



Newsletter

IMPORTANT DATES

- 7 August**
Learning Conversations
- 8 August**
Tawa Int Open Morning
- 8 August**
Learning Conversations
- 11 August**
Ngahere Assembly &
Sausage sizzle
- 23 August**
Tawa Zone Swimming
Sports
- 25 August**
Kākano Assembly &
Sausage sizzle
- 4 September**
Production Y3-6

Wednesday 26 July 2017

Dear Parents and Caregivers, kia ora, malo e lelei, talofa lava, kia orana, namaste, ni hao and welcome to Week 1 of Term 3 2017.

Welcome back after what was quite an eventful term break with crazy weather up and down the country. We hope you all had a chance for some relaxation, it was great to see the students arrive back with such enthusiasm this week.

Term 3 unit - Diversity - Same, but Different!

This term our key focus for student inquiry is the big idea of 'Diversity' and the unit is called Same but Different. During this social science unit students will explore cultural practices, identity and how we belong. This will also include a focus on exploring language across a variety of cultures.

Other areas of learning will include:

- Maths - shape and symmetry
- Visual Art - cultural art using mixed media
- PE - large balls skills, skipping and te reo kori
- Health - sexuality education - puberty Y5/6 (later in term)
- Te reo Māori and tikanga - kai



And of course Year 3-6 will be preparing for our production called "The Game of Their Lives" - an exciting term of learning ahead!

Staffing Update

This term we welcome Elizabeth McKee to our team. Elizabeth will be working in a part-time capacity, predominantly in Ngahere, and also with learning support groups.

The other news is that Clayton Boyd has tendered his resignation as of the end of Term 3. Clayton has exciting plans and is making a move to the South Island. While we are very happy for him, we are sad to be losing Clayton from our team. Clayton's position has been promptly advertised to enable us to appoint a new teacher to Tōtara for Term 4.

Attendance and Lateness

Please be aware that we are required by the Ministry of Education to ensure we carefully monitor the lateness and attendance of our students. In the recent mid-year reports there was an indication of whether your child's attendance or lateness was of concern in the first half of the year. Lateness and poor attendance can have a very negative impact on students succeeding at school, academically and socially. Please make every effort to get your children to school on time, with regular attendance. Also, if there is a valid reason for your child's absence, please ensure you contact the office before 9am on 2326445 (press 1 for absence line) or text the school cellphone 021 02565206, giving the child's name and reason for absence/lateness. It is important to do this, even though you may have mentioned an upcoming absence or appointment to your child's teacher. This will save Sharon having to make unnecessary phone calls to establish a child's whereabouts.



This week (surprisingly for the start of a new term!) we had no new students start with us.

Reminder:

Scholastic Book Club closes on 4 August.

For your diaries - School Camp 2018

School Camp will be held in 2018 at The Wellesley, Akatarawa for all Year 5-6 students on the following dates - Monday 26 February to Friday 2 March. Information will start coming home about this early next term.

Term 3 Learning Conversations

Learning Conversations will be on Monday 7 and Tuesday 8 August (Week 3) and in response to feedback they will be twenty minute sessions. To achieve this the first available interviews will begin at 2pm. If parents and caregivers wish to pick their children up before 2pm please sign them out at the office. Mrs Porteous and other staff not involved in learning conversations will plan activities in the hall from 2-3pm, so that teachers and students in learning conversations can get started. All students will then be released from the hall at 3pm. From 3:20pm students who are waiting while siblings have a learning conversation can be supervised in Room 2.

Bookings can be made at www.schoolinterviews.co.nz Event code: 8wsipa

Digital Curriculum

You may have heard about the recent release of a draft Digital Technologies Curriculum. More information can be found at the following link:

<https://education.govt.nz/ministry-of-education/consultations-and-reviews/digital-technology-consultation/>

This curriculum is currently in a consultation phase, after which we will be looking at changes we may need to make to our Greenacres Curriculum to incorporate this learning. Thanks to the work Merridy Marshall has been doing with our senior students and teachers, our students have already begun learning and exploring one of the elements included in this document - 'coding'.



Kind Regards

Shirley Porteous
Principal

Saturday Sport - 7 July

Hockey

Players of the Day Tahi (Year 3/4) Chrissie Rendell

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Kiwi Conversation Club-Hakuturi Toa Forest and Bird - Kia ora KCCers!

We hope you have had a fantastic school holidays - with lots of nature-based fun and learning with friends and whānau. Find out this month's news at

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/15d6d68a7ca1ece4?compose=15d7b1d617531b09>

Tawa Intermediate School Open Evening, Thursday 3 August 6-8pm, presentations at 6.00pm and 6.45pm. Open morning Tuesday 8 August 9-10.30am. All welcome. Enrolments for 2018 close on 24 August 2017. For more info telephone 232 5201 or visit the website www.tawaint.school.nz

Samuel Marsden Collegiate School Open Morning - Parents of Year 6 girls are invited to come to the Marsden School Karori Open Morning, Friday 18 August, between 8.45am and 12pm. This is a good opportunity to see the school in action and learn about the programmes and opportunities for your daughter. Enrolments for 2018 are now open. marsden.school.nz



Learn new sports skills in Term 3. Sports are covered in a fun, non-competitive way and children will learn life-long skills, including team work, fair play and communication skills. Book online now at kellysports.co.nz

Zen Do Kai Kidz Karate at Tawa School Hall. Places available in Little Dragons 5 to 7 year olds Tuesdays - 5 to 5.30pm. Contact Carol for information, Ph 021 179 1984, Email carolkohl7@gmail.com www.zdk.co.nz

Kula Kids Yoga classes enrolling now for Term 3 - Yoga builds strength of body and mind, balance and flexibility. Kids yoga is fun! Thursdays @ CendrineS in Johnsonville Ages 5 - 12 email for timetable Jeanne at kulakidsyoga@yahoo.com or www.facebook.com/KulaKidsYoga

Spotlight Performing Arts - Singing, dance and drama for students aged 4-16 yrs old. Led by London West End performer Sherene Clarke. Every Saturday during term time in Johnsonville and Lower Hutt. Visit www.spotlightperformingarts.co.nz to book.

Announcing SAY IT AGAIN: Ni Hao Children's Community TV! View it online at: tinyurl.com/nihaocctv - Learn Mandarin Chinese as a Foreign Conversational Language, online, anytime! This is a **FREE** learning resource, including stories, cartoons, songs for kids of all ages. If you're keen to learn more Mandarin in a fun & interactive class, enrol or register for trial classes at the website www.nihaocc.org.nz Ni Hao Children's Community charitable trust provides Foreign Language "Learning by Doing" immersion classes for Years 1 to 8, Toddler/Preschool Parent and Child immersion classes, and free Stories & Rhymes mat times at various Wellington locations.

Music Classes at Encore! School of Music - for music learning and heaps of fun in Johnsonville & Churton Park. Encore offer a wide variety of individual and group music classes including piano, keyboard, singing, violin, drums, guitar, ukulele, flute, recorder, band, music theory and others. All ages welcome! Also classes for toddlers & preschoolers and are always delighted to welcome adult students too! Check out: www.encoreschoolofmusic.co.nz Contact: info@encoreschoolofmusic.co.nz Tel: 04-976 8742