



Newsletter

"In Pursuit of Excellence for Christ"

Dear Parents

Thank you for another excellent turnout of Mums and Dads at our parent/teacher interviews. We trust you find these occasions helpful.

Remember you are always welcome to discuss your child's progress with the classroom teacher. Please feel free to make an appointment with any teacher or myself if you have a concern.

You are also very welcome to visit classrooms to observe our teaching programmes in action.

We welcome our new pupils Lillian Duthie, Vaishnavi Vodnala and we welcome back Aline Cross.

As most of you are aware at the end of this term Mrs St George 'retires'. She has given our school faithful and outstanding service since 1989. The 'good news' is that she is happy to be available as a day to day relieving teacher when other staff are sick or on professional development courses.

Further good news is the recent appointment of a new teacher for our year 3/4 class, Mrs Leonie Logan. Mrs Logan comes to us with many years of teaching experience: her most recent position being at Point View Primary School. Mrs Logan is skilled in many areas including computers and art. Mrs Logan has two grown up daughters and we give thanks to our Lord for His provision.



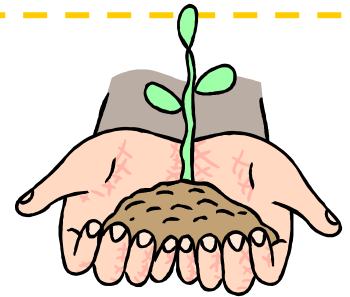
Dates to Remember

27 October:	Labour Day—school closed
29 October:	Auckland Art Gallery Yr 7/8
30 October :	Kiwi Kapers: Auckland Philharmonia Yr 3-6
2 December:	Hearing and Vision Testing
5 December :	Junior Thanksgiving Service
9 December :	Senior Thanksgiving Service
11 December:	Surf to School programme Yr 1-8
12 December:	Term 4 ends
	School closes at 12.30pm

Topics this Term

Culture: South America

Science: Seeds and Plants



Term Dates

2008

Term 4: 13 Oct - 12 Dec

2009

Term 1: 3 Feb-9Apr

Term 2: 27 Apr-3 July

Term 4: 20 Jul - 25 Sep

Term 4: 12 Oct - 11 Dec

School Enrolments - Waiting List

Our primary school numbers are very pleasing. Our first priority is to parents and family and friends of existing pupils for enrolment in our school. Please encourage them to complete an enrolment form well in advance and to enrol their children early. Our advertising campaign on Radio Rhema is increasing our school profile outside our immediate community and is progressing well.

If you intend withdrawing your child at the end of this term please notify the school **immediately**. We are already underway with planning for next year. A reminder that a term's written notice must be given when withdrawing your child from school.

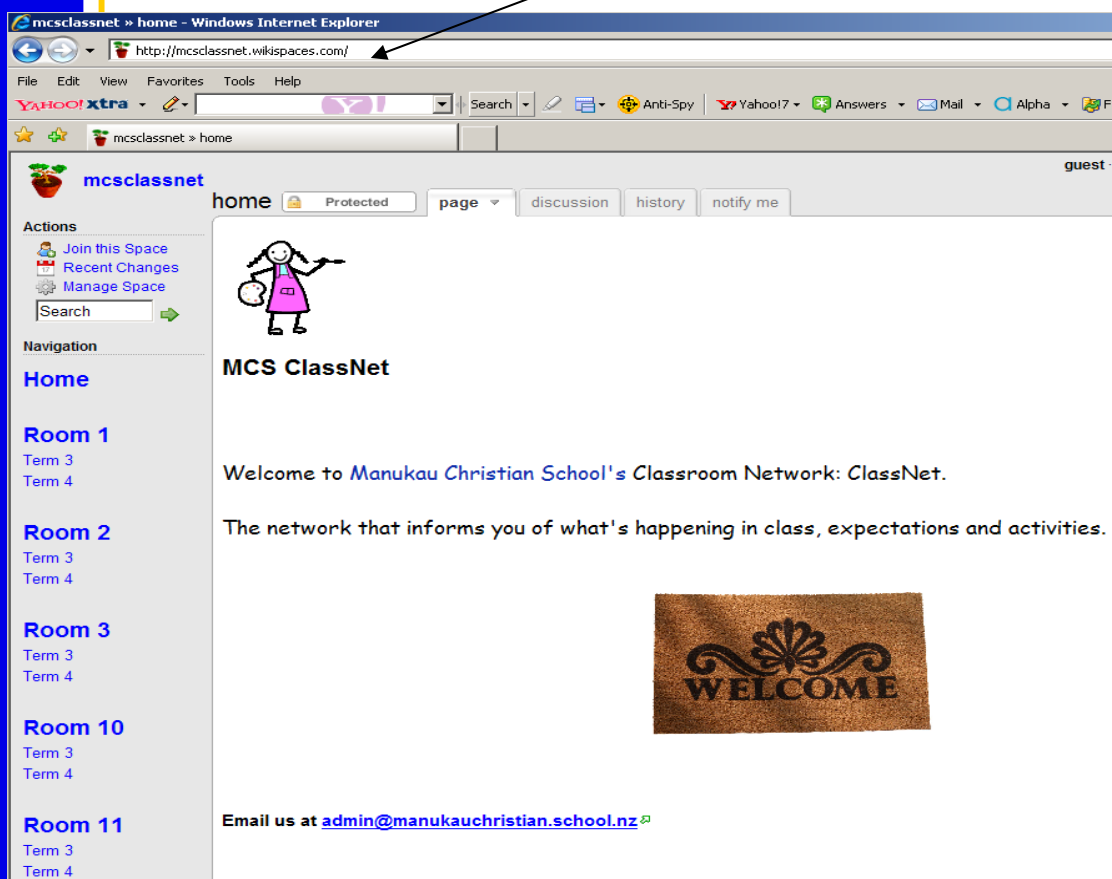
Wikispaces

Our school website provides information about our school , copies of our latest newsletter and photos, current Christian news and information and Christian book reviews.

We now also have a **wikispace**. This 'space' is accessible 24/7 and enables you to find out what your child is doing in the classroom. We aim to have homework, topic studies, extra tuition and home learning as well as administration matters available for parents. Although currently in its infancy, we will be building on this continuously.

According to research, in particular John Hattie, a University of Auckland education researcher, one of the factors that affects student learning and provides for a positive outcome is when parent and child 'learn together': wikispaces is a modern and positive way for parents to achieve this.

Log onto our space at: www.mcsclassnet.wikispaces.com



The screenshot shows a Windows Internet Explorer browser window. The address bar contains the URL <http://mcsclassnet.wikispaces.com/>. The page title is "mcsclassnet" and the current page is "home". The page content includes a navigation menu on the left with links for "Home", "Room 1", "Room 2", "Room 3", "Room 10", and "Room 11". The main content area features a cartoon girl character, the title "MCS ClassNet", a welcome message, and a "WELCOME" mat image.

PIPS—Parents in Prayer Support of the School

Parents in Prayer for the school meets Friday mornings at 9.00am. This is an excellent opportunity to meet and fellowship with other parents. If you have any questions please see Mrs Sonneveld or contact Mrs Oosterbeek in the office. **All parents are welcome.**



Mercury Energy-Bills to Books

This week we received 8 brand new books for our class libraries as a result of parents who have switched to on-line bills. This promotion ended on 30 September. Thank you parents for your support and supplementing our classroom libraries.

Operation Christmas Child



Your response and support for Operation Christmas Child has been tremendous. Pupils were very keen and all the boxes have now been packed and are ready for shipment to their destination. Thank you for supporting our school in encouraging pupils to serve Christ by loving their neighbour.

Your shoe box will impact children in need—one at a time.

Reuben Sonneveld and Melissa Boerlage with some of the Operation Christmas Child boxes.

Polo Shirts and Hats



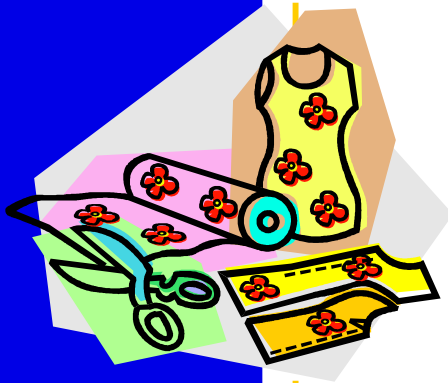
*Keaton Loasby
in the new polo
shirt and hat.*

We have a limited supply of polo shirts and hats currently available: a bulk order will be placed in Week 6 to ensure delivery by the end of the term. Please have your order forms and money in by 14 November.

From the beginning of 2009 all new pupils to the school will be required to purchase a polo shirt and hat as part of the enrolment requirements. We would also like existing pupils to have a school polo shirt and hat by the beginning of 2009.

The purpose of the polo shirt and hat is to give the school a visual profile and identity when on class and school trips and sports and cultural exchanges with other schools. The polo shirt may also be worn for PE/Sports lessons at school and in fact any time during school.

Unwanted Material



If you have any unwanted material at home that we can use for our Thanksgiving Service please speak to Miss Luck. In particular we need the following:

1. T-shirting material (or similar stretchy type) in grey, white, brown, green and pink.
2. Velcro
3. Elastic (at least 3cm wide)
4. Tulle (bright colours)
5. Feathers (coloured)

Photos and Calendars



Please return all unwanted class photos by Friday or forward your money in the envelope provided.

Calendar (or card) money is also due by Friday. Both photos and calendars are fundraisers for the school.

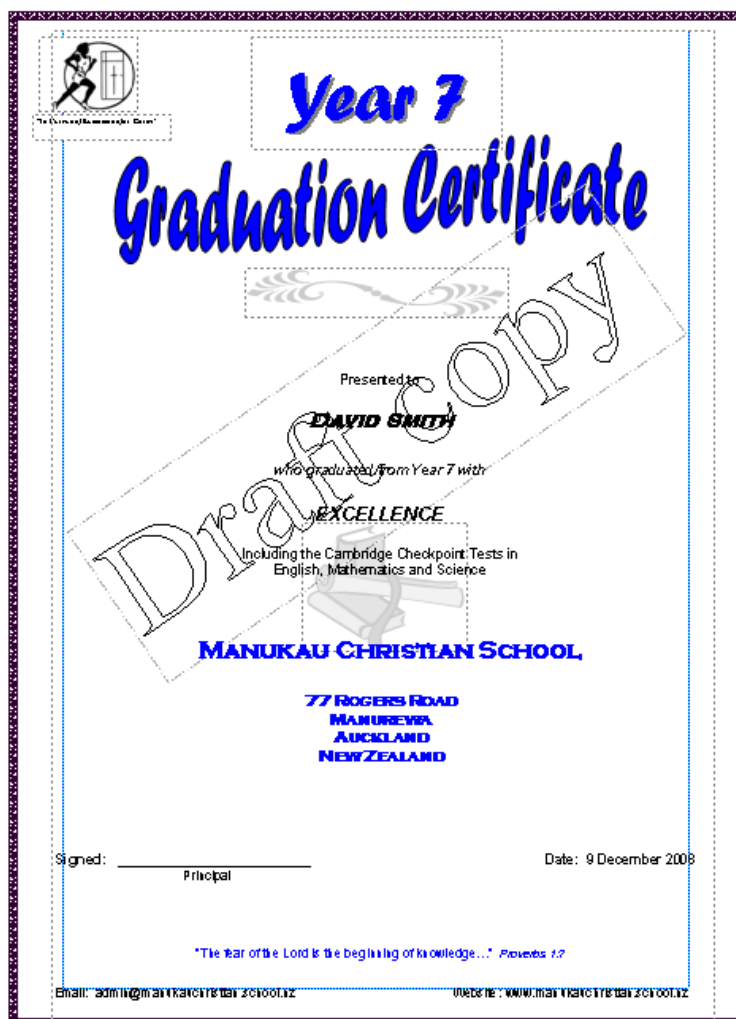
Senior School Examinations

This is our first year of using the “Cambridge Checkpoints” curriculum in conjunction with our own school syllabus in the middle school Year 7 and Year 8 programme.

As part of our mid year and end of year examinations pupils will sit Cambridge Checkpoint Progression Tests in: English, Mathematics and Science. Pupils will also sit school examinations in Bible, Culture and Geography, and French.

Marks and grades for all tests and examinations are recorded in our written mid year/ end of year school reports. These end of year exams begin on Thursday 20th November and finish Friday 28th November.

A draft copy of our new ‘graduation certificate’ is shown below. This will be awarded to our Year 7 and 8 pupils at the end of the year.



Hats and Shoes

A reminder to parents that pupils are required to wear hats in Terms 1 and 4. Suitable footwear at school includes sandals with straps or closed shoes and sneakers. Open backed sandals or sneakers or sneakers with wheels are not practical at school.



Safety in the Carpark

Parents please lock your vehicles in the afternoon when collecting your children. The carpark area is easily accessible to members of the public.

Safety at School

The doors to the junior area are locked from the outside during the day except for the doors facing the playing field. Please report to the office if you need to contact your child or are dropping off an item for your child. If you are running late please do not disturb the teacher with reasons your child is late - the office staff will be able to pass on the message.

Year 1 activities

Our Year 1 pupils enjoy physical activities. P.E. is a regular part of the curriculum as well as music and movement.



Left: Tatiyana Juillard showing the class how she can move to the music.



Above: Amy Park and right: Zachary Simons holding the hoop for Eshan Kumar. What great moves they have.

Below: Rebekah Shallard holding the hoop for Ariana Escoto-Kemp



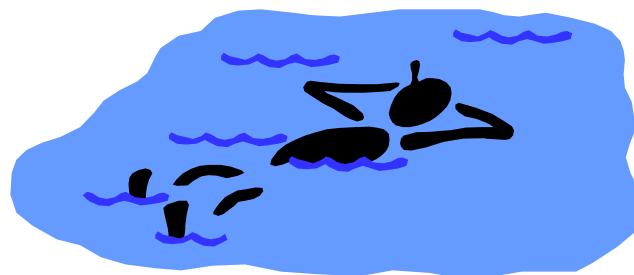


Above and Left: Emily-Jane Schuurkamp and Celestial Brown taking turns.



Swimming Year 3 and 4

Pupils in Mrs St George's class have had one trip to the swimming pool thus far. For the next six Fridays pupils will be collected by bus and transported to the Manurewa Leisure Centre for swimming instruction. Their lessons commence at 12.00 noon. This program is part of the Manukau Leisure Services initiative to enable pupils to learn how to swim.



Olympics

Although this took place at the end of last term, the day was marked by excellent teamwork from all 'countries'. Participants enjoyed their 'old fashioned' events with tug-o-war and arm wrestling proving to be the most popular. Running in 'armour' was quite a challenge and it was a delight to see the effort and will to win with the chariot racing!



ARM WRESTLING

Left: Meadta Menorath and Amneek Pal

Below: Nathan Krishnaiya and Peter Sonneveld



School happenings



TUG O'WAR



Above **CHARIOT RACES** and right **ARMOUR RACE**



Left: **OPENING CEREMONY**









AWARDS CEREMONY

Right: *Candace Smith*



Prayer List



-  Give thanks for safety and refreshment over the holiday break.
-  Give thanks and praise for Mrs St George's faithful service to our school over many years.
-  Give thanks for the Trustboard's recent appointment of a new teacher, Mrs Leonie Logan, for our Year 3/4 class in 2009.
-  Give thanks for PIPS (Parents in Prayer for the school). A very faithful group of people continue to meet and pray for our school every Friday in the church building.
-  Pray for our staff, teachers and children during this busy final term. Particularly pray for our senior school as they work towards end of year exams and for our preparation and practice for our thanksgiving services.
-  Uphold our Trustboard as they continue to serve our school community through diligent planning and stewardship of resources.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK

*“Your statutes
are my delight;
they are my
counselors.”*

Ps 119:24

**We can do no
better than
walking in God's
guidelines and
path. By doing so
we can avoid the
paths that lead
to destruction.**

In Christ

S.M. Kennedy
Principal

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“In Pursuit of Excellence for Christ”