

WHĀNAU - SCHOOL COMMUNICATION Wednesday 2nd November

Newsletter No. 11

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Kia ora e te whānau

Welcome to Term 4. It was great to enjoy the movie *Moana* with so many of you last week, we hope to be able to host more of these whānau events. Whilst short, Term 4 is packed with celebrations and activities in and outside the school. Please check the back of this panui for dates and stay in touch via class seesaw messages.

Term 4 marks the start of warmer weather. To keep safe, school hats must be worn. These can be purchased from the school office for \$18. Tamariki without hats will have to sit in the shade during break times. The school pool will open shortly, look out for updates.

School Closed

Monday 7th November - **Staff Only Day -** A reminder that school will be closed to tamariki. Staff will be engaged in professional learning and report writing. These days were negotiated nationally as part of the Teachers Collective Agreement.

Wednesday 16 November 1:30pm - Union Meeting - All teachers are required to attend a union meeting. School will close at 1pm. Please arrange for your tamariki to be collected. The van service will run early.

Online Behaviour - We have recently experienced a spike in the inappropriate use of devices by our tamariki. This is happening in and out of school. It has a negative impact on wellbeing and learning. We are currently reviewing our systems to ensure closer monitoring and greater student responsibility. We urge you to limit device time for your tamariki and to monitor what they are using. A reminder that the majority of social media apps require users to be 13 years or over.

Planning for 2023 – Planning for 2023 is well underway, this includes recruiting staff and sorting classes. <u>Bilingual Classes</u> – we have spaces in our bilingual classes for tamariki in Y0-4. In these classes the main language of instruction is English however this is supported by 30-50% of instruction in te reo Māori. These classes are part of our Māori medium team – Kopurererua. If you think a Bilingual class could suit your tamariki please discuss with your child's class teacher or with Whaea Ari.

<u>New Entrants</u>- if you or your friends and whānau have tamariki who will turn 5 and attend Gate Pā School next year please inform the office. This information supports our planning.

Friends of the School (FoTS)

Friends of the School (FoTS) is open to all Gate Pā whānau. This group of parents/caregivers plan and run fun events for our learning community.

This term's events:

- Wednesday 7 December 5.30 7pm School Xmas party new whānau welcome. Bring your tamariki and a plate of food to share.
- Friday 25 November Bake Sale Please support by bringing your baking to the Garden to Table room. Proceeds will be used to purchase new sandpit and pool toys.

New Staff

With a growing roll, comes the opportunity to recruit new staff. We are delighted to welcome:

- Whaea Rae Kuka part-time kaiako in Whare Reo
- Whaea Ani Kuka training to be a kaiako from Bethlehem Tertiary Institute

Senior Camp

From the 14th to the 16th of November our Year 5 and 6 tamariki will be heading to Totara Springs Camp in Matamata. This is an opportunity for them to experience Education Outside the Classroom. They will be participating in a range of activities including archery, kayaking, rocket making and abseiling. This is a time for them to take risks, to challenge themselves and of course to have fun! On Monday the 14th students that are travelling to camp must be at school by 8:30am with all their gear ready to go. They will be returning by 2:55 pm on Wednesday the 16th of November.

Noho ora mai,

Whaea Rochelle Jensen (Tumuaki/Principal)

