



Newsletter

7th February 2012

Dear Parents/Caregivers,



A big thank you goes out to AgITO who have donated nine computers to the school. This was organised by Frances Wilson, the local Training Advisor and an ex parent of Tauwhare School. The much needed computers will be going into Rooms 4, 5 and 6 to replace some of our old ones.

SCHOOL PICNIC (Rain or Shine!)

The annual school picnic is on this **Friday 17th February**. We hope to see you all there. This is a traditional event for Tauwhare School. It is a lovely day for the children and a time for new parents/caregivers to get to know others in the community.

We do not go to school first – we all meet at the Morrinsville Pools, Cureton Street, Morrinsville, rain or shine, from 9.50a.m. until 2.00p.m. This is a school day held at the pools so there will be no one at school. The pool rules state:” We must all assemble on the grass area to hear the pool rules before anyone can swim. Children must be actively supervised while in the water. The life guards are here for emergencies not for child-minding.”

The children swim and race in their age group races and the parents and families mix and mingle and get to know everyone. We have fun races with the parents and children relays, and of course the hotly contested

Kevin Smith Steelworkers Cup for the winner of the Yr 5 & 6 race, before settling down to our picnic lunches. Weather permitting the day usually finishes around 2p.m.

It is a lovely day and is always well supported. This is a great time to meet teachers, and new families. If you are new to our school and not sure where to find these pools please call in or ring school for directions or see the map attached below. The school does not arrange rides for children to the pools. Sometimes families will travel there together and often if a parent can't go because of work commitments they arrange for their child to go with another family. Pupils who are being taken by other than their own parents/caregivers should be collected from and delivered back to their homes

The PTA sponsor the entry fee so no one has to pay to enter the pools and they also provide an ice block for all children.

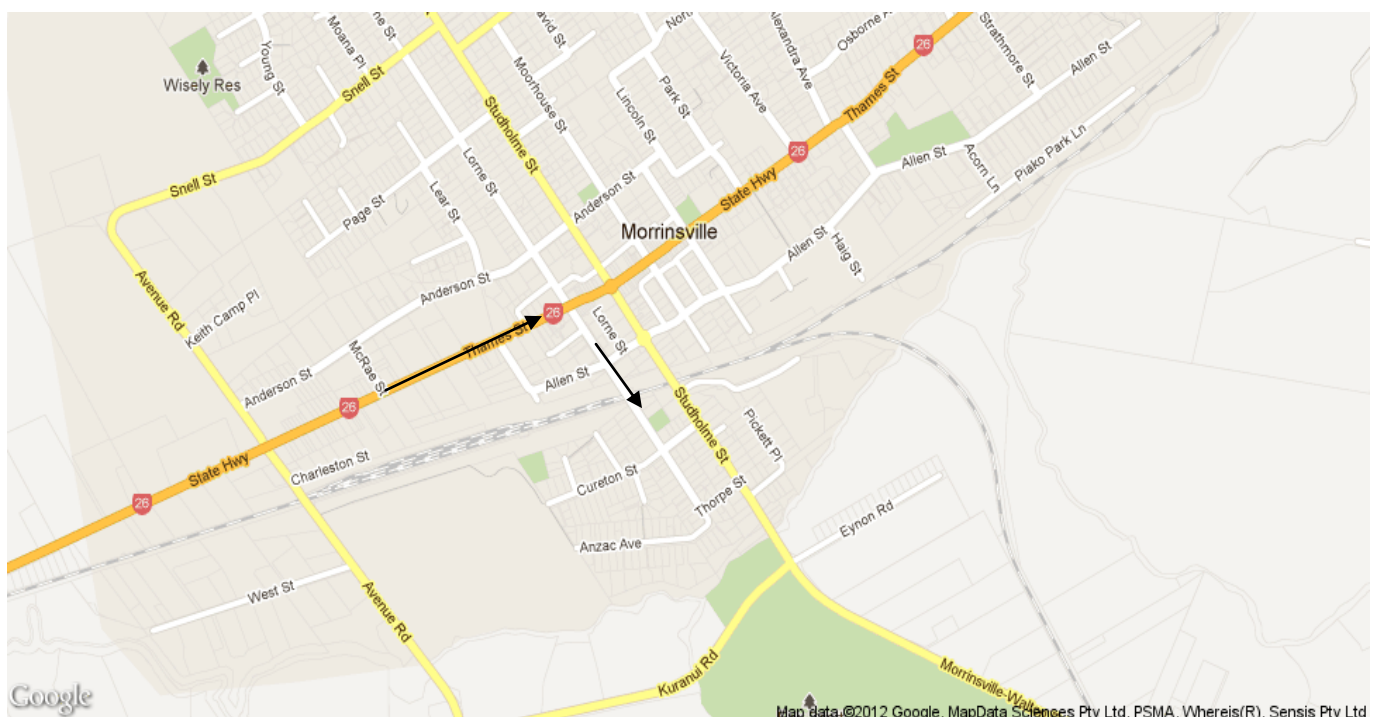
With all of the tragic drownings in New Zealand this year it is a timely reminder that we must all be very vigilant around water. Teachers will be organising races so it is important that adults keep a close watch on the children they bring to the picnic.



We look forward to seeing you all there.
Please ring the school if you have any queries.



MAP FOR MORRINSVILLE POOLS



3 RS : RESPECT RESILIENCE AND RESPONSIBILITY

Our rural school culture is based around a very robust system of values and virtues which we encourage, teach and reward at every opportunity through the school day. We cannot expect that every child understands these values or the words we use to name them so teachers explicitly teach them using various methods such as role play.

This term we are reinforcing '**Responsibility**'. Responsibility for our actions, for our belongings, for our behaviour, completing task assigned to us etc.

KEY COMPETENCIES

Our curriculum embraces five key competencies: Managing Self, Relating to Others, Thinking, Using language, Symbols and Texts and Participating and Contributing.

These key competencies underpin all teaching and learning throughout the year, however each term we take one and explicitly teach it. This term we will be emphasizing Managing Self. This competency is associated with self-motivation, a "can-do" attitude, and with students seeing themselves as capable learners. It is integral to self-assessment.

Students who manage themselves are enterprising, resourceful, reliable, and resilient. They establish personal goals, make plans, manage projects, and set high standards. They have strategies for meeting challenges. They know when to lead, when to follow, and when and how to act independently.

SINGING LESSONS –important notice.

Sam Cleaver, our piano and singing teacher, has become inundated with pupils wishing to do piano and singing which is great. Unfortunately he cannot fit everybody in so he has reluctantly decided to concentrate only on piano and cannot take singing students. I am working hard to find another singing teacher. There are many available but I need to be sure they are up excellent before I recommend them. If you have booked your child in for singing lessons don't despair. I will have someone as soon as possible.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Paulette has ASC and BSC running very smoothly and we thank her for this! Paulette has asked me to pop this ad in for extra resources:

YOUR TRASH IS OUR TREASURE

After School Care would love any old, unwanted items you may have lying around:

Games: card, board, outdoor, dice, counters

Toys: cars, animals, roadways, dolls, tea sets, building blocks, marbles, etc

Dress Up clothes (clothes, hats, wands etc)

Jigsaws (whole and incomplete)

Craft items: material, glitter, buttons, wrapping paper, ribbon, crayons, sequins, magnets, boxes, clothes pegs, cottons reels, wool, bows, stickers, tinsel, Christmas cards, paper plates/cups and any other odds and ends (kids are very creative and can do wonders with everyday items)

Sand pit toys: buckets, spades, trucks, old pots/pans etc

DVDs

Items can be left at office during school hours or at MPR before 8.30 and after 3.00pm

CARETAKER'S HOURS

You will often see our caretaker, Graham Mayall, working around the school. We employ Graham for 5 hours per week for general caretaking plus he looks after the pool during swimming seasons. Graham will occasionally bring in Periodic Detention workers (PD) on a Saturday to help with weeding and gardening. Any weed spraying will be done on a Saturday also. Where possible we will let you know via our newsletters when PD workers and/or spraying is being done.

ANNE'S WALL



You will see the lovely tiled wall at the entrance to the school. This wall (built in the shape of Bullock's Hill) was built to remember Anne Currie who was a treasured teacher and Principal for 22 years. We explain to the children that this wall is not to be sat on or climbed out of respect to Anne. We encourage the children to keep their younger brothers and sisters off it too.



Tauwhare School Mobile:- Absences/Messages Ph: 027 5240864

www.tauwhare.school.nz

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