

Newsletter

March 2020

Kia Ora Koutou Everyone,

I can't believe it's March already!

A big welcome to Leo and Kaylib who have started back in the Senior room.

Beach day was a hit. We enjoyed the sand castle competition, swimming in the waves and the lagoon and sausages at Mrs Ellett's house. We were really lucky with a great amount of parents who joined us for the day.

We then had our community barbeque where the children enjoyed a twilight swim and Don cooked a delicious shared barbeque for us all.

Year 7 & 8's have started their 'Growing Great Leaders' course with Sport Whanganui. We have seen some great leadership initiatives starting in the senior room; Quinton has led rippa rugby practices/games during lunchtimes; Maddi, Torana and Ruby have lead tee ball and the other seniors have plans for other exciting activities.

Every term we conduct Fire, Earthquake and Lockdown drills with the whole school. The purpose of these are explained to the children as they need to know what they are practicing so they will be safe in an emergency. Staff are able to inspire calm and confidence in children through these drills. If you have any queries about this, please let me know. It's good to talk to your children after the drills to emphasise the key message of keeping students safe at all times.

We are focusing on attendance throughout the whole school this year. Last year we noticed many students were away for unjustified reasons and missing valuable teaching lessons. Our aim is for a 94% attendance rate for all students for 2020. For high absences (over 15% absence) we will be following our policy of letter home to parents, meeting with parents and if over 20% a referral will be made to our local truancy officer. By all means if your child is genuinely sick, keep them home. If you're unsure if your child should be at school, please ask us, we are happy to advise. Please remember to ring or text if your child is absent for the day as this is an important requirement for our school.

Enjoy your weekend
Polly Devane
Principal



[Learning Conversations- 19th February](#)
Thanks for attending these. All children have set goals and a copy of this has been sent home to families.

[Science Roadshow](#)
The Middle and Senior Rooms will be attending a Science Roadshow at Whanganui Intermediate School on Tuesday 31st March. This will cover two live shows on 'Kitchen chemistry' and 'Balloons and Bernoulli'. Please save the date as we'd love parent helpers.

[Water skills for life](#)
Cecilie Elliot from swimming NZ will be joining us for the day on Wednesday 11th March to teach children life saving skills in the pool.



Don't we look great in our hats! Thanks Fonterra

Upcoming Fundraisers:

Pinecones day- Friday 13th March, Whenuakura. The whole school will be heading to Whenuakura to collect pine cones from 9.30am- 12.30pm. Thanks to those people who have already sold bags.

We will be selling these for \$8.00 for a 20kg bag. Please see attached.

On Monday the children were sent home with a Yarrows Cookie & Croissant order form please let Gillian know if you didn't receive this.

Thank you for helping and supporting us in our fundraising efforts.



Good Sorts-Thank You!

The Mackintosh Family: For donating bikes, a go kart and a games table to the school.

Tiffany Parkes & Scott Ferris:For coming on the outings with the senior class.

Alison Gifkins & the Senior Students:For helping at the Waverley Waitotara RSA 100 years celebration.

Tiffany Parkes:For accompanying the yr7&8's to Technology every Monday.

Dates to Remember

Pinecones day: 13th March 9.30 - 12.30

Assemblies : 27th March (Please note we have cancelled the assembly on our 'Pinecones' day)

BOT Meeting: 10th March

Vaccinations Yr 7 & 8: 19th March

Junior Tabloid Sports @ Cooks Gardens: 26th March (Parent help needed please)

Yrs 3- 8 Science Roadshow : 31st March (Parent help needed please)

Art Gallery trips:24th March(Juniors)

2nd April (middle & senior Class)transport needed for both.

Yrs 7 & 8 Super 6 Swimming Competition: 13th March

Clubs: 6th March, 20th March, 3rd April

Grandparents Day: 9th April

End of Term- 9th April

Start of Term 2, 2019: Tuesday 28th April (Monday 27th is ANZAC day observed)

Teacher Only day: Friday

Super Award winners

Assembly 14th February

Principal's Award- Ashlee Duxfield, for showing great leadership qualities

Values Award - Mellissa Burnard, for respecting and caring for others

Senior class- Ava Philips, for working well and applying herself to tasks

Middle class- Max Martin, for having courage in the pool

Junior class- Sebastian Edwards, for making a great start at Waitotara School

Assembly 28th February

Principal's Award- Honor Parsons, for a fantastic beach trip recount

Values Award- Harper Ferris, for showing humility to her classmates

Senior Class- Kimberley Frewin, for showing determination in swimming

Middle Class- Lachie Mackintosh, for showing determination in swimming

Junior Class- Regan Hawken, for great sounding out, using his phoneme fingers

We are proud to announce Kimberley Frewin as our School Leader for Term 1.

