

Newsletter

Issue 4

17 March 2016



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

We are fortunate that our school has a number of groups and individuals that supports our efforts to make us thrive! Our PTA does a brilliant job in this respect. Currently they are paying for beautification around the school, including replacing some imported trees with natives. Last night I really enjoyed hearing Nigel Latta at the town hall. He was witty, reassuring and had common sense messages for all of us who are parents, or grandparents. It was fantastic to see the hall full to overflowing. (This continues the WAS tradition of bringing high quality speakers to town and making them available to our community, e.g. Mike King and Mike Sabine). Our PTA is a small but effective group with several major fundraisers (including a biannual fete, the popular quiz night and the Sunday of Beach hop). Next time there is a PTA event, please offer to give them a hand because they are a huge boost to our school. My thanks to all of this team.

Last week myself and 3 staff members attended a 3 day hui at Apumoana marae in Rotorua. This reaffirmed our drive to ensure that all our students (and particularly Maori) are confident learners who feel well support-

ed as they pass through WAS. My thanks to Bronwyn, Racheal and Rebecca for leaving their families to continue our mahi.

The other highlight from last week was the visit of the Rugby World cup (Webb Ellis Trophy) to our school. This was part of a promotional tour by the NZRU to encourage more rugby at the secondary school level. The cup was with us for just over an hour and we were delighted that our rugby players and many of our junior players got to see it. Many of our seniors (and staff) made use of the photo opportunity. Well done to Anaru Aupouri-Te Huia who got to lift the cup and was given an AB jersey for his efforts. He made his whanau very proud. His father has suggested that this will be good practice for him when he lifts the cup 'for real' as part of the victorious 2027 All Blacks!

Our outdoor education classes are proving popular, which is great. However we will need to employ extra instructors particularly when the students are involved with bush or water activities. This extra support is needed to ensure that such expeditions are run safely and that all our students enjoy the experience.

Over the next 4 weeks there are 3 key dates for parents to note. All schools will be **closed for Easter** from March 25 until March 29th. This **5 day** break is always popular with all our families.

On **Friday April 1st** Beach Hop Friday, there will **no school** for **students in years 9-13** which will enable them to work in local businesses. The secondary teachers will be doing professional development.

On **Monday April 11th** there will be school for pupils in years 9-13 only. All our primary teachers will be attending a regional Maths Personnel Development session at Whenuakite! There will be **no school** on this day for **pupils in years 1-8**.

..... Cheers RP



Year 1—6

Tena koutou,

On Tuesday this week we had a large group of students travel to Cooks Beach to compete in a triathlon. Congratulations to the students and their parents for the overwhelming involvement. It is great to see students trying new sports supported by their parents.

Kapa Haka has started with Matua George. We are looking forward to seeing some of the new things they are learning in the near future.

Easter and Beach Hop are fast approaching. This is a good time to have a friendly discussion with your children about stranger danger and

keeping themselves safe.

During this time there are lots of fundraisers happening. Thank you in advance to everyone that is volunteering. It is great to get some funds from outside our community to help with camps.

A letter will be going home to some families for interviews later this term. We are targeting specific individuals this year as a trial. If you would like to discuss your child's progress and don't receive a request please contact the class teacher.

As the weather is getting cooler, not all classes will swim each day. This is at the discretion of the class teach-

er. Please ensure that all sweatshirts are named as children are taking them off as the day warms up and leaving them in the playground.

Hats are required to be worn until the end of term.

Congratulations to Mrs Somerville who now has 20/20 vision and has been able to get rid of her glasses.

Regards

Sue Brookes

Yr 1—8 Assembly Awards

<i>Room 9 Harekeke</i> Helena Thomas / Ronan Brunsden	<i>Room 3 Kaponga</i> Mac Hamilton / Nixon Fredericks Korby Orchard
<i>Room 4 Manuka</i>	<i>Room 5 Kowhai</i> KJ Hansen / Carter Gibson-Brockwell
<i>Room 6 Pohutukawa</i> Titoki Kerepeti Te Peke / Ryan Brickwood	<i>Room 7 Rimu</i> Carter Hannken / Ethan Jameson
<i>Room 20 Totara</i> Charlotte Mills / Talia Giles	<i>Room 8 Kauri</i> Jackson Mackwood / Kamryn Paul
<i>Yr 7/8 MJ</i> Amber-Leigh Williamson	<i>Yr 7/8 IF</i> Joshua Crowskey-Lee

News and Views from the Middle Ages

Year 7/8

Year 7 & 8 Camp 2016

On Friday 8th April (Week 10) students have the opportunity to participate in a "Work Day," to fundraise money to go towards petrol and paying for our parent helpers to attend camp. A form was sent home on Monday that is to be filled in by students, parents and employers. Please fill in these forms and return back to school ASAP.

Mathletics

All students have been provided with a Mathletics 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.

COMING UP- some important dates to keep in mind

18th March- Full School Assembly, 11:40am

25th March- Easter Holiday

28th March- Easter

Holiday

29th March- Easter Holiday

30th March- Beach Hop Begins

We have been learning to read and write some descriptive texts...

Pristine, portrait,
Opoutere Beach just
before sunset.

It's January 2016,
another lovely night in
paradise.

The sky fades from a periwinkle blue to a soft light purple as the clouds float away like angels. The horizon stationary, as the stars glide into sight. Silent trees stand tall and proud while gazing across the sparkling moonlit waters.

The sand gentle to the touch comforts your every step. A cool breeze blows through your hair tickling the back of your neck.

Seagulls squawk excitedly singing a sweet melody. You hear the

waves crash like drums onto the shore.

A peaceful afternoon that magically turns into a lovely night.

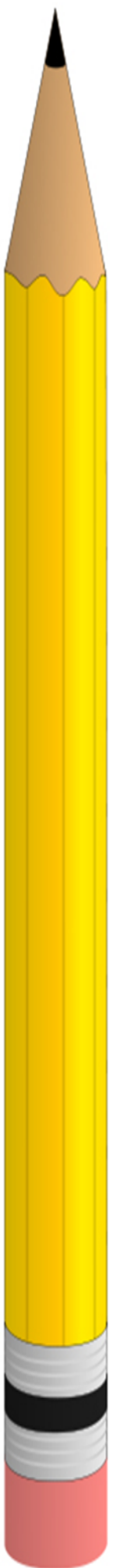
By Carn Marsh



Of Secondary Importance:

Year 9-13

Alistair Luke HOD English



The results are rolling in. Students in NCEA classes are now starting to submit and receive grades for assessments in various subjects. Congratulations are due to Amber Abbott and Danielle Jones in English, and Tiarna Sellars and Quinn McCabe in Chemistry who have started the year with excellence grades in their first internal assessments.

Outside of the classroom outstanding results are also rolling in. The highlight of the last week was the outstanding performance of Callum Fulton at the National Division Two Swimming Championships in Invercargill. Callum won gold in both the 50 and 100 metre Butterfly, taking several

seconds off his personal best in both events in order to win. We were also represented at this event by Jayde Hanner. Congratulations to both of these students on their dedication to swimming. In other sports, rugby and netball are having trials and weigh ins this week, whilst basketball training is well underway. Kapa Haka has started this week, Stage Challenge planning is gathering momentum, and Music Club continues on Mondays after school. The opportunities are there for those who are willing to accept them.

With the summer weather drifting off and colder mornings starting to creep in, it is important that students

are aware of the uniform regulations. The school sweater or jacket are the options for warmth and students layering underneath their school shirts must ensure that the sleeves of undergarments do not hang down. Our uniform is an important part of our school's identity and profile in the community and we appreciate the support of students and parents in ensuring it is worn in a manner that positively promotes our school.

Have a great fortnight and enjoy the Easter break

Thames Valley Secondary Schools Swim Championships

Corrections to the last newsletter.

Jade Hanner

1st 100m Fly (not IM) NEW THAMES VALLEY RECORD

Tayla Taupaki

1st 100m Backstroke (not breaststroke)



Rugby World Cup - The Webb Ellis Trophy

Had a flying visit to Whangamata Area School last week. The NZ Rugby Union spoke to our secondary school rugby players. Our thanks to the Rugby Union for bringing the cup to our school.

Food Technology Department

A huge THANKS to Musky at **Meat at the Beach** for sharpening our hospitality chef knives!. Much appreciated.

Support person required

Support person required (teacher aide position) to support a student with specific learning needs.

Teacher aide experience would be an advantage.

Contact: Janice Hope / Sue Brookes

via the school office

Food Technology Department

A Pic collage of students at work



TERM 1 CALENDAR

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

7	14	Year 7 and 10 vision screening 9.00am PTA fundraiser Memorial Hall 7.30pm NIGEL LATTA
	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	EASTER HOLIDAY
9	28	EASTER HOLIDAY
	29	EASTER HOLIDAY
	30	Beach Hop begins
	31	Thames Valley Secondary Schools Touch
	1 April	TVSS Touch back up day NO SENIORS AT SCHOOL (BEACH HOP)
10	4	
	5	Thames Valley Secondary Schools Tennis Year 7/8 workday
	6	
	7	TVSS Tennis back up day AMP Interviews all day
	8	Year 9-13 Assembly
11	11	TEACHER ONLY DAY – YEARS 1 – 8 ONLY
	12	Waikato Swimming
	13	1-6 Tabloid sports
	14	1-6 Tabloid sports back up day Thames Valley Secondary School Sevens Rugby
	15	LAST DAY OF TERM 1