

## Term Dates 2020

### Term One

First Day Monday 3 February  
Last Day Thursday 9 April

### Term Two

First Day Tuesday 28 April  
Last Day Friday 3 July

### Term Three

First Day Monday 20 July  
Last Day Friday 25 September

### Term Four

First Day Monday 12 October  
Last Day Tuesday 15 December

## Event Calendar

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

### February

- 14 Kickstart Breakfast
- 14 MPS Triathlon
- 14 MPS Duathlon
- 19 Methven Area Swimming Sports (Senior)
- 20 Mid Canterbury Triathlon
- 21 Whole School Assembly
- 21 pp Swimming Sports (Senior)

### March

- 03 MPS Swim Gala (Juniors)
- 03 Opuke Kahui Ako Professional Learning Afternoon (School closes 1pm)
- 16 Proposed Teacher Only Day

### April

- 02 Zone Swimming Sports
- 09 Last Day Term One

### Phone:

03 302 8500

### Email:

office@methven.school.nz

### Website:

www.methven.school.nz

## Principal Comment

Tēnā Koutou Katoa,

Once again, a warm welcome to Methven Primary School for the 2020 school year. I am very happy to be taking on the role of Acting Principal for 2020 while Chris Murphy is on leave. Together with Rosie Robinson as Deputy Principal, we make up the Senior Leadership Team at Methven Primary.

The Team Leaders - Jo Spittal, Cheryl Isherwood (Mahuri), Milly Deans (Piwakawaka) and Adele Warburton (Opuke) have had the task of compiling class lists. They have worked to ensure that your child is well-matched with a Home Class Teacher. With the structure of learning in our Collaborative Learning Spaces allowing for flexible groupings, the students will work in different groups with different peers and teachers across the school day. The Home Class groupings are created to provide parents and students with a main teacher to communicate with for pastoral care and reporting of progress and achievement. Due to differences in year group numbers, we have composite classes in some areas of the school this year, but we have managed to keep teacher/student ratios low across the school.

Our school has been a hive of activity over the holidays with Trademark Construction and crew working hard to get our renovations completed in our middle block. We are very pleased with the results and now have four unique learning spaces that allow for internal interaction between students across the block. We have improved floor coverings, sound proofing and heating/cooling systems. An external door has been added so we can move between our Year 3 & 4 spaces with greater ease. Pop in and have a walk through as they look great!

I wish to thank all of the staff for their preparation for the school year. I know many hours have gone into setting up spaces and planning for the term ahead of learning. It sounds like there will be some exciting learning opportunities across the school.

In coming weeks, I will be sharing information around our Vision Review that was started last year. This includes revamping our MPS STAR structure to suit the needs of all students. We value your input into this review as we work to improve the systems that support and promote learning and behaviour at MPS.

It has been a pleasure to see all the happy faces of our students and receive many friendly greetings over our first few days at school. We have an amazing group of children who are keen to interact and learn through their class work and play. We thank you for your support in encouraging your child to work hard and do their best, as it provides the foundations for success during their time at school. At times, they will be stepping outside what is comfortable and familiar, but together we will nurture and grow happy and resilient children who are able to manage themselves across a range of social settings.

Our door is always open if you want to come and have a chat about your child or our happenings at MPS!

Ngā mihi

Sue Furdorfler



Making Pathways to the Stars

# WELCOME

Welcome to the following students who have started at Methven Primary School this week:

- Fergus G (Mahuri S)
- Lillyanna W (Mahuri S)
- Sophie S (Mahuri S)
- Emma F (Mahuri G)
- Kalyan R (Mahuri G)
- Michelle D (Mahuri G)
- Molly M (Mahuri I)
- Connor M (Piwakawaka L)
- Joseph M (Piwakawaka L)
- Luke T ( Piwakawaka GT)
- Scarlett O (Piwakawaka GT)
- Irish P (Piwakawaka T)
- Lilly-Rose K (Piwakawaka T)
- Kennan N (Opuke O)

Welcome to Erica George who is teaching Year 1/2 students in Mahuri G.

Welcome to Phoebe Todd who is teaching Year 4 students in Piwakawaka T.

And a special welcome back to Andrea Toms, who has returned from maternity leave and is teaching Year 2/3 students in Piwakawaka GT.



Erica George



Phoebe Todd



Andrea Toms



Happy Birthday from Methven Primary School to the following students:

Cameron M	Opuke O	1st February
Cordell K	Opuke C	2nd February
Mereaina G	Opuke M	5th February
Hemi T	Piwakawaka L	6th February
Scarlett O	Piwakawaka GT	7th February
Hunter D	Piwakawaka L	11th February
Declan F	Opuke W	11th February
Virat K	Piwakawaka GT	19th February

## Parent Communication - Hero

You may have noticed that communication with you to date has gone out via email (and Facebook updates). We have chosen to join the other schools in our Opuke Community of Learning (Kāhui Ako) and move to a data base system that combines the apps that we have previously used (Message My Way and Seesaw). Our new app is called Hero and this will now be our one place for communicating and reporting. This currently includes Community Notices. Family accounts and learning goals and progress will be rolled out throughout the term. It is a very visual interface and is simple to use. Please see attached instructions for information around how you can set up the app on your mobile/device. We will work to ensure we have all families set up in the next few weeks.

## Coronavirus

There has been much media coverage about Coronavirus. Please refer to the Ministry of Health website for health advise and the latest information. Novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) guidance – Ministry of Health. Further updates will be shared upon advice from the Ministry of Education.

## Learning Support Coordinator

As mentioned in the newsletter last year, Jackie Proudman has not been allocated a class this year, as her role has changed to a Learning Support Coordinator for the Opuke Kahui Ako. We look forward to having Jackie work with students across our school.

## Absences

- If your child is absent please ring the office (as soon as possible leaving a message clearly stating:
  - Name of child
  - Name of the classroom and/or teacher name
  - Why they are absent for the day
  - What bus run they are on (if applicable)
- If your child is late to school, please have them visit the office before heading to their classroom. Thanks!

## Lost Property

- Please ensure that all students clothes, lunch boxes and drink bottles are clearly named so that items can be returned to your child.
- Unnamed/unreadable named items will be placed in lost property for collection.
- All unclaimed items at the end of the school term are washed and donated to the Red Cross.

# Friday 14th February - School Events

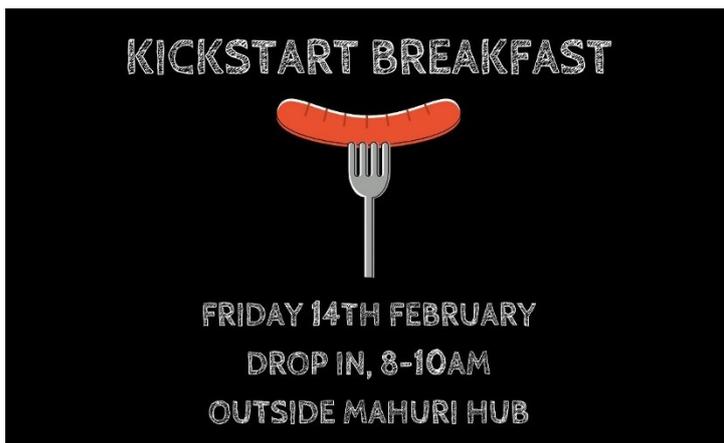
The year starts off with a number of important events on Friday 14th February. We welcome our families to join us on for our "Kick Start" breakfast. Our Friends of Methven Primary School (FoMPS) team have been planning this breakfast since last term as a special welcome event and to provide a time for families to get together. We decided to schedule our annual Triathlon on this day and for those students in Years 1 & 2 (or not participating in the Triathlon) we have a Duathlon planned at the conclusion of the Triathlon. Please note that this date is also the postponement date for MHC swimming sports. We are hoping this will not affect our events but may have to make some adjustments if this is the case.



## Kickstart Breakfast

The Friends of MPS will be welcoming all students and families to school on Friday 14th February with a Kickstart Breakfast (the same day as our Triathlon & Duathlon events). They will be serving:

- Sausages
- Bacon Butties
- Weetbix (BYO bowl and spoon please)
- Plain and flavoured milks
- Hot drinks can be purchased from Cafe Piccalo who will be bringing their coffee cart (BYO reusable cup encouraged please).



## MPS Triathlon (Years 3 - 6)

On Friday 14 February, MPS is holding a **voluntary** triathlon event for Year 3 - 6 students. This event is held at the Methven Community Pool and within the boundaries of MPS & MHC. Below is a reminder of the details that were provided to via a dedicated notice.

### Timetable

8:30 - 8:45am	Bikes delivered to school (rugby goal post)
9:45am	Competitors set up their gear in transition (this is located on the court area)
10:15am	Race Briefing
10:30am	Racing begin in designated waves (Event usually finished in 60 minutes)

### Distances

	<u>Competitive</u>	<u>Non-competitive</u>
Swim	2 Lengths	1 length or 3 widths
Bike	3km (approx.)	1.5km (approx.)
Run	1km (approx.)	500m (approx.)

### Spectator Viewing

We welcome all supporters to come along and cheer competitors on. Please look carefully at the maps at school to see the viewing area and enter the pool via the road entrance. Parents are not permitted in any transition areas.

## MPS Duathlon (Years 1 - 2)

On Friday 14 February (after the Triathlon), MPS will be holding a **compulsory non-competitive** Duathlon event for Year 1 & 2 students.

Note: Year 3 & 4 children who **are not** competing in the Triathlon held on the same day are able to participate in this event.

### Timetable

10:30am	Viewing of Senior Triathlon
11:45am (approx.)	Junior Duathlon begins

### Distances

Swim	1 width of Methven Community Pool
Run	1km (approx.) run

### Children will need the following:

- Swimming Togs
- Towel

At the end of the event a normal class programme will be running for the remainder of the day.