

Term 4 Week 9 9th December 2016

From the Principal

Dear Parents/Caregivers
Kia Ora Koutou, Nga mihi kia koutou

On Wednesday the staff said a heartfelt thank you to those 'helpful people' who were able to make it to morning tea. We are aware that many of our 'very helpful people' are not able to make it to school at that time. On behalf of the staff at Hokowhitu School, a HUGE thank you to each and every one of you who does those extra things for us. So many of you serve our school so well - BoT, PTA, help in classrooms, school trips/events, resource and/or costume making, sports coaching, library assistance, accessing resources/people - just to name a few of the vital roles fulfilled. The stronger the home and school partnership can be, the stronger the relationships are.

CONDOLENCES

Our sincere condolences go to the Toon family after last week's tragic death of Mr Toon. Mike was a well respected Board of Trustees chairperson from 2002 - 2006 here at Hokowhitu School.

REPORTS

Your child will come home today with their 2016 End of Year Report and (for those returning to Hokowhitu School next year) a notice advising which kete they will be based in next year, along with stationery requirements. Please note that learners in both TKW and TKP (Years 1 and 2) will need to purchase their stationery pack here at school from the 24th January when the office reopens.

TRANSITION AFTERNOON

We believe that the children have a more relaxing and stress free break when they know where they are going to be next year, who their whanau teacher will be, and who their classmates will be. For this reason we are holding an afternoon next week (Wednesday) where everyone (other than the Year 6's and leaving students) will be in their 2017 space. Everyone will be back in their 2016 classroom by the end of the day ready for pick up.

LIBRARY BOOK AMNESTY

We would really appreciate you have a good look this weekend for any library books that may still be in your home instead of on our shelves. We are stocktaking from Monday and really need all books back. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL/PRIZE GIVING

You will have received your invitation to next Tuesday's important event. We hope EVERY child and their family can come along. Due to our size this event needs to be held outside so come prepared with layers. From 5.30pm the court area in front of the hall will be transformed into a yummy, culturally diverse food court and by 6.15pm we will all be seated facing the deck of Te Kete Tangaroa (TKT) ready for the formal part of the evening. Children from right across the school will be presented with certificates acknowledging their diligence or use of our STRIVE values. Prize giving will be completed by 7pm when the Year 6 farewell will take place. We had some feedback from last year that it was difficult to see some of the children. We are endeavouring to improve this situation by reserving the area closest to the stage for just those people who are happy SITTING on the concrete (or your picnic blanket). If you wish to use a seat (or stand up) please do so behind the coned area. Thanks so much in anticipation of your cooperation.

SWIMMING POOL

Pool keys are on sale at the office NOW. They can be purchased any morning next week (until 12.30), and from 1.30 - 3.30pm Monday - Thursday of next week. Keys cost \$100 for the season, reduced to \$60 for families who have paid their 2016 parent donation.

If you wish to pack your child's togs and towel next week there MAY be an opportunity for a quick dip?

SPORTS UNIFORMS

The first order will be sent away next Wednesday. We will send another batch away early in 2017. Any Hokowhitu School sports uniforms that are not yet returned to school must be returned IMMEDIATELY to avoid being invoiced for the replacement.

EXCITING NEWS FOR 2017

As mentioned in this newsletter recently, we are taking a different approach to EOTC/camp next year. Instead of overnight camps we are having a WHOLE SCHOOL EOTC week.

Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC) is a really important part of three of the New Zealand curriculum key competencies - learning to relate to others, participating and contributing and self managing. We are also having a large focus on individual buddies next year, and as such some of these experiences will be shared with the child's buddy (tuakana/teina - where children learn from/with the support of an older or younger person).

There are many exciting plans already in the pipeline for the week of the 20 - 24 February, including orienteering, SNAG golf, basketball sessions, the Y 4/5/6 triathlon, a programme with Bike Manawatu in conjunction with the police, Y 1/2 swimming sports AND..... a whole school BIG day out to Masterton on Friday 24th February. A full programme will come out in the first week of next year, but we wanted to give you as much notice as possible, as we would love parental support and help for one or more days that week (especially Friday of course).

We are also fully aware of financial commitments at the beginning of the year, so every effort has been made to keep costs down. Transit Coachlines have given us their very best price, we plan to undertake a number of low/no cost activities, and the PTA are currently directing their fundraising towards a subsidy.

We have undertaken to ensure that the cost will not exceed \$25.00 for the whole week. With the PTA's help we are hopeful this may be reduced to \$20.00 per child?

Any families wanting to start putting some money into their family account from now can do so by making deposits to 12-3143-032799-00. Please state your family name and 'Family Account' as the reference.

Classes finish for the year at 12.40pm next Friday the 16th December. Please ensure your child is collected (or knows where they are to go) at this time.

Nga mihi

Lin Dixon
Principal

Achievement Awards

Rūma Tahī (1)

Tessa, Katelyn,
Ruan & Elizabeth

What super learners you have been this year! Ka pai!

Rūma Rua (2)

Hiru

Welcome back to Ruma Rua, we missed you while you were away

Malone
Mason

Best builder award
For being the best problem solver

Rūma Toru (3)

Cooper
Lily

Excellent concentration
For improvement in phonics

Rūma Rima (5)

Grace & Lily For being wonderful helpers in class

Te Kete Pounamu

Sophia, Eva, Levi,
Lilly-Anne, Cameron M,
Joshua O, Logan,
Josh E & Samantha

For a super week in TKP

Te Kete Manawa

Ruby W
Isla
Tioke
Finn
Sasha
Jacob

For showing others that she values them
For an original creative writing style
For being a focused reader
For consistently completing tasks to a high standard
For improved skills in writing
For improved speed in activities - keep up the great work

Ariana
Tyler
Baxter

For being a kind and caring member of TKM
For clever maths thinking, adding number in parts
For fantastic focus and effort at writing time

Celebrating learning and achievement

Poetic thoughts about our orchard

The orchard is as tall as me if I sit on my knees -
As tall as me on the teachers shoulders
As tall as me standing up - it comes to my chest.

There are pipes for the water to go down
The trees suck it up.

The orchard trees have light green leaves -
They have a red stalk in the middle

The orchard trees have sticks in the middle -
To support them
- string ties the trees to the sticks

By Emma, Regan, Havana, Aashna, Natsume, Chloe, Olivia, Grace and other friends of the orchard.

OUR ORCHARD NEEDS YOUR HELP!
OUR TREES NEED A FRUIT TREE SPRAY - PLEASE COULD SOMEONE (a parent, Grandparent or neighbour friend)
OFFER TO SPRAY OUR TREES.
ALSO THEY NEED A WATER OVER THE HOLIDAY BREAK.

Friends of the orchard need your help..... please e-mail: l.handcock@hokowhitu.school.nz

Athletics

We had a fantastic day at Inter-school athletics on Tuesday. There were 13 competitors that represented our school. There were 15 schools in total, so our results were outstanding! Congratulations to the following people for these results:

800m

Isaac S - 7th
Carli - 7th

80m

Jaxon M - 3rd in heat & 7th in final
Hannah R - 3rd in heat & 2nd in final

70m Hurdles

Jaxon - 1st in heat & 4th in final
Hannah R - 1st in heat & 1st in final

Long Jump

Sam H - 7th
Carli - 7th

High Jump

Alec - 4th
Charlotte - 5th

Shot Put

Trey - 7.74m
Ji - 6m

Discus

George - 4th
Miracle - 4th

Relay Results

Boys (Jaxon, Isaac, George, Mitchell) 5th in heat
Girls (Charlotte, Hannah, Carli, Erin) 2nd in heat and overall

Te Kete Aronui

The cursed princess!

Once upon a time there lived a princess named Beauty. That princess had curly blonde hair and sparkling blue eyes. She wore a silk pink dress with puffy arms and a golden tiara that glistened in the sunlight. One night a ugly old witch named Matilda came and cut off a lock of her smooth blonde hair. Matilda knew that the second she touched the soft hair she would become young and beautiful again. The daughter started yelling so loudly that it woke her parents. Her parents came rushing in. All they saw was Matilda vanishing into the darkness and their precious daughter crying. What they didn't know was that when someone takes a lock of her hair she would turn uglier and naughtier every day. Matilda kept running on and on until she got to a blue ribbon deep in the forest. She pulled the ribbon and the bushes opened up to reveal a golden archway. Matilda walked through the archway into a pale pink castle leading up to the clouds. She got the key from around her neck and unlocked a treasure chest covered in jewels hidden in a tall draw high in the attic covered with cobwebs. Once she put the lock of hair into the chest she locked the chest back up and put the key back around her neck and walked out of the room. She walked down the stairs and into her bedroom. The smooth wallpaper with dark purple flowers decorated on it made her feel happy and relaxed. She fell on her pink bed with a sigh. The comfortable mattress that she lay on was made out of duckling feathers. Meanwhile, back at the palace Beauty was turning more and more ugly. The king and queen demanded that their servants found a way to turn Beauty beautiful and kind again. The servants worked night and day but they couldn't find a trace of anything that would make her beautiful and young again. The king and queen said " Don't give up until you find a way to cure the curse". They worked for seven days and seven nights until they found some medicine that might work. It said to give one tablespoon to the patient a day. The first tablespoon of sticky green slime worked perfectly and she became young and beautiful again. As for the witch in a couple of days she would be gone forever.

By Gracie

Sports News

The end of the year is very close. If you have a sports uniform at home, in the shed, in the boot of a car, or under your child's bed, can you please return this to school asap. Year 6 children, this particularly applies to you, as we need these uniforms back for 2017. Your uniform needs to be washed and put in a clearly labelled plastic bag. Please state your child's name and the team they have been playing for. Any questions please free to contact me.

Kind regards
Mr Parsons

Sports Results

Soccer

The Hokowhitu Stormers soccer team played Ashhurst and drew 2 all. The players of the day were Zachary and Jack S

9th November:

Hokowhitu School Stars won 5-0 against Carnot Squid
Hokowhitu School Wizards won 3-1 against Winchester Hammers

23rd November:

Hokowhitu Stars lost 3-5 against CNS United
Hokowhitu School Wizards drew 3-3 against St Mary's United

7th December:

Hokowhitu School Stars won 7-2 against St Mary's Wanderers
Hokowhitu School Wizards lost 1-4 against Ashhurst Giants

Cricket

The Hokowhitu Knights cricket team played College Street. We won after 14 overs, gaining 57 runs and losing 3 wickets. They scored 51 runs over 16 overs and losing 7 wickets. Players of the day were Quinlan and Jack.

