

Term Dates

Term Two

First Day Monday 30 April

Last Day Friday 6 July

Term Three

First Day Monday 23 July

Last Day Friday 28 September

Term Four

First Day Monday 15 October

Last Day Friday 14 December

Event Calendar

Visit the event calendar on our website (under Parent Zone) for event information.

April

13 Last day Term 1

30 First day Term 2

May

8 ICAS Digital Tech. Exam

9 Light up the Night

16 Area Cross Country

18 Pink Shirt Day

18 pp Area Cross Country

22 Early Closure COL PD

23 BOT Meeting 6.30pm

29 ICAS Science Exam

31 National Youth Leaders Day

June

4 Queens Birthday Holiday

5 County Cross Country

Phone:

03 302 8500

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office@methven.school.nz

Website:

www.methven.school.nz



Principal Comment

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of MPS,

Well winter has definitely arrived with a vengeance. The speed and ferocity at which the snow arrived yesterday, along with the weather forecast we received; closing the school was the only option. Closing, especially once the school day wheels are in motion, is always the last option. This is complicated further as we have to work in, and reach consensus, with both the College and OLS. Putting the Message My Way alert out there is the easy part, turning the ship around is the complicated part.

Message My Way is our tool for communicating with you in such events. It is really important that this is working, and working well, for you. If for some reason it is not operating how you would like it to (or not working at all) please contact Michelle in the school office or Keryn Hooker; they will be able to help sort this out for you. You can also go to <https://messagemyway.com/code/qqdrq> to update your settings. For the majority of you, yesterdays "School is closed" alert would have been received via an urgent SMS text, compared to our normal messages/reminders which are predominantly received via email. There are a myriad of other options available within the Message My Way system including Facebook Messenger and mobile/landline voicemails.

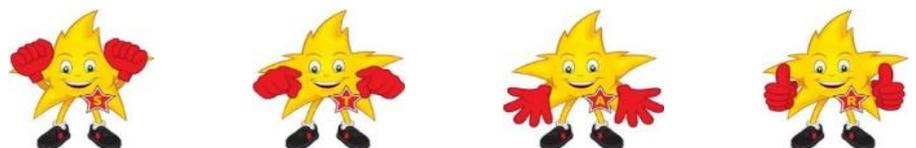
As it is winter please make sure your children are dressed for the conditions. While the classrooms are maintained at a comfortable working level, we like to get the children outside during the break times as much as we can, so they will need their jackets etc for this.

Lastly, this week, I am away for all of Term 2. I am one of 5 NZ principals (2 primary, 3 secondary) who have been honoured with a Woolf Fisher Fellowship for this year. The Fellowship pays for a term of international travel for both me and my family. I will be looking at aspects of 21st Century Curriculum implementation and delivery, collaborative teaching and learning practise and courageous change management. To do this I will be visiting schools in Cambodia, England, Finland, the United States and Canada. One of the highlights will be a whole day visit to the only other Methven Primary School in the world, in Scotland. The travel culminates in a two-week course at the Harvard Graduate School of Education called Evolving Leadership. While I am still pretty much in the dark about how I came to be awarded the Fellowship, I will be making the most out of my time away and will be flying the Methven Primary flag high (metaphorically) wherever I go.

I will be leaving you and the school in the very (very, very) capable hands of Sue Furdorfler and Keryn Hooker in my absence. Sue will be the principal in Weeks 1 – 5 and Keryn from Weeks 6 – 10. They will both be fully released and as such will be supporting each other for the whole term. We will be having a regular catch-up via Skype so they can tell me how easy it is to be the principal of this great school.

Keep warm and enjoy the break with your children,

Chris



Making Pathways to the Stars

Travel Safe Mr Murphy

In October last year, our principal Chris Murphy was awarded a prestigious Woolf Fisher Fellowship by Dr Nigel Evans, a trustee of the Woolf Fisher Trust.

The original Woolf Fisher Fellowships were awarded in 1960. Designed to send leading secondary teachers and principals overseas to examine different teaching practices, the fellowships are now awarded to secondary, intermediate and primary principals and secondary teachers.

Through the fellowships, the Trust acknowledges and encourages excellence in educational leadership and 'in-school' practice in New Zealand. Fellows must also demonstrate some of the qualities which Sir Woolf Fisher admired: integrity, leadership, bold vision, exceptional zeal, keenness and capacity for work.

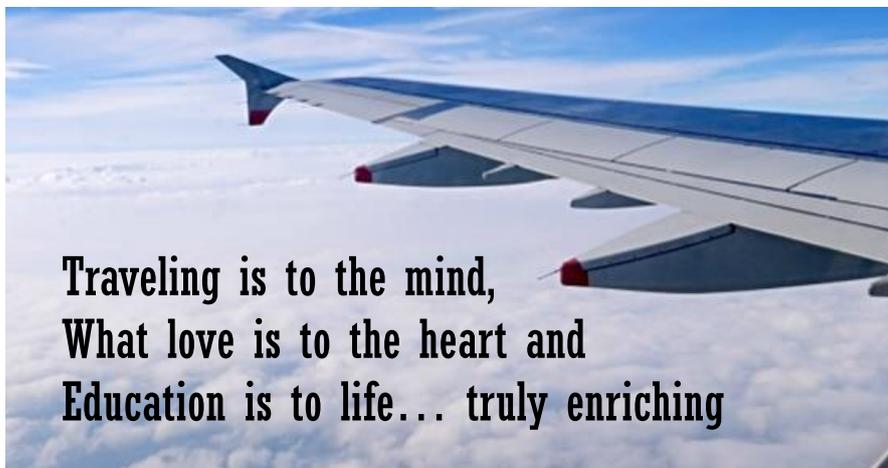
The Trust does not accept applications for Fellowships. Instead, trustees use a system of nomination which seeks to ensure that the awards are made to worthy principals and teachers across a range of schools and subjects.

The fellowship covers 10 weeks of travel to the United States, United Kingdom and Europe, and a course at the Harvard School of Education. Recipients continue to receive their salary during the term of the Fellowship and are provided with additional funding if their partner can accompany them on their study trip. Relief teaching costs are provided by the Ministry of Education.

This year, three primary school teachers in New Zealand received the award, with Mr Murphy being the only primary principal in the South Island to receive the honour. This is an amazing award for Chris and a great recognition of his work for Methven Primary School and education in Mid Canterbury.

Chris will be away for all of Term Two and below is a map of the places he will be travelling too. We look forward to hearing about his travels via his regular Skype meetings with the leadership team and via a video blog that he is setting up for us.

Bon Voyage Mr Murphy !!



Early Closure - Tuesday 22 May

The nine schools in our Kahui Ako (Community of Learning) will be involved with whole staff professional development afternoons throughout this year. We are very fortunate to have the opportunity for all teachers to work together and participate in quality professional development that will benefit all of the students in our Community. Instead of calling a Teacher Only Day in the first half of the year, which we know can cause stress for some families, we have decided to run 3 afternoon sessions (one per term for Terms 1, 2 & 3). The confirmed dates for the remaining afternoon sessions are: 22 May and 14 August.

School will close for instruction at 1.30pm

On Tuesday 22 May

Buses will leave by 1.45pm

Stellar Sports - Cultural Games Day

Below are some photos from last weeks Stellar Sports and Cultural Games day. Following a very impressive opening ceremony complete with Bagpipes (thank you Nick Gilbert) and a visit from the Duke & Duchess of Cambridge (aka David Campbell & Alexandra Krivanek) children participated in a variety of games & activities.



Whanau Hui



Thank you to all who participated in our recent Whanau Hui lead by Irai Weepu, and for the feedback which has been received.

We have developed some goals which will be shared back to the group in the near future. We will revisit these goals in Term Four.

Thank You

During the summer the Mee Family installed and monitored wasp bait stations in our school playground. Thank you for your contribution towards making our school playground a safer environment for everyone.

ANZAC Day 2018

MPS STAR Leaders have been invited to represent our school (in uniform) at the ANZAC Parade this year - a notice will be going out to the STAR Leaders in the next few days. Other MPS children who wish to participate in the parade are to wear mufti and can stay with their families.

Christchurch Swimming Results

Well done to all who participated. Congratulations to our Year 6 Relay Team who were placed 2nd in their event.

METHVEN SCARECROW TRAIL



15 APRIL – 28 APRIL

AWESOME SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITY

Find and identify the scarecrows around Methven and go in the draw to win a prize!



Maps from Methven i-SITE
\$10.00 per entry (cash only)



Philip Waring Ltd



Thanks to our wonderful sponsors!

ALL PROCEEDS TO METHVEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

SURFKIDS

CHILDREN'S SURFING APRIL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Learn the skills of Surfing in a fun, safe environment.

All equipment provided and professional instruction from Aaron Lock and team.

Age: For children 8-14 years

Dates: April Holidays Week 1 and 2
16-20th and 23-27th April

Time: 10am to 12 noon.

Cost: \$30 per day or \$135 for five.

Venue: Sumner

Call Aaron on 0800 80 SURF (7873) or register online at www.surfcoach.co.nz. Bookings essential.

St Margarets College Open Day

Friday 11 May from 10.30am-1.00pm

Principal's address 11.45am - current principal Gillian Simpson, and incoming principal Diana Patchett.

For those looking at boarding options we have an SMC Boarders Sleepover on Friday 11 May at 4.30pm to 10am on Saturday 12 May. Pre-registration for this is required by emailing lizzie.d@stmargarets.school.nz



SAVE THE DATE

LAURISTON SCHOOL FUNDRAISING EVENT

A NIGHT AT THE RACES

SATURDAY 16 JUNE 2018

MT HUTT MEMORIAL HALL - METHVEN

7 PM

TICKETS \$30 PER PERSON

BEST DRESSED LADY & MAN SPOT PRIZES

CASH AND 'FUNNY MONEY' AUCTIONS

FINGER FOOD CASH BAR

TICKETS ON SALE EARLY MAY

GET YOUR CREW TOGETHER, DRESS UP IN YOUR RACE ATTIRE & JOIN US FOR A FUN NIGHT OUT FILLED WITH RACING, BETTING & MUCH MORE

DONT MISS OUT ... TICKETS WILL SELL FAST

CONTACT: AMY HONEYWELL-021866162 OR EMMA MAW-0274172325

ALL PROCEEDS TO METHVEN CARE TRUST FUNDRAISING FOR A NEW AGED CARE FACILITY

Win a Car



2018 Hyundai Accent 1.6

RRP \$24,990

TICKETS \$100

Limited to 400 tickets

Drawn 28 May 2018

Details and where to buy tickets:

www.methvencastrust.co.nz

HYUNDAI Mid Canterbury Hyundai

Methven Care TRUST Caring For Our Community

Winner will be contacted directly, results will be published in Snowfed Methven 1/6/18, Facebook, www.methvencastrust.co.nz