

Term 4 Week 8 2nd December 2016

From the Principal

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Kia Ora Koutou, Nga mihi kia koutou

Can you believe it is December already? They say 'time flies when you are having fun', so that must mean we are having an absolute 'blast' here at school as 2016 has certainly flown by.

STAFF FAREWELLS

We have 2 fulltime staff members leaving at the end of this year.

Alisha Spekking is relocating to Wellington and has secured a position at Randwick School for next year. Paddy Byrne has recently decided that now is the right time to retire from his position as our caretaker.

While Alisha has only been on our staff for a little over 12 months, she has made a valuable contribution to our staff and children.

Paddy has been here in a caretaking role for 12 years -there will be very few people that will not have had a regular friendly chat with him over the years. Paddy is a real 'people person' and it has been very important to him to recall names and make connections.

Rebecca Duckworth, Anne-Marie Boyd and Sue Lynch will each have completed their (part time) fixed term contracts with us by the end of this year.

Thank you all for your contributions and passions! We wish each of you all the very best for their respective 'next chapters' in the book of life!

TOILET UPGRADE

The long awaited upgrade to the toilets in the TKP and TKM corridor is underway.

Thank you so much for your flexibility in drop off/meeting points.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

Positive aspects of the school

The positive aspects most consistently highlighted by respondents were: Teachers and other staff, the school leadership, vision and structures, the school community and grounds, classrooms and facilities and extracurricular activities.

Thank you for your trust and positivity!

Things to change here at school

The things that respondents felt would make our school an even better place can broadly be categorised around a) communication glitches - we will do our best to minimise/eliminate these, b) either needing more or less homework or more or less technology (you will appreciate it is impossible to please both sides on these), c) a more sustained focus on maths and science, and d) suggestions around other extra-curricular ideas to be included.

The teaching team and BoT will discuss and consider all feedback. Thank you.

SWIMMING POOL SEASON

The Board of Trustees has again decided to make the swimming pool available for family use this summer. Keys will be available for \$100 for the season, reduced to \$60 for families who have paid their 2016 parent donation.

We do offer a limited number of free pool keys to parents who receive annual training (before the term ends) and go on a roster to maintain the pool over the weeks when the school is closed. If you wish to be on this roster please email to office@hokowhitu.school.nz. The time commitment is approximately 2 hours per day for around 7 days over the holidays.

SPORTS UNIFORMS

A notice came home last week to gauge parental interest in purchasing their own sports uniforms. We have had sufficient interest for us to now being asking for firm orders and payment details. Please ask your child to collect an order form from the office - we will process a batch of orders before Christmas ready for delivery in the New Year. If you would like to view a set for sizing purposes, just pop into school and we will have them on hand.

Lin Dixon
Principal

Achievement Awards

Rūma Tahī (1)

Grace, Joshua & Luai

For their tremendous progress in reading over the past term - ka pail!

Rūma Rua (2)

Annie
Olivia
Kiwipaarie

For this week's caring and sharing award
Super story writing
Most improved for reading

Rūma Toru (3)

Mila
Kodi
Elijah

For doing everything with a positive attitude
For being a very good friend
For making our visitors feel welcome

Rūma Rima (5)

Brooke, Nesha,
Jedd & Oscar

For a wonderful first week at school

Te Kete Pounamu

Myles, Cameron W,
Hera, Chiara, Michelle,
Olivia, Guanyu,
Brooklyn & Milla

For a super week in TKP

Te Kete Aronui

STRIVE awards: Maiya, Litiyah, Helena, Kaitlin, Emi, Isabel.

Marble Jar Day - Wednesday 14th December - wheels day - children may bring bikes with helmets, scooters, skates, roller blades, toy cars, toy trucks, toy motorbikes, skateboards, ripsticks, uni cycles, go carts.

Thanks ~ TKA teachers.

Te Kete Tangaroa

Jack For showing increased maturity in classroom discussions
Sophie For confidently sharing your opinions within discussion sessions
Tylah For your hard work and participation in Novel Study groups

School Notices

Morning Tea

The staff really appreciates the help we have received from parents throughout the year in so many areas. Without your support we would not be able to attend camp, school trips and the invaluable help in the classroom is very much appreciated. To those parents we say a big thank you and would like to invite you to a morning tea to be held on Wednesday 7th December at 11.00am in TKP. If you would like to attend please let Juls know in the office or phone 357 9667 by Monday 5th December. Thank you!

Mufti Day Food bank

Thank you so much for your wonderful generosity at our Mufti Day last week ~ below is a picture of all the food donated to the food bank. Thank you!



Jump Rope for Heart

Well done everyone who contributed. We raised \$1345 as a school!

Sports News

Hockey Results

Huias vs College Street: Although we lost 3-2 we had a great last game. Thanks to everyone for a great season!

T-Ball results

Under 9's with only 4 players lost 17-33 to Cornerstone.
Under 7's had a great game against Milson with a full team - thank you parents!

Soccer Results

Stormers vs Terrace End: The team played well and it was a tight game. We lost 1-0. Players of the day were Jack W and Joisah. Well done.
Hokowhitu Stars vs Longburn - lost 5-3
Hokowhitu Wizards vs Central Normal: lost 3-2

Cricket Results

Knights vs St James: We won scoring 94 runs for 2 wickets off 18 overs. St James scored 93 off 20 for 2. A close game. Well done to Zachary and Ollie for being awarded Players of the Day for their awesome batting skills.

Community Notices

Hokowhitu Village Farmers Market

Bonus market on Sunday 4th December and another on 18th December in time for Christmas. 9am-1pm and held every 3rd Sunday of the month. For more information, contact Robin 027 283 6853.

Online Holiday Program | Four weeks of fun!

Become your own music producer with *Activate Music Academy's* Online Holiday Program! We'll workshop your songs, make new friends in the community forum, and get creative to win awesome prizes. Complete beginner? Been making beats for a while? We're going to have a great time making music together! Register and find out more at:

<https://activatemusic.academy/online-holiday-program/>