly
Apr 4	Athletics with Seddon School
Apr 9/10	Parent Interviews
Apr 7	Teacher Only Day - Staff Development
Apr 11	Principal Assembly - End of Term