



Monday 8 April 2024

Kia ora Parents, Caregivers & Whānau,

I trust you are all adjusting to the rapidly changing temperatures, and are ready for it to be a bit lighter in the mornings with Daylight Saving having ended yesterday. We are in the last week of term already. It has gone very quickly, and I am sure you are all looking forward to having a break over the holidays with the family. It does seem a bit disjointed in the last few weeks with Easter having fallen during the last weeks of term.

Congratulations to all the students that attended the **Inter School Swimming** recently. You did us proud and took out 1st spot in all the Relay races. We really do have some excellent swimmers in our midst. The top place getters carried on to the **Hibiscus Coast competition** held last week. A huge "well done" to Harper H and Charlotte W who finished 1st in a couple of their races. Very impressive!

Our awesome **PTA** held a bake sale before Easter and raised \$861 which they will put towards their chosen projects for the year. With Sue McKinney and George McMillan at the helm they have lots planned, and are looking forward to offering a mix of fun things to do, as well as 'needed items' around the school in 2024. They have already purchased a new lost property box, and a new freezer so far, and they are also supplying a shade sail that will go over the deck at the back of Room 2. Thank you! Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Over the Easter break the annual **Antique Fair** was held in the school hall. I trust some of you got the chance to come along and have a look. As they do each year, the funds raised from donations at the door were kindly donated to the school. A total of \$911.30 was donated and will be put towards the heat pump for the school pool.

Students have spent the last couple of weeks decorating their **model boats** as part of the upcoming **Matakana Model Boat Show**. The classes have all now floated their boats in the pool, and had some races. Each class will have two winning boats that will be displayed at the Boat show during the school holidays. On Tuesday all the boats will be put in the pool together, and we have Blair from Aerial Applications, coming to do a drone photo. There are some truly fantastic creations. Please do come along to the show between the 19th - 21st April, it is well worth a look. **It may quite possibly be the biggest model boat show ever in our country!**

I just want to touch on **School Uniforms**... A reminder to please keep **long hair tied up (girls & boys)**, there is always the risk of nits being transferred in a school environment, and having hair tied up minimises this risk. Our uniform code stipulates **plain Navy socks or stockings**, however black is also acceptable. We would really appreciate branded **underwear** being worn in a discreet fashion. It is not appropriate in a school environment for this to be shown above waistbands, and we encourage modesty to this end. Also a reminder that **hats** do not need to be worn next term. Please ask students to bring these home so that they can be stored safely, ready for Term 4.

We managed to book '**Freddies Food Scrap Quest**' for a visit to our school on Friday. This great show was all about the best way to deal with food scraps. It was presented by A Fool's Company (an Auckland based physical theatre company) in collaboration with Auckland Council's Waste

Department. The show teaches primary school children (Years 1-6) about the rollout of the new Rukenga Kai Food Scraps Bins. It was a highly interactive show enjoyed by everyone, teaching about what the new food scraps bins are, what goes in them and how to use them in a fun way. An estimated **20,000 kilograms** of food waste from Rodney households has been diverted from landfill each week since Auckland Council's kerbside food scrap collection service was extended to the area (which includes Warkworth, Hibiscus Coast, Riverhead, Huapai and Kumeu) almost two months ago. Currently, Wellsford, Matakana, Leigh and other non-urban areas in Rodney have not been included in the programme yet, but our students are now aware and ready for when it happens.

I am pleased to advise that the **remedial work** on the **middle school block** is now 98% complete (heat pumps are still to be installed) and this week the classes that were displaced, will be moving back into their rooms. Thank you in advance to those parents who have volunteered to help on Wednesday morning. This also means that next term the **Info Centre** will be open again for book issuing. Our Librarian (Kim Scott) has continued to purchase Library books over the closure period. She has informed me that there are some great new titles waiting to be checked out when classes return to the normal schedule. We are very excited to be able to commence **Garden to Table** again. The first classes to attend will be Room 1 & 2. No doubt, they will be eager to learn some valuable skills both in the kitchen and in the garden.

Thank you again for all your support of our school and for your patience as we work through our building and construction process from week to week. The Room 3 demolition and rebuild starts during the school holidays.

On the **2nd June** our main annual fundraiser kicks off with the **Silent Auction** portion, which runs for two weeks. This is held on the **32auctions website**, and is open to the public, so please do share the link to your friends and family. We will have some really fantastic items up for grabs. Such an event can't take place without the generous donations from local businesses, so please do support them where you can.

The **Bayleys "Rock the 80's" evening & Live Auction** school fundraiser takes place on **Friday 14th June**. This event is very generously being hosted again this year by the **Stables Matakana**. The events team comprising Year 3 & 4 parents is working very hard to make this a successful and fun event, so please do come along. You are sure to have a great night out, with DJ Mark Laurence, fabulous food, a cash bar, live auction items and most importantly fantastic company. Tickets will be available soon. You won't want to miss out on this adults only social event of the year!

Enjoy the school holidays and have a wonderful ANZAC Day on the 25th of April.

Noho ora mai



Darrel Goosen

Principal