



Monday 27th February 2023

Kia ora Parents, Caregivers & Whānau,

Despite starting the year back with a couple of messy weeks, we are off and running, with regular routines firmly in place. The weather has still been a bit fickle, but has at least allowed students to get straight back into the swimming pool, and out into the fresh air for some outdoor learning opportunities and fun break times. Our **student leaders** have all taken to their various roles and tasks with enthusiasm and are doing a super job. They really make the school a magic place for everyone to enjoy.

I trust that you all joined the '**Meet the Teacher**' zoom sessions, and attended the **Parent Interviews and Goal Setting** meetings over the last couple of weeks. I am sure that these answered some of your questions around how your child's learning will be structured this year. Please email the class teacher if you have any further questions.

Fingers crossed that the outdoor setting doesn't hinder too many of our **fortnightly Friday assemblies**, as this did work very well the first time we tried it. Unfortunately last Friday's assembly had to be postponed until this week due to rain. I look forward to seeing so many of our diligent, hard working students receiving a **weekly classroom certificate**. Our **special sponsored awards** are also ready for the year. They are: Positivity in the Playground, Sports Star, Creative Kid and Magic Person of the Week. Thanks again to our awesome local businesses for their generous sponsorship.

Swimming sports for the Middle and Senior school are scheduled for tomorrow and Wednesday. I am sure you are all looking forward to getting out there to cheer our swimmers on. No doubt, they will all do well. The top place getters will attend the Inter School competition that is coming up in a few weeks time.

Our first **Pizza with the Principal** was held last week. It is so lovely to spend a little time with the recipients. What a great bunch. The Pizza, kindly supplied by **Stables Restaurant** went down a treat, and was gone in no time. I look forward to holding the next session towards the end of the term. Congratulations to our first group of recipients, awesome effort!

We had the **Year 4 Camp** last week, albeit in a slightly modified format. With the school hall out of action, and the field still not "tent friendly" the students had two fun packed activity days. They all headed home after dinner on the first day instead of sleeping over as usual (although I hear the girls all had a great sleepover kindly organised by one of our parents at their lifestyle block near the school).

Thank you to Middle School Team Leader, Fiona Clarkson, and teacher Sarah Stubbs for all their organisation and the keen parents that came along to help out managing all the activities.

The **Year 5 Camp** is scheduled for the 8th - 10th March at Moirs Point, Mangawhai. I am sure all the students are really looking forward to it, and it will be a fabulous experience for them. Thank you to the Senior School Team Leader, Claire Allen, and the senior school teachers for all their planning so far.

The **Summer Olympiad** will be held on Friday of this week. There are some great obstacles planned for the students as they run around the track and we look forward to being able to welcome parents to come along and enjoy the event. Hard to believe that this time last year, parents weren't able to attend under the Covid19 restrictions that were in place at the time.

The ability to sponsor online via *gogetfunding* is operating again this year. This makes it very easy for students with families overseas to get more sponsors if they wish to. Please get behind your children, this is a great event promoting **Health and Wellbeing**, and the first of our big fundraisers for the year. Funds raised from this event will be directed towards a **new play space**, and some of the money will be sent directly to the **Hawkes Bay Flood Relief**.

The Year 6 students will also be holding a **Sausage Sizzle and Burger Lunch** on this day in order to raise money to subsidise their upcoming camp. With costs that seem to increase daily, this is a great way to enable us to keep the costs down as low as possible so that all students can attend the camp. Please order your child's food on KINDO before 12pm on Thursday.

We have lots going on this term, so please ensure that you use our communication channels to keep up to date. A "**What's on next week**" alert is sent out on a Sunday evening, along with a calendar on the APP, and the Facebook page. Copies of notices that have been sent out are also on the APP.

I would also like to thank you for your patience with the **parking, and pick up/drop off situation**. Although not ideal, it seems to be working adequately and we have not had reports of any incidents or major issues - well done everyone. We hope that things will stay that way, and that we can get through the disruptions of the building process as quickly as possible.

Ngā mihi,
Darrel Goosen
Principal

Thank you to our Sponsors



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