



Newsletter: Term 4, Week 5, 27th November 2020

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa - Greetings to you all!



At this time of year, we often notice that some children are getting tired and tetchy, this can result in making poor choices around behaviour and focus in the classrooms. I believe this is even more in evidence because of the difficult year that we have had. Our teachers are endeavouring to deal with these behaviours and with the support of our parents we can navigate through this period and make it through to the end of the year. We ask that parents support us and trust that we are doing the best we can for each child. At times like this we fall back on our values, in particular "Respect" and we expect both adults and children to treat

each other respectfully. We are also continuing to focus on the "Zones" to recognise our behaviours and use strategies to help us deal with our feelings. Just a reminder to parents to encourage their children to talk to a teacher if something has happened that they are not comfortable with. It is hard for us to deal with issues if we are not told about them by the child, but are told by parents at a later time. We will be organising more activities at break times to keep our children happy and occupied.

Room 2 had a fantastic day at the Poor Knights and the children and teacher are still buzzing with all the amazing things they saw. It would have been great to hear them singing 'Kua Tae', our school song in the sea cave. Well done to Mr Higgison for organising such a fantastic experience and Room 2 for raising the money through their 'Market Day' to fund this.

After a very difficult process, where we received many strong applications we are happy to announce the appointment of Bridget Crouchley as our new Junior teacher. Bridget is moving up to Pataua South with her partner in late December. She has been teaching in the Junior school at Paparoa Street School in Christchurch for the past three and a half years. Apart from her strengths in Literacy and Numeracy, she has a passion for the Arts, has run the senior school choir, and co-wrote and directed her school's production this year. Bridget is very excited to be working at our school and we are hoping to introduce her to the children via Zoom towards the end of term.

Next Friday our wonderful Kapa Haka group will be performing at Parua Bay. Most of our children will be going to support them so please return the permission slip and let us know if you can help with transport. Mrs Silipa supported by Mrs Hunter have done a great job with this group and it will be great to see them in action next week.

Ngā Manaakitanga
Denise Humphries

**Funky Fishing Committee
Meeting**

Te Mangoroa

6.30 Monday 30th

November

More committee members



From our Board of Trustees

Governance Update

In line with our last Board update where we discussed our responsibilities around providing the school with the best governance possible, we are pleased to be able to advise that we have recently co-opted two parents - Emily Benge and David McDonald - to the Board of Trustees. Emily and David come with a wealth of experience and knowledge that we consider will provide further perspectives and rigor to the existing Board. As you may know Emily is a trained early childhood teacher who has a focus on wellbeing and putting children and families at the centre of decisions, while David works for ACC and understands the history of the school as a former pupil and will support the property improvements that are underway. We believe that Emily and David's experience, along with their understanding of the school and community, will help the Board to be the best it can be, with us all committed to working collaboratively for the sake of the students and our school. The co-options will end with the triennial elections in mid-2022.

The Whangarei Heads School Board of Trustees

Poor Knights Trip



On Tuesday Room 2 had their long awaited trip to the Poor Knights Islands. The weather was looking ominous, and with drizzle coming down on the drive over to Tutukaka, everyone's fingers were crossed.

The 'Perfect Day' boat was booked out exclusively for our group, so once on board the children made the most of the space.

The journey is about 90 minutes each way.

We anchored up in a calm spot and got briefed about the snorkelling experience ahead. Overhead the sky was grey. Once kitted up, and grouped up with parents, the underwater world was ours to explore.

Immediately there were ooohhs and agghhhs. There was plenty of life down under.

There were caves and reefs to explore. Massive snapper, plenty of blue maomao..... even a manta ray was spotted.

Some highlights were:

Caleb - A blue moki swam right into me as I was diving down.

Issy - My favourite part was when I went into the shark fin cave. It was dark, but when I turned around the lights looked beautiful and the water was really blue.

Scarlett - when we went through the tunnel I could see so many fish under me.

Sol - I dived down and all of a sudden an Eagle Ray swam past me.

Bailey - my favourite part was being on the boat and spending time with friends even though I have a cast on.



A big thanks to the parents.

A big thanks to Samara and Oliver from Experiencing Marine Reserves for giving us this wonderful opportunity.

A big thanks to Skipper Steven and the crew on board for getting us there and keeping us safe.

Experiencing
Marine Reserves



FOUNDATION
NORTH
*Te Kaitiaki Pūtea o
Tāmaki o Tai Tokerau*

Athletics

A big congratulations to Otis, Quinn and Lexi who represented our school and zone at the Y7&8 WPSSA athletics champs this week. The weather wasn't great, and unfortunately Lexi's high jump event was cancelled in the end. Otis got 2nd in the 600m run. Quinn came 4th in the 200m run. Well done team!

Whānau Survey Message

Kia ora Whānau

Our school is involved in a government wellbeing initiative called [Healthy Active Learning](#) which is aimed improving wellbeing of our Tamariki and young people through healthy eating, drinking and quality physical activity.

Massey University is undertaking the [evaluation of Healthy Active Learning](#) on behalf of Sport NZ, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education. As part of the evaluation Massey would really like to find out from parents and whānau how their children participate in physical activity and healthy eating and drinking at our school.

[Click here to complete the whānau survey](#). It takes 5-10 minutes and if you complete the survey you will go in the draw to win a \$100 supermarket voucher.

Click here to view [Facebook page](#) for more details.

Can you make every effort to complete the survey as it is very important to have your thoughts on this important wellbeing initiative that our school/kura is involved in.

Kia pai to rā.

We would like to thank Chris Nathan who has kindly donated an electronic keyboard and stand to our children. Thank you Chris!

Procedure for Dealing with Complaints and Concerns at School:

We would like to remind parents of our School Procedure in regards to reporting concerns about your child and any incidents that may occur at school as quoted from our Policy and Procedure Manual.

Rationale – All staff and Board of Trustee members will ensure that the process of dealing with concerns and complaints is fair and just, and that all matters are dealt with sensitively and confidentially, and as quickly as possible. It is important that resolution is made at a level as close as possible to the source to avoid escalation of the issue.

- Purpose** – 1. To ensure matters of concern or complaints are dealt with fairly, promptly and confidentially while considering the rights of all parties involved.
2. To provide clear guidelines to be followed in receiving and resolving complaints.
3. To meet all statutory requirements including ‘Good Employer’ provisions.

Guidelines – 1. Staff and Board members, upon being approached by a complainant, will advise that the Board of Trustees have the following process to address parental/caregiver concerns in relation to the conduct of staff or students in the school:

- a) Complaints by parents/caregivers should be referred directly to the staff member (class teacher) concerned in the first instance. On receiving or becoming aware of a complaint, the staff member should advise the principal. The staff member may wish to have the principal present when addressing the issue.
- b) Where complaints cannot be resolved by the staff member or the parent/caregiver feels action taken is inappropriate then the parent/caregiver should refer the complaint to a senior teacher.
- c) Where complaints cannot be resolved by senior members of staff, or the parent/caregiver feels action taken is inappropriate then the parent/caregiver should refer the complaint to the principal.
- d) Where the principal is unable to resolve the complaint after discussion with the parent/caregiver and the staff member concerned, then any of these parties may refer the matter in writing to the Board of Trustees.
- e) Except in exceptional circumstances the Board of Trustees will not accept any complaint unless it is in writing and a reasonable attempt has been made to resolve the matter with the principal and staff member concerned.
- f) All complaints to the Board of Trustees should be directed to the chairperson. The chairperson will promptly acknowledge in writing receipt of the complaint and will outline the time frame and procedure for dealing with the complaint.
- g) The complaint will be tabled at the next Board of Trustees meeting....

From The Library

Can all library books be sent back to the library by next Friday December 4th as stocktake will take place the week after. Thank you.



REMINDERS:

SICK CHILDREN – A friendly reminder to please keep your child home if they are unwell. If your child or family member has had a Covid test, please inform the school and we kindly request they are kept home until a negative test is given. Thank you.

Parking

- If you would like to park, please do so in front of the playcentre.
- Please leave the ‘bus stop’ area in front of the big rock clear of parked cars
- Please do not park on the forest side of the road - leave this clear for the drive and collect cars

Drive and Collect

- If you prefer to drive up and turn around at the school gate we will deliver your child/ren to you in your car
- We will keep this line of cars moving as quickly as possible
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Note, you are also welcome to park in the appropriate spaces and come into the school to collect your child/ren.

ATTENDANCE

A reminder to please phone or email the office before 9.30am if your child is going to be absent. Please indicate the reason for the absence, as this is necessary for our records. *When leaving a message please indicate how many days they will be absent, this will save you calling every day.* Thankyou.

Children who are late to school are required to report to the office before going to class.

Please pay all outstanding fees and accounts ASAP: We encourage you to use internet banking for any school payments.

School Bank Account Number: 12-3092-0033347-00

IMPORTANT DATES:

Monday November 30
Wednesday December 2
Friday December 4
Tuesday December 8
Wednesday December 16
Thursday December 17
Tuesday February 9

Funky Fish Committee Meeting
Whangarei Athletics Y4-6
Te Whanga Festival – Parua Bay (Our Kapa haka group performing)
BoT Meeting – 5.30pm in Staffroom
Christmas Tree Evening – 5.30pm
Last Day of Term 4 – SCHOOL FINISHES 12NOON
First Day of Term 1 2021

COMMUNITY NOTICES:

- **SWIMMING LESSONS** 4 days intensive lessons the week of Monday 21st December at Whangarei Heads school pool Run by Swimsmart swim school \$60. To book a spot email sarahdavemcdonald@gmail.com
- **OCEAN BEACH** Art & Things. 5th & 6th December between 10am – 4pm. At home studios all along Ocean Beach Road. Look out for the flags and signs.



KAI, CAROLS & COMPANY

Please come and join us for an
OPEN AIR CAROL SERVICE

TOTALLY KIDS-FRIENDLY - ALL AGES WELCOME

at McLeod Bay Hall, Stuart Road

on Sunday, 13 December from 6:30pm to 8:30pm

Sausage sizzle / Burger & Salads provided at start

Please bring your own seating - chairs / blankets, etc.

MUSIC - SALVATION ARMY BAND & MANAIA SINGERS

Hosted by Whangarei Heads Pioneer Church