

Newsletter

4 December 2020



From small seeds grow forest giants

Upcoming Events

2020	
07 Dec	Y7 and Y8 Technology, Catlins
10 Dec	BOT meeting at 3.00pm, school
11 Dec	Assembly at 2.10pm
11 Dec	Christmas Concert at 7.00pm, hall
14 Dec	Last day of term 4
18-20 Dec	Tahakopa Christmas at the hall
2021	
27 Jan	TOD (all staff of South Otago)
1-2 Feb	TOD (Teacher Only Day)
03 Feb	Start of term 1 for all children

Christmas Concert

Friday 11 December at 7.00pm,
Tahakopa Hall

Everyone welcome, come along and enjoy the end of the year, please bring a plate for supper to share after the concert.



Christmas Raffle

Tickets \$2 each

Our Stars



The following children worked hard on their homework and achieved 100%.

Spelling Stars:

Week 4 – Jacquelyn, Billie, Clark, Liam, Sarah, Alex

Week 5 – Clark, Liam, Sarah, Alex

Basic Facts Stars:

Week 4 – Sarah, Alex

Week 5 – Billie

WALT Stars: (We are learning to...)

We are learning to be honest at all times

Week 4 – Jacquelyn, Billie, Clark, Liam, Sarah, Alex

Week 5 – Jacquelyn, Billie, Clark, Liam, Sarah, Alex

Learning Stars:

These are the children who have worked hard on their own learning during the week.

Week 4 – Jacquelyn, Billie, Clark, Liam, Sarah, Alex

Week 5 – Jacquelyn, Billie, Clark, Liam, Sarah, Alex

Fantastic effort and work by you all, great attitude to your learning. You really are stars.



From small seeds grow forest giants

From small seeds

Our children, who are all different, talented, special, everything they bring to school, their language, culture, and identity, what makes them unique

grow

We are doing to help each child research their full potential, realise their dreams and become the very best person they are meant to be

forest giants

Our children to leave our school, with our values, life long learning skills, and are positive contributors to our community and the world

Our Values

Respect

Kindness

Honesty

Our Learning dispositions are

Thinking critically

Take risks in learning

Set goals

Have resilience

We need everyones support and help to make this real for the children at our school, we need to be their role models and show them how to be the best they can be.

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website: tahakopa.school.nz

BOT News:

- Thank you for your support in 2020:

Thank you for all of your support during this year and for being part of our school community. We would like to wish you and your family and friends an amazing Christmas and a wonderful New Year, knowing that together we can achieve and get through anything.

- Christmas Raffle:

We are running our Christmas Raffle for the Christmas Concert can all items for this please be dropped off at school, thank you for once again for supporting our school. Tickets will be available for purchase next week at \$2 each. If you want some tickets there are some available at school, see the office. This will be drawn next Friday evening at the Christmas Concert, see you all there.



Christmas Donations:

We thank you for your donations for this special night for the children.

- Christmas Concert:

We would love for the community to become a greater part of the Christmas Concert, so please think about being involved in performing an item of some kind, it is not too late to be a part of this fun evening of celebration.

School News:

- Local Overnight Camp:

Our usual two night camp had to be just one night due to staff commitments this year. So we decided that putting up tents for one night wasn't actually worth it and voted to sleep in the school, which turned out to be the best as it rained again. The Thursday was great and we developed an outside camping area as part of the Whenua Project. Now we have a much bigger area and we're not in the way of the mower. This year the children worked on budgeting and realized just how much it costs to feed a family and the choices that need to be made to make sure that they get the best value for their money. We still have a mystery of the missing sausages, just who took them out of the shopping trolley? Cooking their own dinner on fires, which for the first time not one needed to be relight, also meant dealing with smoke, swimming goggles came in handy, was great fun and the we tried out a new way for us to cook over fire and it really worked well. Just need to sort out how to keep the pan level the whole time.

- Swimming:

We have just finished our swimming programme for the term after going to the Owaka Pool for the last two weeks. All of the children are swimming lengths of the pool and working on developing their swimming styles further as well as increasing their water safety skills too. We are planning to have a swimming coach for some of the time next year so the children can refine their swimming skills further and develop more swimming strokes.



- Surfing:

The children went surfing at Curio Bay and had a wonderful time. With some of the children now using real surf boards for the first time, great progress made by everyone. The dolphins once again joined the children in surfing the waves along side them. It was the first time this season that the dolphins had been spotted in the bay, they just seem to know when the children will be there. The dolphins created quite a stir as people came out to see them. We also had the opportunity to visit Curioscape (it was for free) and we spent time there exploring all of the interactive hands on displays and on the way back we visited the Waikawa Museum as we always do and warmed up with some lovely hot chips.



- Whenua Project:

The children have worked out a written agreement which they and their parents need to sign so that they can work on the Whenua Project as it requires some very different skills using some tools that children do not usually use during school learning. These have been sent home for discussion and signing.

They are working on the first part of the Whenua Project and that is making an area for organic waste so that it can all be put in one place and not just anywhere which is the case at present. Then the tidy up of the paddock can begin in earnest.





Children's Writing



The children pick their own writing that they wish to share with everyone from the two weeks since the last newsletter.

Christmas Concert

I am so excited for the Christmas concert but I am still nervous like every other concert. We are doing it a little different this year. We're doing songs and a little skit instead of a play. We will sing Christmas carols and other songs and I hope Santa will come with gifts. And I think Mum will play a song.

Jacquelyn

My Birthday

My birthday cake it is a mud cake. It is not a pile of mud. It is a very rich delish chocolate cake. I got some of my present today. I got a fishing net and I got a new metal chicken that is red. I hope that I get an RC boat for Christmas. I have been looking at one that costs \$412.00 it is white and black I hope that I get it.



Clark

The A&P Show

On Saturday Mum, Jacquelyn and I went to the A&P show. I went on this Hillbilly swing and a tea cup ride then the bubble balls. The cows were cute and the alpacas were fluffy. They wouldn't let me on the motor bikes because they were for eight year olds and under and I'm eleven years of age

Mum saw that I was having a lot of fun while I was in the bubble balls so she paid double so I had a longer time in them. On the swinging ride the man operating it was nice and let us have a long go. The tea cups were fun but slow then the princess awards were really boring but I did see Moss, Moss is Dad and my friend his name is Joey Cross, he owns and operates his own contracting business in Balclutha.

Liam

In the following section the children have completed their own editing and proof reading of their work and consider their work is ready for publishing. They are working on these skills and responsibility over their time at school and as the children get older others will be added to this area in the news letter. They are still developing these skills at this time, so please forgive them for any mistakes and errors they make during this time of learning.

South Otago A&P Show

On Saturday morning Mum and I went to the South Otago A&P Show with the horses. I was super excited to ride Mickey at my second A&P with him. When I got on I walked over to the ring and warmed him up for a bit so he wouldn't be silly and he would stay nice and calm. Usually he would be speedy but I think Mum might have overdosed him on the magnesium the night before because he was very sluggish.

For turnout I got second place, for section b show pony I got reserve champion and I got two first places and another reserve champion and four second places. I can't remember what I got the other prizes for.

After the classes my friends Ruby and Annashae and I went on a ride. We went on the chain swing. That was so much fun all though it felt like my legs were going to fall off. Next we went to watch the show queens. They all looked very pretty. Kelsey Miller won the show queen of 2020. About 20 minutes later I had to go and get Mickey ready for the show jumping. I sadly got eliminated as I had three stops. Next was the grand parade. For the grand parade I put all my ribbons on Mickey except he might need a longer neck. He was very good that day and I am super proud of him.

Sarah

The Otago A&P Show

On Saturday we went up to the South Otago A&P show in Balclutha. When we got there we got some food which was a bit bland and not very filling. Then we headed over to the wood chopping and we watched them for a while. Then Jack and Jake tuned up and wanted me to do some bubble thing that you get into and bang into each other, but the line was really long so I just went back to the wood chopping

By then there were a lot of wood chips on the ground so I got over and helped clean them up. I sat on a stump and watched until they were finished and then they started the Jack and Jill sawing. Then Richie Hurring set me up with a under hand chopping block so I got up and started chopping. He said that I had a natural knack for cutting wood with an axe. I then had a go at chainsaw racing which I won.



Alex



“Children learn
as they play. Most
importantly,
in play children
learn how to
learn.”

O. Fred Donaldson

Other

Our Hut



Next Service on Sunday 6 December, at 9.15am

Then on Sunday 20 December at 9.15am

Everyone welcome

Kia ora

Please collect bread tags - keeping them out of landfill and funding wheelchairs for those in need.

If you are already collecting like thousands of other kiwis, thank you so much! If this is news to you, please read on...

Bread Tags for Wheelchairs has been established in South Africa for the past 13 years, with the NZ arm launching in February this year. The organisation is 100% run by volunteers, and further information can be found via the links at the end of this email.

In 5 short months, there are now over 80 collection points throughout New Zealand where the public can drop off their bread tags.

Nga mihi

Kelly Vollenhoven - Bread tags for wheelchairs NZ volunteer

Website (including a brief utube clip): <https://breadtagsforwheelchairs.co.za>

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/nzbreadtags/?modal=admin_todo_tour

School is currently still collecting these and to date we have: 1449 grams so far

Wanted:

Some land in the Tahakopa Valley to build a home on or a house and section. Can you help? Email katjh@hotmail.com

Tahakopa Christmas

December Saturday 19th – Sunday 20th
From 10.00am to 4.00pm
Tahakopa Hall



Special Events

Friday 18 December - Christmas High Tea at 1.30pm
Christmas Lights Supper from 9.00pm
Tickets \$10 (no door sales)

Everyone welcome
Come and enjoy

Contact: Katrina 03 415 8817 or katjh@hotmail.com



**"Play
is the
highest
form of
research."**

Albert Einstein

Chocolate chesecake slices [From Pet Day]

85g / 3oz butter plus extra for greasing tin

3 large eggs

200g / 7oz digestive biscuits

½ tsp vanilla extract

400g / 14oz cream chesse

50g / 1¾ oz plain flour

75g / 2¾ oz plain chocolate broken into pieces

125g / 4 ½ oz caster sugar

175 ml / 6fl oz sour cream

Preheat oven to 160c/325f gas mark 3

Grease and line a shallow 23-cm/9inch square baking tin. Crush the biscuits into small pieces. Melt the butter and add to the crushed biscuits and mix together, spoon the mixture into the tin and press down firmly with the back of a spoon and leave to chill in the fridge.

Place the cream cheese, sugar, sour cream, eggs and vanilla into a large bowl and whisk together until smooth, add the flour and whisk again.

Pour the mixture over the biscuit base and bake for 40 mins or until set but not browned.

Allow to cool in the tin then chill for at least 3 hours.

Remove from the tin and decorate with the melted chocolate and drizzle it over the cooked cheese cake or decorate as desired.



