



# PARNELL DISTRICT SCHOOL

*Newsletter 14  
22<sup>nd</sup> August 2018*

Kia Ora Parents/Caregiver and Whanau.

A big thank you for your support with our parent interviews this afternoon and all day on Thursday. We believe that our learning process is significantly enhanced by working positively as a partnership between home and school, and these interviews are key to this process. We do understand having children home for the day to allow for this can be difficult for parents. Remember, if you need supervision for your child for Thursday, they can go to the library from 8:30 to be supervised.

All through Thursday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August, all parents are invited to visit Miss Jagersma in the ESOL room where she will be providing parents with information about the Parnell District School spelling approach, and how we support children in developing their skills in spelling. If you have any questions about how spelling is taught, or how you might help at home, please take the time to pop in and see Miss Jagersma for more information! You can find her upstairs in the Leonard block, above the main hallway.

### *Parnell Performers!*

Parents be quick to get your tickets for our upcoming performances. Our year 7-8 students are hard at work crafting a production that takes us on an enjoyable and informative trip through New Zealand exploring the disasters that have shaped our country. With two evening performances, I encourage the whole school community to come and celebrate the performance of our senior students. Students in year 0-6 will be focussing on their presentations over 'performing arts week', our break out week from the 27<sup>th</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup> of August. Tickets are now on sale from the office.

<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – We can be heroes - Year 0-3 students</b>	
<i>2pm Show</i>	<i>6pm show</i>
<b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September – Motete Blue's disastrous day – Year 4-6 students</b>	
<i>2pm Show</i>	<i>6pm Show</i>
<b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September – The PDS Express – Year 7-8 students</b>	
<i>2pm Show (limited tickets)</i>	<i>6pm Show</i>
<b>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September – The PDS Express – Year 7-8 students</b>	
	<i>6pm Show</i>

BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW THROUGH THE SCHOOL OFFICE

*Children \$5*

*Adults \$10*

*Family \$20 (caregivers and children only)*

### *Building work underway*

Many of you will have seen the new temporary fencing that has arrived around room 8 and 9, as our junior block is renovated. This project will help our beautiful traditional building modernise and ensure every class space is suitable to the innovative and inspiring programme our teachers provide. Our students have been amazing models of flexibility as room 8 and 9 inhabit their new classes as if they've always been there! A big thank you for helping us by respecting our builders and the building site, to allow the workers to get our beautiful building back in action as soon as possible.

### *Please look after our neighbours*

Parnell District School always work to be kind to our neighbours. With the introduction of our new turf and play equipment, we have a little work to do to help our neighbours. We have many balls flying over the 3m fence and into our neighbour's property, one even breaking a window. When supervising your children in the weekends and after school, please help us by ensuring children are playing safely and carefully. Additionally, some children have been using our climbing frame as a seat, sitting 2m off the ground, and taking the opportunity to talk to our neighbour over the fence. We appreciate you reiterating to your children that this is not a safe or positive way to use the equipment, and as well as upsetting our neighbour, it stops other children from using the equipment.

Kind regards

Richard George

### *Important dates coming up*

23<sup>rd</sup> August: Learning conferences all day (year 0-8) – Classes not operating as teachers conference, supervision available as needed

24<sup>th</sup> August: Assembly: Room 26

26<sup>th</sup> August – Primary Ski team depart for NIPS – Good luck!

27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> August – Performing arts week

28<sup>th</sup> August – Bay suburbs and Eastern Zone Cross country

31<sup>st</sup> August – Assembly: Room 7

3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> August – performances (information above)

7<sup>th</sup> September – Assembly: Room 27

## *Notes from the Office.*

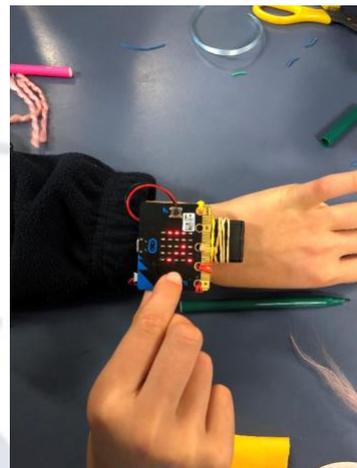
### **An important note about absences**

Keeping accurate attendance records is an important part of the running of our school and a key factor to your child(ren)'s safety. It is therefore, essential that parents and caregivers remember to report their child(ren)'s absence via the school app, email or phone. Any unexplained absences will eventually be treated as truant and duly noted.

## Room 25's Cross Country Conundrum

During our cross country training, we had a hard time remembering how many laps we had run. To help us solve this problem we thought about the resources and constraints we had and developed a solution – code a Micro:bit to count our laps and provide motivation as we run.

We used the [www.makecode.org](http://www.makecode.org) website to code our Microbits. By pushing 'Button A' the Micro:bit counted each lap and 'Button B' saw an inspirational message appear across the screen. We tested our creations out by wearing them during our cross country training!



### Micro: Bits

A Micro:Bit is a miniature device with several options to use as inputs including A, B, A+B, Shake and many others. You can use two methods to code these fascinating little machines, Block code or JavaScript for more advanced coders. The device is roughly half the size of an average credit card.

When you open for the first time you will most likely see the power bank first. To power it on, you must slide the 'Off' to 'On'. As mentioned previously, there is an A button, a B button, and a Reset button on the back. On the front there are twenty-five led lights which can be used to show pictures, words and numbers. The power bank is connected to the body of the device via a single dual-pin connector, and to transfer the code, you first have to go to this [Website](#), download your code, then plug in the Micro-USB into your computer, then drag the downloaded code into the Micro:Bit folder.

The board has all the things that a normal computer has be it maybe on a smaller scale, a processor, a built-in compass, an accelerometer which measures proper [acceleration](#), two-hundred-fifty-six kilobytes of accelerated flash memory and sixteen kilobytes of Ram.

By George

## Parnell District School Singers

15<sup>th</sup> August saw the Parnell District School Singers perform 3 songs in the Town Hall during the prestigious Kid sing Festival. It was their first public performance and, despite their nerves they excelled beyond expectations. It was an amazing opportunity to perform at the town hall and share their work with other schools and industry professionals.

Well Done and we can't wait till their next performance.



## PTA News:

A big thank you to the fabulous team (Louise, Georgia, Paul, Veronica and Susannah) who last week raised \$1549 from the Mufti Day and Sausage Sizzle. Thanks also to the students who wore mufti and bought their lunch - we couldn't raise these funds without your enthusiastic participation!

## Community Notices:

We're fundraising with entertainment.

This Father's Day, give the gift of **entertainment**.

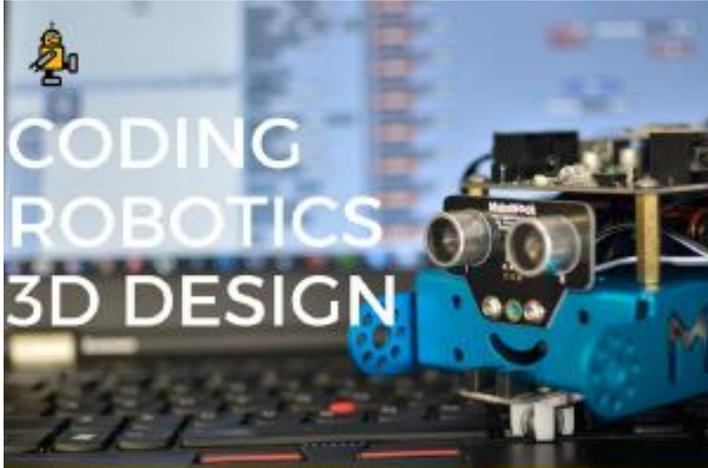
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<b>SUPERCHEAP</b> AUTO	<b>Hertz</b>	



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Ages 5 to 13 years  
 Children work in their age group  
 with specialist tutors.  
 9:00am to 3:00pm

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 Morning drop off from 8:00am  
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Monday 8th to  
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