



*Ka whawhai tonu, ake, ake, ake!*

Kia ora Parents and Whanau

The term has started well with students enjoying the gymnastics programme and getting out for cross country training when weather permits. Junior sports have also started so no doubt family life is starting to get busy again – especially with sports spread through the week.

We hope everyone received the student reports sent home last Friday and found them informative regarding progress this year, ready for conferences this week.

Welcome to those new pupils and their families who have started over the last fortnight; Kayla and Ciara Compaan, Tobin Reihana and Matthew Brown.

## PARENT/STUDENT CONFERENCES

We have had a good number of parents make times to talk to teachers about their children's learning and next steps for the second half of the year. About 85% of families have attended over the last 2 days, with others making appointments at different times. It is important for students to understand what their focus areas are and how they can improve their learning, especially where there are challenges. For our junior students this is often about family time; reading, counting, playing games and talking about what they do and see. As students get older they do need to learn their spelling words, maths basic facts and times tables. These skills allow them to write independently and solve maths problems easily. If you have not been able to attend during the conference times, please do make contact with the teachers to discuss your children's progress. These times are important as it is not just about the academics – the social aspects of school, friends and key competency abilities are also important to share.

Our school students are well supported in their learning journey by their families, but communication and working together makes this easier for both teachers and the parents.

## AGRICULTURE DAY

Thanks to those families that have returned the entry form for Ag Day. Michelle Ruddell, our Ag Day coordinator is wanting these forms returned so she can get the organisation underway. There is quite a lot of work to be done between now and the end of October. If you have not returned your Ag Day entry form, please do so. At the beginning of the week we were still waiting for over 100 forms to come back.

## LIFE EDUCATION TRUST CARAVAN

Nadine Campbell the Life Education Trust teacher completed the sessions with our classes last Tuesday, with positive comments about the learning and involvement of the students she worked with. The Caravan visits every 2 years and focuses on a different topic each time. This year the focus has been on kindness, empathy and leadership in many different situations.

## GIRLS HIGH INTERVIEWS

Enrolment interviews for Year 9 2021 are being held at Maungatapere School on Thursday 13 August. Please contact the office to book a time.

## SCHOOL COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

This week students have participated in talent quest auditions to determine who has made it to the finals. The successful students were:

**Juniors** – Ayla Wood & Tayla Lambert; Isi McGrath; Lulu Culen & Isabella Kennedy; Elisha; Kayden, Jake and Freddie

**Seniors** – Lia Neumann; Leah Smith; Case Worsfold; Holly Gourlay; Alice B; Rubie-Lee Crompton; Eden Powell

The finals will be Monday 17 August during lunch time. You are welcome to come along and watch your child perform.

The council have been collecting cans of food this week and appreciate the cans that have been sent in. They are boxing them up ready to take to the Salvation Army.

## SCHOOL VALUES



One of our school values that we often talk to students about is Manaakitanga/Respect. This is about connecting students, staff and community to develop respect for others and our environment. We want students to respect each other for who they are, recognise the strengths others have and support them to be the best they can be. It is also about understanding and respecting each other's culture and beliefs so we can learn from one another. Respect includes looking after our environment, our school and the many natural features in our area – the mountains, waterways and birds.

We do focus on these especially in term 1 when we are setting up our class cultures, but it is always good to come back to these concepts throughout the year. The focus of the Life Education Trust also built on the area of respect for others. Our school rules of: Be considerate – no teasing, put-downs or swearing and respect others, our property and our environment sit under the school value of Respect.

With many new families it is sometimes good to share these through the year.

### Y7/8 SCIENCE FAIR

We hope everyone made the most of the opportunity to look at the science fair projects in the library. There were some excellent and thought provoking projects this year. Congratulations to the following students who have the opportunity to enter their science fair projects in to the Northland Science Fair. These students are required to present their projects digitally this year and will be judged on their visual presentation of their board, rather than an interview. We wish them all the best.

R6	Pippi Woolston	-	Wai Ora
	Francesca Provan	-	Cash or Card
	Rylee King	-	Water Wings
	Lily Anna Duffy	-	Stop that Virus
R7	Clara Fagan	-	Legend Dairy
	Sage Wickline	-	When apple was just a Fruit
	Ellie McRae	-	Make that pain go away
	Isak Thompson	-	Illusions
R8	Paige Karl	-	Don't be so Salty
	Tayla Southall	-	High Carb vs Low Carb
	Kody George	-	Think before you Drink
	Josh McRae	-	Beat the Feet
	Tayla Ruddell	-	Practice makes perfect
	Elly Neumann	-	Sweet Tooth
	Lia Neumann	-	Turn that down or Not
	Casey Worsfold	-	The Dirty Truth
	Emma Caie	-	Trash Talk

### BUTTERFLY CREEK VISIT

Information for parents went home this week to outline details for the day, it was also emailed out. A big thank you to those parents who are coming along to help with supervision. We have organised for parents to cover all classrooms. Some parents have paid toward the cost, but this is not necessary now with a Pub Charity application being successful. It has meant our Board of Trustees does not have to subsidise the cost and we will be able to cover other events in the future.

Parents will be informed of which class they are going with by Monday, as this is being finalised today.

The bus bay will be busy with buses collecting students on Wednesday morning, so please use the other school entrances to drop your children off at school as normal. Weather permitting, we will open the field for parking in the afternoon so you are able to collect your children from the top court as they unload off the buses. Parents coming on the trip can also use the field for parking cars over the day.

We do want all students to participate in the trip as so much of their learning will use the knowledge and experiences they have gained on the visit.

### SCHOOL AWARDS

*Congratulations to the following pupils:*

**Casey Worsfold R8** - For having a fantastic attitude towards learning and leading by example.

**Avery Morgan R5** - Outstanding work in writing, making stories all on her own.

**Emily Morgan R3** - For always being motivated and consistent in her work.



### TERM CALENDAR

Wed 12 August	-	Butterfly Creek visit
Mon 17 August	-	Talent Show Final
Wed 19 August	-	Cross country
Wed 19 August	-	BOT Meeting
Wed 16 Sep	-	New School photo day
Sat 31 October	-	Ag Day

### REMINDERS

**Cross Country Training** - This is happening Monday, Wednesday & Friday for Y3-8 students. They are able to bring shoes and a change of clothes for running in. If students are not able to run for medical reasons they need to bring a note for their teacher. The focus for cross country is about challenging yourself to improve your running time and ability. We recognise not everyone is a cross country runner, but it is good for developing resilience and understanding things get easier when we practise. Our School cross country is after lunch, Wednesday 19 August.

**Gymnastics** - is Monday/Tuesday this term for all classes. Please make sure students wear clothes suitable to jump and tumble.

**Secondary School visits** - Tauraroa School will be visiting 9.30am on 19 August for Y7/8 concert and talk.

**BOT Account Details** - 12 3099 0836089 00

### COMMUNITY NOTICES

**Goat kids for sale** - Cute Nubian X goats available for Ag day. Contact Frances Nops 021306667




## Room 8 - Narrative Writing

I couldn't ignore the strange noise of water splashing against my floor boards any longer. I had laid there for the past half hour pretty much squishing my head into my pillow. I didn't want to investigate the mysterious noise under my bed, it gave me flashbacks of my least favourite horror films. Every kid knows not to investigate noises under the bed, unless that doesn't count for 12 year olds. I was starting to think I was imagining and just being stupid but some part of me wanted to know what was there. Finally, I pulled myself together, kissed my lightning bolt necklace for good luck and pushed away my blankets. I stretched one foot down and then slowly another and ducked onto the floor like I was escaping the bullets of a soldier. I still had my eyes fast asleep so I whacked my head to open them. And there, under my bed, was defiantly not a monster, not even a sea monster, but a glowing blue portal. It was so mesmerizing, watching the colours swirl in different patterns and watching sky blue turn dark blue and that into a deep ocean. My heart was racing with excitement, should I dive in and explore the depths of another dimension, or should I leave it and hop back into bed? Nah, I could never leave that world untouched. Unexplored. Never had a glimpse from the human eye. I had to do it.....

**Lia Neumann**



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