



**SOUTH FEATHERSTON**  
Town and Country School  
"We're a SMALL school doing BIG things!"

# NEWSLETTER

Term 3, Week 6: 30th August 2024

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/southfeatherstonschool/>

Skool Loop: <https://www.skoolloop.com/>

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Website: <https://www.southfeatherston.school.nz>

School Bank Account: 12-3290-0003608-00 ASB Masterton

Please remember to notify the school office of any absences before 9am each day.

Please remember to **SLOW DOWN to 40kms** between the signs near our school.

Remember you must **SLOW DOWN to 20kms** when passing a stationary school bus!!



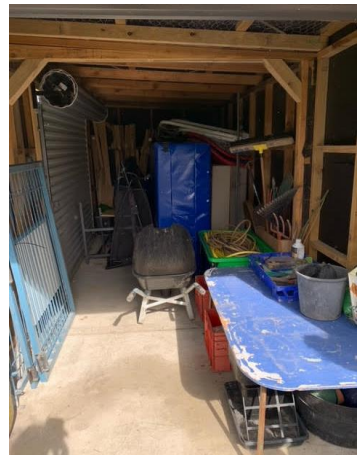
**Kia ora te whanau o South Featherston Kura . . .** and my apologies for the lateness of this week's newsletter. I try to get them out on Wednesdays, but our staff have had a full on week this week with professional learning workshops, and meetings after school. Please continue to read these newsletters so you are fully informed with what's coming up in these last 4 weeks of Term 3.

**Kindy visit:** Tomorrow, our Junior Room welcomes the 4+ year olds from Meta Riddiford kindy for the next of our regular visits for our local soon to be big-school kids. It's always a delight to have these wee ones in the classroom and playground, and to watch just how caring our 5 and 6 years olds become with them! The Maori concept of tuakana teina relationships, where the older support, guide and teach the younger ones, is alive and well within our tamarii!

**The Green Group:** One of the groups that has naturally formed from within the overarching fundraising group is the 'The Green Group'. This is a dedicated bunch of parents (mostly mums!) who definitely have green thumbs and have come together to build up our cache of seedlings and 'plantlets' ready for selling at our Country Fair in November. They also spent most of last Saturday voluntarily doing a big clean out of our PE & Gardening shed and the difference difference is pretty phenomenal! Not only do we know what we have in there in terms of tools but we also have some space do more in there now! I wish I'd had a before and after pic to show you!

**Whitakers Chocolates fundraiser:** Please continue to send in your empty boxes and \$90 once you've sold all the bars. The sales are going SUPER well, so thanks to all for the great efforts PARTICULARLY our fabulous kidlets who are out there doing the hard graft! We will be looking at coming out with approximately \$3400 in profit. We'd budgeted to raise \$6000 this year for fundraising so a great start!

**Holidays during term time:** One of the things we continue to focus on is student attendance, and how poor attendance greatly affects learning achievement. Holidays in term time have become an epidemic this year at our school. We are only 2 ½ terms in, and so far there have been 29 of our 70 learners who've been taken away from school to go on a family holiday. The Ministry guidelines for this are very clear: a family holiday during term time is NOT an acceptable reason and is categorised as an UNJUSTIFIED absence. Under the Education and Training Act 2020, principals can allow a student a JUSTIFIED absence from school for up to 5 days if there is a justified reason for that absence, eg: illness, or a funeral/tangi. If your child is away for one day per fortnight/5 days a term (one week across a 10-week term) by the time they are 16, they will have missed one whole year of learning. There are a lot of our learners who are away way more than this, and if you do the maths, at 2 days per fortnight that's two years of learning that will be missed by the time your child is 16 yrs old. Every day is important when it comes to your child and their achievement. Every day your child is away they miss important instruction, or essential skills, or the beginning of a new piece of learning which their teacher then has to take time away from others to fill in your child with. Every day your child is away means they won't learn or achieve what they could have if they'd been here more.



## Term 3 Dates to Remember

Local kindy visit: Friday 30 Aug

Y7 vaccinations: Thurs 5 Sept

Middle & Jnr rooms Karawhiu workshops: Thurs 5 Sept

Board mtg: Tues 10 Sept, 6.15pm

Local kindy visit: Friday 13 Sept

Life Ed: Tues 24 - Thurs 26 Sept

Last Day Term 3: Fri 27 Sept

First Day Term 4: Mon 14 Oct

We are gratefully supported by:



Team  
**'Mr Sold!'**  
Steve Chapman  
0276875809

**KAPAI LOGISTICS**

Furniture Movers

021 082 4455

[kapailogistics@gmail.com](mailto:kapailogistics@gmail.com)

## 2024 School Term Dates

T1: Wed 7 Feb - Fri 12 April

T2: Mon 29 April - Fri 5 July

T3: Mon 22 July - Fri 27 Sept

T4: Mon 14 Oct - Thurs 19 Dec

We are gratefully supported by:



Jen Bhati - Property Brokers  
Real Estate Agent

022 516 9053 [jen.bhati@pb.co.nz](mailto:jen.bhati@pb.co.nz)

## Arrival Time at School

Just a gentle reminder that children should **not** be arriving at school before

**8.15am**

Ma te wā!  
Tana Klaricich

"In a world where you can be anything, be kind . . ."

If you haven't already done so, please download our **Skool Loop** app to your phone so you can keep right up to date with what's happening at school, and receive any important notices or emergency notifications: <https://www.skoolloop.com/> If you need help downloading the app, come in and see Jo or me.

# COMMUNITY NOTICES

The SFS Green Group is aiming to repurpose a couple of existing garden beds at the rear of the shed with berries, enabling the kids to surf the garden during summer days and be rewarded.

The planting day is on 8<sup>th</sup> Sep 2024 (Sunday 10 to 1pm). You are welcome to drop in and give us a hand in weeding/planting. We would be grateful to get some plants and garden accessories below, if you have them in spare.

- Blueberry plants – 2
- Strawberry plants – 30+
- Wooden stakes – 12x 25mmW x 900mmH
- Bird net – 2mW x 6mL
- Weed mat pins – 25
- Organic Compost



## Kindy Visit Today!



When the little ones get to look after the LITTLER ones!



When your kindy teacher gets to see all the learning you've done at school!



# School 'Happenings' . . .

Check out the pics below!

The absolute JOY of learning!

