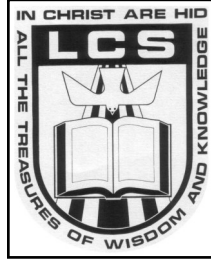


Liberton Christian School
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Back to School



Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome to Liberton Christian School for 2018! I hope you have had a refreshing summer break and were able to enjoy the amazing summer weather we have had this year!

A very warm welcome to our new students and families; we are delighted to have you join the Liberton community and we pray you will settle in quickly.

The new school term is underway and you have received initial information from class teachers regarding the programme for term 1 and stationery requirements. We look forward to a term of wonderful learning opportunities and experiences.

This week our Meet the Teacher conferences got underway. The focus of this first parent/teacher meeting is to establish a positive working relationship between home and school, promoting a shared understanding of the expectations and routines of the class programme. Whether a child is working at the expected level, or achieving above or below expectations, we want to help you support your child's learning as knowledgeably as possible. The importance and influence of parents and caregivers to a child's learning should not be underestimated! We value open and positive home and school relationships and I encourage you to keep regular contact with your child's teacher throughout the year to ensure the best success for their learning. Our main aim, in partnership with you, continues to be to provide high quality Christian education that seeks to honour God in all that we do.

On Friday 16 February, we are planning to have a BYO picnic/takeaway tea from 5pm at school to welcome everyone to the new school year. It will be a good opportunity to get to know some of our newer families and enjoy a time of informal fellowship together. Ice blocks will be provided for the children.



A Big Welcome to our new students who all commenced at the beginning of the school term:

- Room 1:** Jianing Gan and Olivia Kim (Year 1 students)
Room 5: Maché Hodgson (Year 2)
Room 2: Jorlin Gan (Year 6)

Term 1 Value Focus: Respect

Love expressed through Respect – A willingness to treat with courtesy, to hold in high regard; to honour, to care about yourself and others, and the environment.

A brief overview of what we teach:

God is the Creator. The maker of all things.

God made people to be His image bearers.

Each person bears God's image and is thus worthy of respect.

There is a particular respect we are to show to those who are placed in authority over us.

As image bearers of God we are called to PUT OFF all disrespect and to be conformed more to the image of our creator as we PUT ON gentleness and respect.

We are even to be respectful in how we share the 'good news' about Jesus with others.

Another aspect of respect is the call to respect or care for all that God has made. Not just his image bearers but all that he made and called 'good'.

When we do this we honour God in the way we live out our role as an image bearer.

Biblical Illustrations:

Esther (to Xerxes, to Mordecai) in Esther 1-2; 5-8

Daniel in Daniel 1-6

10 commandments (God's name, parents, others) Exodus 20

Moses Exodus 33

Jesus (render to Caesar, to rulers, to his mother Mary) our ULTIMATE example

Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honour the emperor. 1 Peter 2v17

Serving Christ together

Ngā mihi nui
Fiona Sizemore (Principal)



We are very excited to have Mrs Tania Bretz and Mrs Jenny Stowell join our teaching team. Jenny is team teaching in Room 1 this year and Tania is teaching in Room 5.

School parking

Please do not park on the yellow lines at the school gate as this can cause a hazard for our local students who need to cross the road safely and walk home.

Absences and Regular Lateness

If your child needs to be absent from school please notify the school office by phone or email by 9am on the morning of the absence, sending a note with a sibling or leaving a message on the answer phone. We are required to report absences (and reasons for absence) to the MOE when a student is absent for more than five days accumulated over the term. For planned absence (e.g. travel) please supply a note or email to the class teacher or office.

Regular lateness is also required to be reported. The Ministry of Education offers support to families through the Otago Youth Wellness Trust when absence or lateness is of concern.

School of Dentistry Dental Therapy Clinic

Clinics have resumed and students will be taken to the dental hub on Friday mornings. Dental appointments are arranged directly with parents and we do not have records at school of who has been. If you have not been contacted to arrange an appointment within the last year or so please let Karen know in our office, or contact the clinic directly. If you have any additional concerns about your children's oral health please contact Donna on 4797189 to arrange an appointment. *Please also be vigilant in signing and dropping all dental clinic forms to the office prior to appointments.*



School Assemblies

Most Fridays at 2.30pm we hold a school assembly for parents and friends of the school to see and share in a little of what we have been learning about during the week.

Our Parent Handbook will be sent to parents as an e-copy. If you would prefer a paper copy, these will be available from the brochure stand in the entrance foyer.

Extra-curricular Music Lessons

Amelia Mah is available for music lessons during school hours on Thursday afternoons, or by arrangement after school off site. Amelia offers singing, piano, theory and ensembles (group lessons). The contract is between Amelia and parents directly; school just provides a venue. To enquire, contact Amelia on 021 303 092 or go to her website: mahmusicnz.com

2017 Christmas Carols on Dunedin TV link

Last December our band and choir were recorded singing Christmas carols for Dunedin TV. Here is the link if you would like to watch again or keep for the record.

<http://www.channel39.co.nz/content/liberton-christian-school-carols>

Nzmaths family link

If you would like to know about the numeracy programme and support your child's learning further at home, log onto the nzmaths web site at www.nzmaths.co.nz/families where you will find practical games and activities for parents to do with children to promote numeracy skills.

Dunedin Christian Schools Association News

The Dunedin Christian Schools Association will be holding their annual meeting on Tuesday 27 March in the staffroom. New association members are always welcome and the membership form is available at the office.

Food Allergy Awareness

We are a nut free school. This includes peanuts and all other tree nuts. Currently we also have children enrolled who are dairy and/or gluten free. In addition, we have children who have a range of other food allergies or sensitivities.

Please remind children regularly not to share their daily morning tea and lunch food at school.

Due to the high level of allergies across the school, the decision has been made that no special occasion treats can be brought in for a class to share as we need to be mindful of all the children's needs and make sure no one is put at risk. Some allergic reactions can be extremely serious or life threatening and it is all too easy to overlook the necessary detail.

Library

Each class visits the school library on Friday mornings. Students are able to withdraw two books at a time to enjoy at home. Books can be returned anytime into the class returns box so new books can be selected the following Friday. Mrs van der Woude is our wonderful volunteer librarian who works faithfully to keep our library in excellent order for our students.

Term 1 2018 Calendar

- 8 Feb Meet the Teacher conferences 3.15-7pm
- 12 Feb Ripa commences @ Edgar
- 13 Feb Meet the Teacher conferences 3.15-5pm
- 13 Feb Board of Trustees meeting 7.30pm
- 16 Feb BYO school picnic 5pm
- 5 March R3 Attitude Programme 1.30pm
- 8 March R4 EOTC Have a Go Day @ Edgar 9.30am-12.30pm
- 13 March Board of Trustees meeting 7.30pm
- 15 March R2 EOTC farm visit (whole day out)
- 19 March ERO visit commences
- 26 March Otago Anniversary Day
- 27 March DCSA annual meeting 7.45pm
- 30 Mar Good Friday
- 2-3 April Easter holidays
- 13 April Last day of term 1



LCS Term Dates 2018

- 1 Monday 31 January to Friday 13 April (11 weeks)
- 2 Monday 30 April to Friday 6 July (10 weeks)
- 3 Monday 23 July to Friday 28 September (10 weeks)
- 4 Monday 15 October to Thursday 13 December (9 weeks)

School Diary

Prayer Points

POP in and PRAY Tuesday mornings 9.00am – 9.20am in the staffroom

Whether you can give ten or twenty minutes, come and join us as we pray for our school as it seeks to live out its vision in our community and for the kids, families and staff that are part of it. We are very grateful to all those who uphold the school in prayer.

Prayer Points

Give thanks for: -

- A positive start for the new school year
- Each one of our students and families
- Our Board of Trustees faithful provision of extra staffing

Please pray for:-

- Our new students and families that have recently joined us
- Our 2017 graduates as they settle into high school
- our school to glorify God in **all** ways and remain faithful to the vision set down by our founders

For where
two or three
are gathered in
my name,
there am I
among them.
Matthew 18:20