



ABERFELDY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

E-mail: aberfeldy.class@xtra.co.nz
RD 3, Wanganui Ph: (06) 342 5757

2nd December 2021 Week 7 Term Four

Greetings to all Parents, Caregivers, and whanau,

Thank you to all the whanau support that we had while Mr Moore was away. Huge thanks to Whaea Dennie, Brooke and Jaime for being our amazing teacher aides over the last week and a half; thanks to the parents for having their students ready earlier in the morning for the van run and thanks to the students for being awesome! We had a great learning time together. It is great to have Mr Moore back at school and the children have settled back in to their routine quickly.

New Principal:

The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that Mr Josh Paton has been appointed as the new principal for Aberfeldy School. Please see overleaf for some information on Mr Paton. Mr Paton is going to be coming to Aberfeldy School next Wednesday 8th December to meet the students and observe in the classroom. Mr Paton will be travelling on the van as he would like to see where the students live and possibly meet some of the parents. The Board is looking at having a working bee / BBQ over the holidays so that parents can come along and meet Mr Paton.

Pet Day / Prize Giving:

Thursday 9th December

This year Pet Day is going to be a little different - we are not going to have any actual pets at school. Instead we would like you to take photos of your child's pet (or a past pet) and send them along to school, either by email to aberfeldy.class@xtra.co.nz or you can txt them to Raewyn. If your child does not have a pet they can send a photo of a stuffed toy or we can research a pet they would like. The children will then make a collage up about their pet. We will still do some activities in the morning with the students making snow globes with Mrs Irwin, decorating cup cakes with Jaime, doing a wax wrap with Michelle D and an art activity with Mr Moore. If we have time we will also do a vegetable creation. There will be a sausage sizzle at lunchtime for everyone and swimming for the children. After lunch we will do our Pet Day prize giving and end of year prize giving.

Parents and whanau are invited from 12.00pm but please bring a mask - prize giving will be held outside in our outdoor learning area.

If you are unwell please stay home.

The day should conclude by around 2.00pm.

End of Year Reports:

Your child's end of year report will be given to you after prize giving, or if you don't attend it will be sent home with your child.

Last Day of School:

The last day of this school year is **Monday 13th December**. Raewyn is away at a course so a relief driver will be driving the van for the day. The van pick up will start slightly later than normal - with first pick up being at 8.00am - so add half an hour on to your normal pick up time. The school day will finish at 2.00pm so students will be home slightly earlier than normal.

Start of Year 2022:

School will start on Monday 31st January 2022. Although we have five Year 8 students leaving us this year we already have some new enrolments confirmed for next year.

We have our new entrant twins, Shaniwa-Mae and Peter-Ray starting at the beginning of the year along with Toby; in March Aaliyah will also be starting as a new entrant. We will also have a new Year 3 boy and possibly a Year 6, Year 7 and a Year 8 girl starting the year with us.

Swimming:

Swimming is part of our school curriculum and children are swimming every day so please ensure you send their togs with them.

Sunhat & Sunblock:

Aberfeldy School is a Sunsmart School and we require our students to wear a hat if outside during term one and term four. Students are able to bring their own hats so long as they provide some form of shade to their face (either a brim or a peak). School does have some spare hats available. If children do not want to wear hats then they must stay in the shade during break times. Children are also required to eat their lunch in our designated outdoor area which is under cover.



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Technology:

Today was our last day at technology for our Year 8 students for this term. We will be continuing with this programme next year with Year 7 & 8 students going to Cullinane College weekly. The students get to do things like cooking, digital technology, drama, art, music and science.

Planning for Next Year:

Mr Paton is already meeting with people to start planning for next year, this has included meeting with some of our other small rural principals to discuss ideas of things we can do together such as sports, Kapa haka and other trips.



From Mr Paton -

I was born in South Africa in 1964 in a small town called Grahamstown, in where I grew up and went to university. I went to the marines, travelled around Europe and had a variety of jobs ranging from a municipal drain inspector to a low-tech, education tool inventor, before settling down to teaching.

At university I met the woman that I subsequently married and with whom I had two children and we fostered another two. Our natural children (now twenty-one and twenty-four) have joined us here in New Zealand.

After teaching for several years and becoming a deputy principal of a private school, I took over the running of a welfare organization, the Hobbiton Association. After over twenty years of running it as well as building another two centres, I went to teach in the U.K. for a bit before joining my wife here in New Zealand where she had taken a post as the chaplain of Whanganui Collegiate School.

I enjoy reading, tramping, and have done skydiving, paragliding, Antarctic scientific exploration, hiked the Himalayas, white-water rafted with hippos and crocodiles, bungy jumped off the highest fixed-point bungy in the world, am a sailor and a motorcycle enthusiast.



Remember to email photos of your child's pet please