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NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

Thursday 23rd of February 2017 - Term 1, Week 3

Dear Parents & Caregivers, Tena Koutou Katoa.

Welcome back to Ella Neilson who has joined us in Room 6.

Zone Swimming

Yesterday Ms Dickens and a group of parents took 17 Y4 to Y6 swimmers out to Tauraroa Area School to swim off against our zone schools. All of the children represented us with pride both in and out of the pool, and it was noted how calm and sensible our children were. Great to hear team! Some of the children conquered their fears to swim in the larger pool. Well done to all of the children who competed. The children were swimming to gain the top two positions to represent our zone in the Interschool Swimming Sports at Whangarei Intermediate School, to be held on Tuesday the 7th of March. Congratulations to the following students who have qualified for this event:

Y4 Sophie Alderton - freestyle, relay & backstroke

Y5 Rico Delahoya and Ava Cohen - freestyle & relay

Y5 Zoë Roberts - breaststroke

Y6 Tai Clyde and Anika Te Iringa - freestyle & relay

Y6 Tai Clyde - backstroke

Due to our pool being shallow and shorter than 25m, we are unable to offer swimming sports at school or train for the diving required for this event. All our teachers take their classes swimming every day, and chose the strongest swimmers with correct stroke to try out in our school pool for this event.

Whanau Group Thank You

I would like to thank the Whanau Group for their organisation and support of our school with the preparation and running of the school Powhiri. In my head I had thanked everyone and thought I'd put this in previous newsletter. Maybe my brain was still a bit fuzzy with general anaesthetic, after returning to school on the second day back after my knee surgery! We all look forward to the Kapa Haka Group starting tomorrow in the hall at lunchtime and the continued passion and ideas of support from this group.

Out of zone Enrolments

The Board of Trustees have opened up the Out Of Zone enrolments for 8x New Entrants and 1x Y4 student. This was advertised in the paper and closes on Wednesday the 22nd of March. All of our New Entrant siblings automatically qualified for enrolment last year in the first enrolment period that closed in October 2016. This second enrolment period allows us to manage the school roll when we know who has turned up in the New Year. Maggie and I

are visiting Kindy's and Preschools today to meet all of the New Entrants who are starting within the first half of the year. This is done to transition the children into school, make them feel welcome, get to know our faces and provide us with valuable information about them.

If you know of any Out Of Zone New Entrants who have not approached the school, then please get them to contact me.

New Entrant Class

Our New Entrant Class is larger than normal for this time of the year. Maggie has decided that she will keep this group together for the first term and then we will start a roll growth New Entrant class at the beginning of Term 2. This will bring the numbers down again so that all children get the benefit of low class numbers at some stage in their first year of schooling. If we filled all of the advertised places, then the maximum size of both of these classes by the very end of the year, will be 18.

Internet Safety

The Board and I have identified that an Internet Safety Programme is a high priority, and have made it one of the school's key objectives this year.

Below is an example of what two junior classrooms have been up to...

"In Room 3 and 4 we have been learning about how we can keep safe on the internet. With the help of characters in 'Hectors World', we have learnt about our personal details and how we can keep them safe when we are online. We know never to share them without asking our parents or an adult first, and if we are allowed, then we should use a nickname instead of our real name. We have also learnt that we can't always trust everything we find online and that we should always have an adult close by. Another interesting discussion we have had is about using YouTube. We need to ask an adult to supervise us when we use it, or check videos first because some of the things on there are not safe for children".

Parking

I was chatting to a parent who expressed their concerns about the state of our parking. We are challenged with our parking situation and are a bit hamstrung on solutions. The staff park over the road at the community hall to allow more parks for drops off and pickups. The hall does not belong to the school and we do not get to control who parks there. Last year I regularly counted up to 7 to 9 cars that use it to carpool to Marsden Point or elsewhere, which of course takes up valuable space. 3:00pm is the challenge as everyone arrives at a similar time. What we can do is control what we do. If parents could be conscious of the space we have when parking by leaving smaller gaps between cars, this would help us a bit more. Most importantly we all need to be aware of the challenges and safety in this congested area, show patience, maturity and road calmness to ensure the children stay safe. Please do not let children cross the road without an adult.

Kind Regards,

Terry Brock
Principal

RURU AWARDS

JUNIOR

Photo
to come



Sequoia Stowers
Rm 4

SENIOR

Photo
to come

O'Shea Brown
Rm 7

CLASS AWARDS

- Rm 1 Casey Ogle, Oliver Emerson
- Rm 3 Isla Roberts, Madison Wilson
- Rm 4 Leara Wells-McQueen, Matteo Torres
- Rm 5 Kianna Sullivan, Lochie Cameron
- Rm 6 Pearl Pullen, Riley Bishop, Riley Nicholson, Angus McLennan
- Rm 7 Pryce Davidson, Kiani Apetera



ENERGIZE SCHOOLS

This year we have become an 'Energize School', an initiative which started in the Waikato and has been brought to Northland by Sport Northland, to help promote health and fitness in schools. This program offers our school a great deal of support to continue developing our school's physical education program. Last week the fitness levels of all students were tested and we had some excellent results - must be all that bike riding! A part of our responsibilities to this program is to occasionally complete some surveys of the leadership team, the teachers and our community. A quick survey has gone home today with each child and I would be extremely grateful if you could complete one per child and send back to school. There will be a box in room seven where students can put them or they can give them to their classroom teacher.

Thanks for your help - Renee Downey

Mid-Western Junior Rugby Rally Day

Thursday 2 March

3-6pm at MW Rugby Club

Under 6's – Under 17's

*** Please call Shelley on 021 43 2222 if you have any questions ***

Just a quick note from the library...

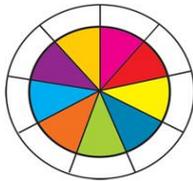
Here are the class library days:

Room 1 Monday
Room 3 Tuesday
Room 4 Monday
Room 5 Wednesday
Room 6 Tuesday
Room 7 Thursday

Children may borrow up to 5 books and exchange them at any time.

The library is open Monday to Thursday 9am to 2:30pm – they don't have to wait for their library day. If parents/whanau wish to borrow books, you can apply for a barcode and browse the collection too. There are some parenting and more adult-focussed books as well as a good selection for children. Please call in or leave a message for me – as stated I am here from 9am to 2:30pm (sometimes later) Monday to Thursday. On my desk is a form on which you can self-issue books if I am not in the library when you visit.

Thanks,
Donna Watene



THANK YOU

For bringing back the junior readers so far! Keep them coming in! Much appreciated! :)

	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CASH PAYMENTS AT SCHOOL</u></p> <p>Besides School Fees, Book Bags, Netball & Miniball, for any other <u>classroom</u> related cash/cheque payments (eg: camps, trips, buses etc), please give the money/cheque to your child's class teacher instead of the office. If you require a receipt, the teacher will make a note and I will provide one for you.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Thanks, Jen</p>
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Netball 2017

Starting on **Saturday 6th of May** to Saturday 19th of August.
Final date for school registrations is Monday the 27th of March.

So far we have a Y1/Y2 team.
Really keen to have a Y3/Y4 and Y5/Y6 team!

All children that are keen to play and/or parents who are interested in coaching a team, please see Jen in the office.

WEET-BIX KIDS TRYATHLON

Sunday 2nd of April @ Waitangi

Age 7 – 15 years inclusive.

\$17 (if entered before Friday 3rd of March), otherwise \$26.50 – using discount codes from Pam Locke.

If you would like to enter this event, please text Pamela Locke on 021 851 651 with your name and your child's name to receive discount codes – please note there are 12 codes left, so be in quick!

Pam has also offered to kindly provide training leading up to the event – Mondays, Tuesday's, Thursday's and Friday's between 8:15am – 8:45am. Starts Monday 6th of March to Wednesday 22nd March.

Scholastic Book Club Orders



Please have your orders in by:
FRIDAY 24TH OF MARCH 2017