

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome, or welcome back, to Kirkwood Intermediate for 2011. This year sees us with one of our highest starting numbers for some time. I believe that the Board's decision to have 6 Year 8 classes and 7 Year 7 classes was a wise decision as this will allow our new students to really settle into our school.

I hope that all of our children and families have managed to have a good holiday and that the children are ready for a challenging, but enjoyable year. I know our staff are keen to get the year underway, and to make sure we do the best we can for every child who comes to our school.

I hope that our new Year 7 students are looking forward to their first EOTC experience – their camp at Purau Bay. This is a wonderful opportunity to develop a positive class culture and for our children to get to know each other really well. Many thanks to the Year 7 team for all the extra work they do over this time, as well as all the preparation they have already completed. Thanks as well to all of the parents who have offered to attend camp to support this valuable programme. We hope the weather will hold and that all camps are completed successfully and safely.

Please find attached a copy of our Concerns and Complaints Policy. We circulate this at the beginning of the year just in case any issues should arise. I know that all of our staff would rather be contacted as early as possible should you have any concerns or queries. Often little misunderstandings can be dealt with very quickly and without too much concern if we know about them. Please always remember that we really want all of our children to not only enjoy their time with us, but to benefit from the many opportunities available to them.

A special welcome to our five new teachers – Blair McWhirter in Rm 1; Hayley Ryan in Rm 4, Kim Robertson in Rm 9; Julia Messenger in Rm 7 and Mary McCance our ESOL teacher who is covering for Janine Climo who is a proud mother of a baby boy, a brother for Mya and Selena. Below is a small profile about each of them:



Hi, I'm Blair McWhirter and am teaching Year 8 in Room 1. Very pleased to be back teaching in New Zealand after a long spell away!

Hi, my name is Hayley Ryan. My interests are reading, walking and yoga, among other things! I was born in England, my family background is Irish, but I have lived in Christchurch for most of my life. I am very excited to be at Kirkwood and the great year ahead of us!





Hi, my name is Kim Robertson. I am just coming into my second year teaching and have spent the last three terms teaching a year 5 class at Isleworth Primary. I decided I wanted to become a teacher while working as an

assistant teacher for three years in Japan. I love skiing, so was very happy to move back to Christchurch a few years ago. I am really looking forward to this year at Kirkwood!

Before teaching, I spent over 15 years in the engineering field, mainly in aircraft engineering. Last year I was teaching at ChCh South Intermediate in Year 7, however, being a local girl, I have always been keen to teach at Kirkwood and I look forward to working with everyone – Julia.



Hello! I am Mary McCance. I am American but have lived in Christchurch for nearly 8 years. I came to New Zealand after teaching English as a Second Language in Asia for 6 years. After getting my teaching certification

here in Christchurch, I taught Year 7/8 at Westburn School for 3 years. I left full-time classroom teaching after my daughter Ciana was born in 2008. I am really

looking forward to working with ESOL children at Kirkwood.

One of the things we value at our school is the involvement of our community in our school. Please know that you are welcome to become involved in all of our school activities – we enjoy working with our community.

During the Christmas break we had a significant amount of vandalism and tagging at our school. It was quite disheartening to think that there are people in our community who choose to inflict this kind of behaviour on our school. However our caretaker has worked hard and the school is looking good for the beginning of this year. If any member of our community has any information about these attacks, please contact the school and let us know.

Many of children travel to school by bus. It is common that these children travel unaccompanied by adults and sometimes the behaviour of a small minority of students is well below what we expect. If your child travels to or from school by bus, could you reinforce the appropriate behaviour expected please. I would be disappointed if a Kirkwood student could not attend school because he/she has been banned from the bus.

I do hope that your child's year has started off well. Years 7 and 8 are such important years, and they seem to pass by so quickly – I am sure that if we all work together we can make the very most of this time for your child.

I look forward to working with you through 2011 and I hope that this year is all you and your child have hoped for.

Phil Tappenden
Principal

Our staff for this year are:

Year 8 Team:

- Blair McWhirter Room 1
- Kirsty Anderson Room 2
- Peter Aitken – **Team Leader** Room 3
- Hayley Ryan Room 4
- Hilary Hughes Room 8
- Kim Robertson Room 9

Year 7 Team:

- Paula Campbell Room 5
- Chrissy McLean – **Team Leader** Room 6
- Julia Messenger Room 7
- Hae Ran Eum Room 10
- Jo Wang Room 11
- Mike Smith Room 12
- Emma Murcott Room 13

Art & Classroom Release Teacher:

- Trevor Paterson
- Sarah Davidson

Technology Teaching Staff:

- Julie Anderson-Hema – **Team Leader**
 - Gordon Anderson
 - Kelvin Erickson
 - Ian Jackson
 - Clive Blackett
 - Anthea Preston
 - Ray Ingle – Assistant Team Leader
- Part time - Jackie Hobbs and Anna-Mary Anderson

Esol Teacher:

- Mary McCance (Terms 1& 2 while Janine Climo is on Maternity Leave)

Counsellor:

- Chrystal Witte

International Student Co-ordinator:

- Amelia Jang

Support Staff:

- Kerian Gill – Secretary
- Deb Rowley – Bursar
- Lea-Ann Dow – Office Assistant
- Sally Dobbs – Librarian
- Sunah Kim – Teacher Aide
- Eun Hyung Joo – Teacher Aide
- Peter von Hagen – Caretaker
- Joanne Cooper – Teacher Aide



KIRKWOOD INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS POLICY

The School is open to the concerns/complaints of students, staff and parents. This policy is communicated to parents/caregivers, students and staff early each year. It encourages communication and resolution of concerns/complaints at the earliest opportunity.

Guidelines:

1. The prompt resolution of concerns/complaints through direct communication/dialogue between parties concerned is always the preferred option.
2. The appropriate progression is:
 - a) The complainant makes an appointment to see the individual concerned with a view to explaining, discussing and trying to resolve their concern/complaint. Both parties may elect to have a support person present.

If the concern/complaint is not resolved to the satisfaction of all concerned in a) then the complainant makes an appointment with the Principal.
 - b) The Principal arranges a meeting between the complainant, person to whom the concern/complaint was first directed and the Principal with a view to explaining, discussing and trying to resolve their concerns/complaint. Both parties shall be encouraged to have a support person present. Students must have a parent/caregiver present.
 - c) If the concern/complaint is not satisfactorily resolved during step b), the complainant may give a formal written notice of their concerns/complaint to the Board of Trustees. In this notice, the complainant must outline the processes they have exercised to date and the general nature of their concerns/complaint.

From receipt of the complainant's formal written notice of concern/complaint the New Zealand Secondary Schools Trustees Association Guidelines will form the basis of further action to be taken.
3. At all stages of this procedure any party who is the subject of a complaint will be kept informed of the complaint and the procedures for dealing with it and be advised to consult with and seek support from authorized representatives, colleagues or other organizations.

Stationary Queue

Our apologies for the long queues yesterday in the hall. We are looking into the reason behind this and will address the problem so that hopefully it will not occur next year.

Lost Property

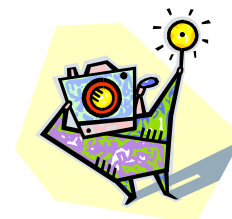
We have quite a bit of lost property from last year. If your child didn't bring home all their uniform – come and check.
It is located by the school office.

Birth certificates

– if you have not provided a copy of a birth certificate when you enrolled your child, could you please get a copy (or we can photocopy) to the office as soon as possible.
Thanks you.

School photos

will be taken on
Wednesday 2 March.
Mark this in your diary now
so you don't forget.



Please can you wear your correct school uniform.



School Canteen

This will open on Monday 7 February.
There will be a menu coming home shortly
and there will also be a copy in each
classroom.

Road Safety



Please can you emphasize to your children how important it is to cross Riccarton Road at the pedestrian crossing by Wharenui Road. If you are dropping your child off opposite the school, they must walk down the road to this crossing. Please do not help them to cross opposite the school.

Thank you for your support with this.



School Cell Phone

– for texting only please.
027 4163414.

(Please note – we do not reply.)

If you have an urgent or important message
please ring the office and talk to us on
348 7718.
Thanks.

Yr 8 Students

If you have
changed your address or phone number
over the holidays
– please can you let the office know so we
can update our files.

Internet Banking

The school bank details are as follows:

Account Name: *Kirkwood Intermediate Board of Trustees*

Account Number: *12-3147-0180900-00*

Particulars: *Child's name (surname and first name)*

Reference: *Parent's/caregiver's name (surname and first name)*

For those of you who wish to pay by internet banking for any school activities during the year, please make sure you return the permission slip, ticking the box saying that you are paying via the internet.

Last year the Yr 7 students had Enterprise Week. With some of the profit they raised rooms 6, 9, 10 and 11 decided to donate to charity.

A total of \$427.60 was donated to the Children's Starship Hospital and below is the letter we have received back from them:



Kirkwood Intermediate School
P O Box 29242
Riccarton
Christchurch 8540

PO Box 9389 Newmarket
Auckland 1149

Phone 09 307 4957
Fax 09 307 4937

starshipfoundation@adhb.govt.nz
www.starship.org.nz

23rd December 2010

Dear Year 7 Students

Thank-you so much for your wonderful donation of \$427.60 for the children at Starship it is truly appreciated. We especially applaud your efforts in raising the money through your Enterprise Week which I know would have taken a lot of hard work and commitment.

I hope Jesse is on the mend and that you all are having (had!) a wonderful Christmas holiday. We will make sure the money you have donated is put to very good use helping Starship improve and upgrade the Level 6 area which includes the transplant ward.

The plan is to build totally new facilities which will improve physical, emotional, social and medical outcomes for critically-ill children from all over New Zealand.

With more than 2000 patients admitted to the Level 6 each year, your support will build a positive, stimulating and nurturing environment which fosters the best medical care possible.

We want to consign over-crowded, old-fashioned, poky shared rooms to history and build for the future of New Zealand's children!

Thank you again - your support means can remain a place of laughter, love and healing.

Best wishes

Sarah Frayne
Donor Relationship Executive

Term 1 Dates

Mon 7 Feb	Rm 6 to Purau Bay camp
Wed 9 Feb	Rm 13 to camp
Mon 14 Feb	Rm 7 to camp
Wed 16 Feb	Rm 11 to camp
Thur 17 Feb	Board of Trustees meeting
Mon 21 Feb	Rm 10 to camp
Wed 23 Feb	Rm 5 to camp Rms 8 & 9 class trip to Botanic Gardens
Wed 2 Mar	SCHOOL PHOTOS will be taken. Everyone to be wearing correct school uniform please.
Mon 7 Mar	Rm 12 to camp
Thur 10 Mar	School Swimming Sports 10 – 12
Mon 14 Mar	Rms 1 & 3 class trip to Botanic Gardens
Wed 16 Mar	Rms 2 & 4 class trip to Botanic Gardens
Thur 17 Mar	Board of Trustees meeting
Tues 22 Mar	Intermediate Triathlon at QE11
Fri 1 Apr	Interim Reports home
Tue 5 Apr	Intermediate Swimming Sports QE11
Tue 5 Apr	Parent/Teacher/Student interviews
Wed 6 Apr	Parent/Teacher/Student interviews
Thur 14 Apr	Board of Trustees meeting
Fri 15 Apr	End of Term 1

School Year Dates for 2011

Term 1	Wednesday 2 February to Friday 15 April
Term 2	Monday 2 May to Friday 15 July
Term 3	Monday 1 August to Friday 7 October
Term 4	Tuesday 25 October to Friday 16 December

- Waitangi Day – 6 February (Sunday)
- Easter - Good Friday 22 April, Easter Monday & Tuesday fall within school holidays
- Anzac Day – Sunday 25 April
- Queen's Birthday - Monday 6 June, falls within Term 2
- Labour Day, Monday 24 October
- Show Day (Anniversary Day) - Friday 11 November, falls within Term 4

Community Notice Board

Karate for Kidz Give your child the Martial Arts advantage. It is not just about punching and kicking - it's about developing a strong mind and body, leadership skills, a balanced personality and solid character traits **Enrolments taken now for term one. Get a FREE trial class! Ph 385- 9013.** Kids Classes: Ages 6 – 12 years. Teens Classes: Ages 13+ years. Classes for Adults also available. See our website at www.martialarts4u.co.nz

AIR FORCE MUSEUM Open Day: HELICOPTER HEROES! - Join us at Wigram for our annual, all out event day - Helicopter Heroes! The day will be jam-packed with entertainment including everything from flying displays to helicopter rides, food and family entertainment. This year's Helicopter Heroes will feature: RNZAF Iroquois; RNZAF Sioux; Red Checkers Display Team; Westpac Rescue; Helicopter handling displays; Aircraft on display; Helicopter rides available; Bouncy castle; Food stalls and much more... See you there! Sunday 13th Feb 2011, 10am to 4pm. \$25 Family, \$10 Adult, \$5 Child.

Christchurch United Football Club – Registration dates – Thur 17 Feb 4.30 – 7pm; Sat 26 Feb 10.30-2.30 at Barringtons Shopping Centre Foodcourt. Eftpos available.
www.christchurchafc.co.nz & www.chchunited.co.nz. Junior Club Inquiries – Tina 960 2654 or Tony 338 4709.

DRAMA FOR ALL FEE FRIENDLY DRAMA CLUBS - After School Drama for 6-8 and 9-13 year olds in Huntsbury, Fendalton and North New Brighton. Contact Janet on 3870635 or email drama_for_all@hotmail.com

Adult and Community Education classes at Riccarton High School for term 1.

A range of different classes ranging from ESOL, Deaf Sign Language, Te Reo Maori and much more. For more information, please visit www.risingholme.org.nz or ring 3327359. Brochures available at the public library.

PIANO AND THEORY TUITION - Some spaces available with Yolande Hamilton LRSM LTCL. 31 Waiwetu Street, Fendalton. Experienced Registered Exam work. 03 3518 492; 0274 877 808

Learn Sailing after school or weekends with Canterbury Sailing School - info@canterburysailing.co.nz – 021699 076

SING OUT LOUD! – a fun one hour class, building confidence, giving positive performance experiences and developing good performance skills and technique – Jessica D'Ath. www.slingoutloud.co.nz

Your Care Matters - We are looking for people in your community who care about kids. You could make a difference in the life of a child by opening up your home to a child who needs you. This could be just for a week end, or longer term care, there are several options. If you are interested to find out more about the ways you could care for a child please contact: Marney Holthouse, Child, Youth and Family, Christchurch, Phone: 961 5582



BURNSIDE RUGBY CLUB – registration in the clubrooms on 27 Feb & 6 Mar 10am – 3pm & 7 Mar 4.30 – 6.30. Please bring proof of age. www.burnsiderugby.co.nz. Contacts – Neil Matheson on 359 9673 or Jo 357 9293

Harlequin Players present a Junior Drama Course which begins Tue 15 Feb followed by a chance to audition for the Term 1 school holiday production “Ginerbread Girl and a Melodrama – call 331 6162 or visit www.harlequinplayers.org.nz

Gifted Child? Here's your chance to come and try out One Day School, New Zealand's longest running programme for gifted learners. There will be two age based sessions on **Monday 14 March at Kendal School** from 9-12pm for 9-12 year olds and 12.30-3pm for 6-8 year olds. The cost is \$35 per child. Places are limited and bookings are essential! For more information, or to book a place for your child, ring Andrea on 021646963 or email andrea.wong@giftededucation.org.nz.

A Paraprosdokian, meaning “expectation” is a figure of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected in a way that causes the reader or listener to reframe or reinterpret the first part. They can also play on the double meaning, creating a syllepsis.

‘Dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish.’

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whanau

Welcome back to a brand new year and term. By all accounts it will be a year to remember.

That got me thinking about how do we let children grow, learn life’s lessons, become independent thinkers, problem solvers and solution focused? All a big order! The article below goes some way in telling it as it is. Hopefully this can provide food for thought and add to your kete of practical knowledge and discussion around the dinner table.

Remember I am at school on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons should you wish to talk or come by. I look forward to working with you.

Wishing you all the best for a great and brilliant 2011.

Warm regards

Chrystal, Counsellor

“Letting Children Go, So They Can Grow”
by Joe Martin, Retrieved 01 02 2011 from
<http://www.selfgrowth.com/articles/Martin28.html>

The toughest thing about being a parent is [learning](#) when NOT to be one. You don’t have to take my word for it, just ask Marlon. Marlon’s wife was cruelly attacked and killed by a man-eating barracuda, thrusting him into the role of a ‘single dad’. Before getting too caught up in Marlon’s story, Marlon is a fish, and his son’s name was ‘Nemo’. Yes, the scenario is a scene from the blockbuster movie, ‘Finding Nemo’.

Although only an animation film, ‘Finding Nemo’ portrays the real life struggles many parents face in ‘letting go of their children’. As in real life, most parents and children don’t see the potential dangers of a parent being overprotective; and it’s easy to understand why many parents could respond the way Marlon did. Growing up can prove there are

many barracudas waiting dressed in different guises.

Like most children, Nemo became upset with his ‘loving’ father’s (or parents’) obsession in protecting him from unforeseen dangers. During one heated exchanged, Nemo uttered the phrase that strikes fear in the heart of every parent, “I hate you”. As a result of his father’s controlling [behaviour](#), Nemo intentionally rebels against his father and is consequently ‘fish-napped’ by a diver. Three [parenting](#) lessons came to mind:

1. We can only prepare our children for life’s mistakes, not prevent them.

As a child, I was amazed by how cool and calm my Mom, who was a single parent, raised my younger sister and I. Personally, I was scared of my environment. On any given day it was hard to go to school, watch traffic, travel on the bus, check my current friends

and 'enemies' and make sure I learned to the best of my ability every single day.

Later I asked my mother how she was able to remain a balanced, caring parent, and at the same time, teach us to be independent and strong. My mother simply said, "I didn't do much; I taught you right from wrong, and I trusted that the mistakes you made were not going to kill you".

In contrast with Marlon, my mother didn't control our mistakes; instead, she prepared us prior to the event by role playing, showing concern and talking us through the possible dilemmas and challenges. Her trust in us was answered, because even the bad mistakes we made didn't kill us. It was then we learned the most! And quickly!

2. Treat our children as if they're already the human being capable of 'becoming'.

Instead of putting the labels of 'needy' and 'helpless' on our children, what would happen if we gave them a label of 'greatness'? I feel we would be shocked by how great our children could be and how well they could 'swim on their own'.

For instance, my 7-year old son wanted to go to the park and shoot baskets on the "big people" basket ball court. Of course I enthusiastically agreed. However, after his first shot, he soon realized that the 10-ft. basketball hoop was too high. He immediately became discouraged and started to cry. The 'Marlon-nature' came out in me as I got the sudden urge to put him on my shoulders and let him make a basket the easy way - to 'protect' him from disappointment. Yet I immediately came to my senses, and said something like, "Kendall, before we go home today, I believe

you're going to make a basket; just keep working on it".

Well, by changing my son's label from 'you're too small' to 'you're tall enough', he continued shooting for 30 minutes until he made his first basket ever on the "big people" basketball goal; and to be honest with you, I don't know who was more thrilled, me or him. But it was an experience I'll never forget. By the time we left the park, I watched my son score 19 baskets by himself! Nemo would've been proud!

3. We need to give ourselves credit for being good parents.

Too many times, we become our own worst enemy by being our biggest critic when it comes to [parenting](#). No one will argue that being a parent is one of the toughest jobs on the planet, but we shouldn't complicate things by beating ourselves over every mistake we make; we just need to admit them, learn from them, and not repeat them (or use feedback – Zig Zigler used to say "feedback is the breakfast of champions").

Sometimes it's good to be tough on yourself, yet [parenting](#) was never about perfection; it's about connection. Connecting with children means they feel comfortable in discussing their pains and joys. Regardless of how good or bad we think we are as parents, the only question a child really cares about is, "Were you there when I needed you the most?" Being 'there' emotionally supporting our children covers parenting mistakes. Marlon learned from his mistakes. But more importantly, he learned that being a parent is a [learning](#) process especially about when NOT to be one. And as parents, we must come to the realization that we can't grow the tree without first planting and nurturing the seed. Plant it, nurture it, let it go, and watch it grow into a magnificent tree.

At Kirkwood we have a set of values that underpin the way our school works. We have included these in this newsletter, with the thought that you may choose to discuss these and their deeper meanings with your child.

At Kirkwood Intermediate School we value:

- Achieving our best – aiming high and persevering
- Innovation, Inquiry, Curiosity and Flexibility- by thinking critically, creatively and reflectively
- Diversity – as found in our different abilities, languages, cultures and heritages
- Inclusiveness and belonging – through equal opportunity and fair treatment of all
- Caring and compassion within our community
- Our environment – our classrooms, shared spaces and recreational areas
- Honesty and trustworthiness
- Courtesy and respect
- Responsibility and reliability