

# Newsletter

Issue 3

3 March 2016



## **Principal Preece's Piece (or Ross's ramblings)**

After 4 weeks of non stop sticky heat, we get to the first official day of Autumn and 'wham' down comes the rain. I'm sure all of us are ready for a break from the heat. We have one more winter out of our trustee boiler that heats the whole school and then we will install heat pumps over the Xmas break. This should make a real difference to the learning environment in Feb 2017.

Our March 1<sup>st</sup> return was very favourable and this should generate extra staffing and funding. We have created extra teacher time at the start of the day in year 7/8, then extra teacher time in Rm 2 for Reading and Writing and then more time for all our primary teachers. (This extra time allows for better planning, testing and reporting throughout years 1-6). Many thanks to our community for supporting our school. We have also put an extra teacher into senior trade to enable the year 11 and year 12s to have separate classes.

There has been a lot of

publicity about Modern Learning Environments (MLE) in the media recently. The MOE has made the decision that all future new buildings and schools will be built in that style. Because we aren't due for any new classrooms we won't be hosting MLE. However the important thing isn't the buildings but rather the philosophy of teaching. This philosophy includes students choosing where they sit, with a range of different seating options including bean bags. The other component is the use of individual or small group teaching rather than whole class instruction. This second factor is a key change in modern learning which is designed to better meet the needs of all learners. In summary we won't have the buildings but we will be adapting our teaching practice to meet the needs of our pupils. We have set up our drama room with different furniture options just to see what evolves? Please feel free to call into the drama room if you're around just to

see how our students are seated!

There is a settled feel about the school in spite of some larger classes. However we do have a small group of year 11 lads who are struggling to settle into an appropriate work mode. They will be our focus during March.

Well done to Amy Webb and Rae Thomas-Foster who organised our swimming and athletic sports. We changed the format this year to make them either year 4-8 or 9-13 events. Both days went well and the entries were made easier because of Ruth Hanner who used the swim club entry system to make the day more efficient. This week we had a team at the TV swimming championships and next week its athletics. My thanks to all staff and parents involved with these sporting events. Many thanks ..... Cheers RP



## Year 1—6

Welcome to Autumn

Everyone is pleased with the drop in temperature, but not so pleased with the amount of rain.

The four schools swimming event held at the Community Pool was very successful. Thank you to all the parents that helped with this event. A team of athletes has been chosen from all the schools to compete at the Thames Valley Primary Schools Swimming Competition next week. Mrs Hope will be travelling with our students. Good luck everyone.

This week rooms 7,8 and 20 are all visiting the supermarket as part of their inquiry about empowering their bodies. They have been learning some amazing things and I am sure they have been passing on their new found knowledge at home. Rooms 9,3 and 4 are finding out about healthy lunch foods and will be making healthy hamburgers.

We have finally managed to arrange a time in the gym for our Year 1-8 assemblies. They will be held on even weeks, Monday at 2.10 Ms

Thompson and Mrs Judd are in the process of accepting nominations to the Junior Leader roles. These are important positions as the students organise and run the assemblies. Last week students that catch the bus had safety training with Constable Brett, Police Education Officer.

Please check the lost property if your child/ren have lost any articles of clothing. The lost property box is located by the office door.

Regards

**Sue Brookes**

*Ukulele* beginners class: Wednesday at Jump Jam time, 8:40am in Room 8B.

## Yr 1—8 Assembly Awards

<i>Room 9 Harekeke</i> Krishna Lander / Sabin Sheasby	<i>Room 3 Kaponga</i> Stevie Grant / Jayden Smith
<i>Room 4 Manuka</i> Mia Mulholland / Hannah Murray	<i>Room 5 Kowhai</i> Claudia Morrison / Imogen Ussher
<i>Room 6 Pohutukawa</i> Abigael Pugh/ Adeyne Taikato/ Maddy Resink	<i>Room 7 Rimu</i> Tadhg Mulvihill / Nevaeh Leach
<i>Room 20 Totara</i> Blake Goodman / Chris Higgins	<i>Room 8 Kauri</i> Emily Brickwood / Sharland Daniels
<i>Yr 7/8 MJ</i> Ben Fleetwood / Joshua Watson	<i>Yr 7/8 IF</i>



# *News and Views from the Middle Ages*

## *Year 7/8*

### **Year 7 & 8 Camp 2016**

The Year 7 & 8 Camp is being held in Week 7 of Term 3 (Monday 5th September to Thursday 8th September). We will be going to Totara Springs located at the foot of the Kaimai Mountain Ranges in Matamata. Totara Springs is a purpose built educational facility that provides a wide variety of activities to challenge our students in an outdoor setting.

It is encouraged that you start making regular payments to avoid any financial hardship close to camp time. We will be looking for help with fundraising activities to cover our costs. We will send out a note in the coming weeks with more information.

We will require parents to attend camp and act as active helpers with student activities. As camp week nears we will be asking for an indication from parents who are interested in attending.

### **Mathletics**

All students have been provided with a athletics log in. If you haven't paid your child's \$30 Mathletics License please do so ASAP at the office so they can continue to access this programme. Students are encouraged to use Mathletics at home to support their learning in class.

### **Home Learning**

A reminder to parents to check out what your children are expected to do for home learning each week. Encourage them to be managing their time to complete portions of their work each night.

### **Immunisation Forms**

There are still a few outstanding immunisation forms to be returned to school. Please fill them in and return ASAP.

### **Bike Helmets**

The law requires you to wear a helmet if you are riding a bike. Anyone cycling to school must wear one!

### **COMING UP - some important dates to keep in mind**

**06 March-** WSC Triathlon

**11<sup>th</sup> March-** Year 7 & 8 Outdoor Education Day (just for those students who have this option Term 1)

**14<sup>th</sup> March-** Immunisations Year 7 Boostrix and Year 8 HPV #1

**18<sup>th</sup> March-** Full School Assembly, 11:40am

# *Of Secondary Importance:*

## *Year 9-13*

*Alistair Luke HOD English*



Students are now well into the new school year and after the array of public holidays and school events that dominate the first few weeks, students now have a period of three weeks where there are no interruptions to the class programmes. For senior students this means that assessments are likely to start falling due. Personal organisation becomes important when deadlines approach and students need to ensure they have a mechanism for recording due dates and test schedules. This generally takes the form of a diary or electronic organiser. Different things work for different students so there is no one right way as long as students have a method for organising their com-

mitments.

For year 11 students in particular, the first assessments of the year mean encountering the rich and sometimes confusing language of NCEA. Many students find this daunting but they should be encouraged to seek clarification from teachers or deans if they are unsure of any aspect of their academic programme or progress. Likewise, should parents have any questions or concerns about their son or daughter's NCEA programme or the language of assessment, please do not hesitate to contact the appropriate teacher or Dean.

To finish the NCEA theme, another issue that can complicate assess-

ments is student absence. If a student, particularly an NCEA student who is completing an assessment, is absent for any reason, it is vital that an explanation for that absence is received. Absences that are not explained by a legal guardian or are not for school trips, will not automatically generate extension time.

To finish, a huge congratulations to Williamson and Martyn Houses for their wins on the swimming and athletics days respectively. The athletics day result in particular was exceptionally close with Martyn taking the honours only after a recount.



### **Incredible Years Parenting Programme**

Incredible Years is a parenting programme which teaches all parents valuable skills and strategies. Come and have some fun and find out that we all encounter the same problems and there is a way to overcome them! Let's enhance our own natural skills!

Starts: Tuesday 8 March

To be held at: The Whangamata Community Services Trust, 101 Casement Road

Two sessions will be run. Daytime: 9.30am-12pm Evening: 6pm – 8.30pm

Child care will be available by arrangement.

Spaces will be limited. Please **phone 865 7065** to book a space. Facilitated by: Sharon Tanner and Kate Elliott



# *Thames Valley Secondary Schools - Swim Championships*

This week Whangamata Area School was represented at the Thames Valley Secondary Schools Swim championships in Matamata.

Eleven year 9-13 students, lead by Swimming Captain Reuben Holmes, competed against 12 Thames Valley high schools.

Congratulations to the team for their huge effort and for representing the school.

Results:

**Jayde Hanner** 1st 100m I.M. **NEW THAMES VALLEY RECORD**

1st 100m Fly

2nd 100m Free

**Tayla Taupaki** 1st 100m Breaststroke

1st 50m Fly

1st 50m Free

**Callum Fulton** 2nd 50m Fly

2nd 100m Fly

4th 100m Free

Junior girls Relay—Freestyle 3rd (Tayla Taupaki, Jayde Hanner, Helena Vaughan, Jessica Vaughan)

Intermediate Boys Relay - Medley 4th (Jamie Tohaia, Callum Fulton, Kael Cornwall, Jacob Beaver)

A huge thanks to **Ruth Hanner** for being team manager for the day and all the help she has given us in the last 3 weeks. Also thank you to parents **Shelley, Louise** and **Sarah** for time keeping and providing transport.

## *Full School Mufti Day Friday 11 March*

Gold coin donation please

Raising funds for UNICEF /Fiji



Whangamata Area School PTA presents

# NIGEL LATTA'S

## Modern Family Survival Guide

\* Warning: Some language may offend.

"Just because  
modern issues are  
complicated, doesn't  
mean that the  
solutions have  
to be."

MONDAY  
14TH MARCH  
7.30PM

WHANGAMATA  
MEMORIAL HALL

HUGE  
RAFFLE  
Up For  
Grabs On  
The Night!!

\$20

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW FROM  
W.A.S. OFFICE, INFO PLUS &  
WHANGA BOOKS - LIMITED SPACES

### SPONSORS:

- Slipper Superette • Mark Spiers Roofing
- Rainbow Cottage • The Physio Room
- Surge Electrical • Beach House Builders
- The Lincoln • Coastal Stone
- Whangamata Beach House
- Whangamata Jewellery Gallery
- ModoDesign



*From the PTA*

It would be extremely helpful if parents / caregivers could please donate a raffle item. Items can be handed in at the school office. Thank you.

# TERM 1 CALENDAR

This calendar was correct at time of printing however it is open for change. For confirmation please contact the school.

5	29	Ye 7-13 Athletics back up day
	1 March	Thames Valley Secondary School Swimming Sports
	2	TVSS Swimming Sports back up day New World visit Yr 5-6
	3	Kiwi Crusade
	4	Year 11 Surf Camp (Friday, Saturday & Sunday) Year 7-13 Assembly Kiwi Crusade
6	7	
	8	Thames Valley Primary Schools Swim Sports
	9	Thames Valley Secondary Schools Athletics
	10	
	11	TVSS Athletics Back Up day Marine Studies Diving until Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> Year 7/8 Outdoor education day
7	14	Year 7 and 10 vision screening 9.00am PTA fundraiser Memorial Hall 7.30pm <b>NIGEL LATTA</b>
	15	Thames Valley Primary Schools Triathlon
	16	
	17	
	18	TVPS Triathlon back up day Full school assembly Year 9 outdoor education day
8	21	
	22	
	23	Thames Valley Secondary Schools Show Jumping
	24	
	25	<b>EASTER HOLIDAY</b>
9	28	<b>EASTER HOLIDAY</b>
	29	<b>EASTER HOLIDAY</b>
	30	Beach Hop begins
	31	Thames Valley Secondary Schools Touch
	1 April	TVSS Touch back up day <b>NO SENIORS AT SCHOOL (BEACH HOP)</b>
10	4	
	5	Thames Valley Secondary Schools Tennis
	6	
	7	TVSS Tennis back up day <b>AMP Interviews all day</b>
	8	Year 7-13 Assembly
11	11	<b>TEACHER ONLY DAY – YEARS 1 – 8 ONLY</b>
	12	Waikato Swimming
	13	1-6 Tabloid sports
	14	1-6 Tabloid sports back up day Thames Valley Secondary School Sevens Rugby
	15	<b>LAST DAY OF TERM 1</b>

SUBWAY ORDER FORM				
Name				
Year		Year		
		Tick	Cost	
Ham	Ftlong		\$7.00	Cheese
	6 inch		\$4.50	Lettuce
	Wrap		\$4.50	Tomato
	Mini		\$3.00	Cucumbers
Roast	Ftlong		\$7.00	Pickles
Beef	6 inch		\$4.50	Capsicum
	Wrap		\$4.50	Carrots
	Mini		\$3.00	Mayo
Chicken	Ftlong		\$9.00	BBQ
	6 inch		\$5.50	HoneyMustard
	Wrap		\$5.50	<b>Extra's</b>
	Mini		\$4.00	Cookies:
Salami	Ftlong		\$7.00	M&M
	6 inch		\$4.50	Choc chip
	Wrap		\$4.50	Dbl Choc
	Mini		\$3.00	
Tuna	Ftlong		\$7.00	Yoghurt
	6 inch		\$4.50	
	Wrap		\$4.50	Apples
	Mini		\$3.00	<b>Drinks</b>

### SUSHI ORDER FORM

NAME.....

Product	4 pieces	Box	6 piece	Box
Chicken Avocado	\$6.80		\$10.20	
Chicken Avocado & Inari	\$6.80		\$10.20	
Salmon Avocado	\$7.20		\$10.80	
Salmon Avocado & Inari	\$7.20		\$10.80	

## Lunch Ordering at School

**No lunch orders on Mondays.** Can parents please ensure your child brings their lunch from home

**Tuesday—Friday:** Subway  
**Thursday only:** Sushi