



14th February 2024

Term 1 Week 3

From the desk of Mrs A-T

Busy Times! Thanks for your cooperation around the organisation of swimming. There has been a fabulous response, and we have more transport than we require. I understand that parents may wish to come frequently because they enjoy watching their children during swimming lessons.

As it is a school day, I do need to know who is travelling with who. Please look at the provisional list (see over page) of people who have offered transport and if there are any errors or if you feel like you want to combine with another driver or would prefer to come less frequently, please let me know of any changes that you have made/would like to make.



Health Warning!!

There are currently some cases of Impetigo (school sores) in our school. Please check your children for any symptoms below and if found get medication.

Condition	This Disease Is Spread By...	Early Symptoms	Time Between Exposure And Sickness	Exclusion From School, Early Childhood Centre, Or Work*
School sores (Impetigo)	Direct contact with infected sores.	Blisters on the body which burst and turn into scabby sores.	Variable	Until sores have dried up or 24 hours after antibiotic treatment has started.

Relieving Teachers

Both Mrs A-T and Miss Willmot will be absent from school during the week of 4-8 March. The relieving teachers will be:

- **Room 1:** Monday – Wednesday (all day) – Miss Pickens.
- **Room 2:** Monday – Friday (all day) – Mrs Kay Harris (experienced junior school teacher)

Swimming carpool details:

Monday, 19 th February	Tuesday, 20 th February	Wednesday, 21 st February	Thursday, 22 nd February	Friday, 23 rd February
Beka - Amara, Kaia	Beka - Amara, Kaia Kolby, Cruz	Beka - Amara, Kaia	Beka - Amara, Kaia, Kolby, Cruz	Beka - Amara, Kaia, Kolby, Cruz
Jada/Patrick - Juno, Thomas June	Amy - Thomas, June, Juno	Jada/Patrick - Thomas, June, Juno	Amy - Thomas, June, Juno	Jada/Patrick - Thomas, June, Juno
Rangiputa - Hendrix, Isla	Rangiputa - Hendrix, Isla	Rangiputa - Hendrix	-----	-----
Jamie - Bear	Jamie - Bear	Jamie - Bear	Jamie - Bear - Hendrix ?? - Isla??	Jamie -Bear - Hendrix ?? - Isla??
Shona - Logan, Prue	Shona - Logan, Prue	Shona - Logan, Prue	Shona - Logan, Prue	Shona - Logan, Prue
Jo - Taegan, Hazel, Alec	Jo - Taegan, Hazel, Alec	Jo - Taegan, Hazel, Alec	Jo - Taegan, Hazel, Alec	Jo - Taegan, Hazel, Alec
Brodie - Piri, Jonah	Brodie - Piri, Jonah	Brodie - Piri, Jonah	Sarah - Jonah, Piri	Sarah - Jonah, Piri
Liv - Mabel, Frank	Liv - Mabel, Frank	Liv - Mabel, Frank	Liv - Mabel, Frank	Liv - Mabel, Frank
Doug ? - William	Doug ? - William	Doug ? - William	Doug ? - William	Doug ? - William
Haylee - Kolby, Cruz	-----	Haylee - Kolby, Cruz	-----	-----
William ?? - Liam, Tehila, Luke	Kathryn - Liam, Tehila, Luke	Oscar - Isla, Liam, Tehila, Luke	Kathryn - Liam, Tehila, Luke	Kathryn - Liam, Tehila, Luke

Happy Chinese New Year – Year of the Dragon!

This term the children from room 1 have been learning about Chinese New Year. They have listened to stories and non-fiction texts, watched some videos and researched traditions and culture relevant to this Lunar New Year. They have written articles, selecting facts they've learned and illustrated them with chalk firework pictures.



This is a culmination of the information they have discovered.

Chinese New Year, also known as the Spring Festival or Lunar New Year, is the most important holiday celebrated by Chinese people around the world. It marks the beginning of the lunar calendar, usually falling between late January and mid-February. This year it runs from 10th February. The festivities last for about two weeks, finishing with the Lantern Festival.

Traditions and customs include:

- **Reunion Dinner:** It's a time for family members to come together, share a meal, and exchange good wishes for the upcoming year.
- **Red Packets (Lai See or Hongbao):** Married couples and elders give red envelopes containing money to children and unmarried relatives as a symbol of good luck and wealth. (We bet the children of Garston wish they could get the same!).
- **Fireworks and Firecrackers:** These are set off to ward off evil spirits and welcome the new year with a bang.
- **Decorations:** Red is the lucky colour during Chinese New Year, symbolizing happiness, prosperity, and good fortune.
- **Cleaning and Spring Cleaning:** It's traditional to thoroughly clean the house before New Year's Day to sweep away any bad luck and make way for good luck.
- **Lion and Dragon Dances:** Colourful lion and dragon dance performances are common during Chinese New Year celebrations. The lion dance is believed to bring good luck and drive away evil spirits. The longer the Dragon, the more luck you will have!
- **Clothing.** Many Chinese people will wear red clothes for good luck during the festival and offering these close, a brand-new each year to celebrate wealth and happiness



Garston School Newsletter

Dates for your diary

Friday 16 February	Year 7/8– Technology (am)
Monday 19 – Friday 23 February	Whole school swimming programme at Mossburn (9:15 – noon). Parent carpool will operate.
Wednesday 28 February	Mid-Dome athletics.
Thursday 29 February	Waimea Athletics (Liam, Thomas).
Friday 1 March	Postponement day Mid-Dome and Waimea Athletics.
Thursday 7 March	Life Education visit.
Friday 8 March	Year 7/8 – Technology (am)
Wednesday 13 March	Northern Zone Athletics.
Friday 15 March	Postponement day Northern Athletics or Year 7/8 – Technology (am).
Monday 18– Friday 22 March	Whole school swimming programme at Mossburn (9:15 – noon). Parent carpool will operate.
Wednesday 27 March	BOT meeting 7pm – All welcome.
Friday 29 March	Good Friday Public Holiday.
Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 April	Easter Public Holidays.
Thursday 4 April	Home & School meeting.
Friday 5 April	Year 7/8 – Technology (am).
Monday 8 – Wednesday 10 April	Parent /Teacher interviews.
Friday 12 April	Last day of Term One.

School library visits on Wednesdays

