

COMING UP

- Mon11 - Fri 15 March, H5 EOTC Week
- Fri 15 Mar, K1&2 Kayaking
- Fri 15 Mar, H7 EOTC Day, Walk to Old Cromwell
- Fri 15 Mar, Ice-block fundraiser for H3&6 Camp. \$1/ice-block. Order & pay before school outside H6 (Mr Ede's room). Ice-blocks to be collected from outside H6 at lunchtime.
- Mon 18 Mar - Fri 22 Mar, H1 EOTC Week
- Mon 18 Mar - Fri 22 Mar, Y5 Camp Columba
- Tues 19 Mar, Learning to Read Parents Education Workshop for Y0 -2 parents at 3:30pm in the Junior Hub
- Fri 22 Mar, Full School Assembly (with Kārearea) at 11:30am in the Memorial Hall
- Fri 22 Mar, Ice-block fundraiser for H3&6 Camp. \$1/ice-block. Order & pay before school outside H6 (Mr Ede's room). Ice-blocks to be collected from outside H6 at lunchtime.
- **Teacher Only Day - Tuesday 26 March (day after Otago Anniversary Day)**

PAID UNION MEETINGS - Wednesday 20th March

All teachers who belong to the NZEI will be attending Paid Union Meetings on Wednesday 20th March. These meetings will be held in Cromwell at two different times during the day, to enable all teachers to attend either in the morning or the afternoon while the school remains open. This means no inconvenience for parents this time round.

TEACHER ONLY DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED Tuesday 26th March

School will be closed for instruction Tuesday 26th March (the day after Otago Anniversary Day), to enable all classroom teachers & support staff to attend further training with our ICT Professional Development Facilitators (UTB – Using Technology Better). This Teacher Only Day involves our Cromwell Community of Learning (CoL) and will include staff from Goldfields Primary and Cromwell College. This is another opportunity for our staff to connect and hear key messages about the new Digital Technologies Curriculum. We feel very fortunate that we have the Otago Community Trust Grant (\$300,000) and 500 Professional Development Hours to support staff with “leveraging digital”, to provide engaging ways to work and share learning.

MEASLES OUTBREAK

Two cases of measles have now been confirmed in Dunedin since 22 Feb both of which are linked to the current outbreak in Christchurch. One case was in contact with a local early childhood service whilst infectious.

Measles is a highly infectious disease and is more serious than many people realise. Symptoms include fever, cough, red eyes and a runny nose, and then a rash which develops after about 4 days. About one in ten people with measles need to be hospitalised and 30% will develop complications.

The best measles prevention is two doses of the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine which is free for all New Zealand children. Please make sure that your children's immunisations are up-to-date.

We will be making contact with caregivers whose children are either not immunised or who we don't have immunisation information for.

WEB STEPS - Available to your child.

Steps is an internationally recognised programme which is used in over 700 schools throughout New Zealand. Steps is a research based literacy programme. It is non age specific, which means anyone regardless of age and ability can be catered for.

Aims of the programme are to strengthen:

- letter/sound correspondence
- Processing skills with sounds and sound patterns
- Rapid whole word recognition
- Spelling accuracy

You can purchase Web Steps yourself online for your child at \$80. However, Learning Staircase who manage the Steps programme provide a less expensive option through your child's school. We can register your child for Web Steps at a cost of \$15.00 per student. Websteps allows students to access the programme on any device.

If you are keen for us to register your child through the school for Web Steps please email me - karenh@croprimary.school.nz

Karen Huffadine, Learning Support Coordinator

BOARD OF TRUSTEE (BOT) ELECTIONS

The Board are preparing for the upcoming Triennial BoT elections. The NZSTA encourages parent and whanau participation on school boards in order to help shape and support the education of their children. The Korari Programme is available for anyone interested in finding out about standing for the school board elections and having a say in the education of their children. Resources available are:

- Korari: a programme (workshop) that provides you with governance training to help you understand the role of school boards of trustees. Workshops for Korari will be held in March/April this year.
- Korari form: to enrol in workshop
- Community member guide to the role of the board of trustees: This explains a lot of commonly asked questions and information about becoming a trustee.
- Please see the school office for the Korari form and Community member guide