

# UPPER BRIDGE 2017



Welcome to all students and families of Upper Bridge in 2017. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Ava Gray and her family to Roseneath School and the Upper Bridge class.

This is the first newsletter for the year and has information that may be helpful to know for this term.

School wide activities that are coming up will be outlined in the school newsletter and are posted on the school calendar; ones that pertain solely to this class will be emailed to you and posted on our class page.

If you do not have internet access then please let me know because we will not be printing class newsletters and homework off as they are available to download off the class page. Please take the time to ask your child to view these notices together and read them.

We are spending these first few weeks establishing expectations, routines and protocol around learning and class behaviour, digital citizenship and homework. As these decisions are made together we will update you of them.

Students will be able to begin Mathletics and Sumdog again for the year, in their own, time as a homework activity. Passwords will be given to all students and they will be expected to write them somewhere safe. There are free apps for both of these activities.

If you have a new email address or we do not have your current one I would appreciate an updated address. Otherwise, a hard copy will ONLY be given to those WITHOUT access to the internet.

As you are all aware, we are a one-to-one device classroom. Students are able to bring iPads or Chromebooks to assist with their learning.

All students use Google Drive and the associated Google Apps. The students can access class shared files and their own from any device, anytime, from anywhere. Apps we use the most are Google Drive, Google Docs, Slides, Sheets, Chrome web browser, Mathletics and Sumdog. To access their Drive the students are given a Roseneath School email address, which is to be used purely for schoolwork; all email accounts are monitored.

The students will be able to use their devices once you have discussed and signed the 'Digital Citizenship Agreement' together. This year we will be spending quite a bit of time going through this agreement before we send it home for signing as we have a number of topics we want to be very clear on, such as the impact of social media.

One item we will be using again this year is a diary, journal or notebook. I would like students to provide their own. The book does not have to be new but should be able to be used for writing tasks such as keeping vocabulary lists, quotes, writing ideas and notes from discussions. We will

be using them regularly and students will be bringing them home as well. Students will be able to personalise them and decorate them to make them special to themselves. Guidelines for use will be made very clear to the students and they will be able keep a copy in their notebook.

Technicraft will be on Wednesday mornings and the class will travel to and from Mount Cook School by charter bus, accompanied by myself. The bus will be departing our school at **8.40am** in the morning so it is essential everyone be at school by 8.30am on Wednesdays.

The children **MUST** wear closed toed shoes on Technicraft days, this is a safety requirement.

There are some changes to the courses and as soon as I know exactly what they are, I will let you know however, one activity confirmed is 'FOODS' (Cooking). Students must also bring a suitable container for the food that they cook during the 'Food' rotation – no container – no cooking.

Long hair **MUST** be tied back in all classes, whether it is a male or female. These are strictly enforced rules by the Mount Cook staff and apply to all of the classes. Our first session is tomorrow, Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> Feb and there is an extra cost for this programme which Joanne will outline in a stationery notice to parents.

During the year, as competitions come up I will let you know of their availability. I often get emailed writing and other competitions and I forward these on so that you can make the decision whether you child participates in them.

We are going to begin preparing for the Otago Problem Solving this term. More information about this competition can be found at <http://www.maths.otago.ac.nz/pc/> There are five tests completed over the year. We do these in class and the first one is sat during April. For students receiving an Excellence at the end of the five rounds they will go on to sit the Final Challenge.

Students in our class are responsible for the school lunches. They take the orders, follow up on I.O.U.s and deliver the lunches to the classes. Money is raised from these lunch orders and last year we made over \$1000.00 towards camp. Students who are helping take orders need to be at school by 8.30am.

Swimming starts this Thursday so all students are expected to bring their swimming gear.

Many of our class catch buses after school to either Kilbirnie or into town. The No 14 bus leaves our stop at 3.12 or 3.27pm. The city bus leaves the stop at 3.02 or 3.32pm. Please put it in writing, for our records, the days your child will be catching the bus into town as they will need to leave class a bit early to catch the 3.02pm Wilton bus.

Over the year the senior students organise and participate in certain events like the Artsplash, Wearable Art event and organising a school-wide tabloid event. As these arise you will be informed via email and the information will also be on our class page. There will be plenty of leadership opportunities and I encourage every student in the class to give things a go.

Most of you will be aware that we have students in Upper Bridge with nut, egg and dairy allergies. Students bringing foods that contain nuts will eat in another class.

Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> of February at 6pm will be the Parent Information Evening. We will be discussing topics covered, our digital citizenship agreement and other pertinent information.

It is important for you to know that if you have any concerns or queries, subject to my availability, you are welcome to come in for a chat before or after school, or send me an email at [anne.crewdson@roseneath.school.nz](mailto:anne.crewdson@roseneath.school.nz) . I check my email daily. Or, alternatively, write me a note.

We have staff meetings every Tuesday after school and on a number of Thursday afternoons so these aren't the best afternoons to meet with parents. I look forward to seeing you all over the course of this term.

All the very best,

Anne Crewdson

Upper Bridge