

# Newsletter

Issue 14 8 September  
2016



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



I would like to open this newsletter by acknowledging the growth of 2 significant groups within our school. Firstly, a huge **"well done"** to my **staff** as a collective. We have been involved in 2 MOE initiatives based on establishing positive relationships at all levels of our kura. Such relationships increase the quality of teaching. I am delighted to report that a recent external appraisal found that there had been a marked improvement in the quality of teaching at all levels of our school. Well done to my staff. Another **"well done"** is due to our **students**. I recently escorted 2 very experienced Principals through our school and they commented (after a walk around the school at break one) that our school was "clearly thriving". I enquired how they came to that decision? They were impressed by the warm welcome from all our students, including our teenagers, the fact that everyone was happy and the fact that all our classrooms were unlocked. This last factor is almost unheard of in any secondary school and yet our students have embraced the fact that your belongings are safe whilst you are out enjoying the break. My thanks to both groups.

Our growing roll continues. At this stage we are considering the creation of new classes in year 7/8 and another in years 1-4. We won't be able to confirm these extra classes until the MOE confirms our 2017 staffing later in the month. I thought it's important

for parents to know about our intentions. Therefore it's a **"well done"** to the **parents** for choosing our school.

Our 7/8 students are away on camp this week. They are having a fantastic time and my thanks to Mary-Ann Judd and the other staff for all the organisation and fundraising that enabled this camp. As many of you will realise the Health and Safety requirements of such events have increased markedly but we are determined to try and maintain such camps. Next week our year 12s are away on their ski week, and it too is a major logistical exercise. Thanks to Michelle Tupper for organising this.

Our recent tsunami alert reminded us of some harsh realities. We know we can evacuate our entire school (with lunches + clothing) to the top of Chevron in about 11 minutes. All emergency services are assembling on high ground. If the town was destroyed we might be there for up to 3 days. The emergency services would have control of people going back to town, but we know we can access the drinking water in the town water supply. **Even if you cannot reach us you need to know that your children are safe and they will be looked after until you can reach us!** It might be timely to have a discussion with your children about staying safe on high ground until they can be collected.

Since our last newsletter we have made an appointment for a Deputy

Principal. Mr McKenzie will be a tough act to follow and he is going to leave a big hole in our school, when he finishes at the end of the year. There were 26 applicants for the job and we interviewed 4 people. It gives me pleasure to notify you that Mr Alistair Luke has been appointed as DP to start next year.

Finally just another reminder that our school will be **closed on September 13<sup>th</sup>**. This is so staff can attend a combined Union meeting in Thames. As many of you are aware the MOE proposal to introduce a changed funding model has some potential fish hooks. Of particular concern is doing away with the funding formula which guarantees extra staffing as a roll increases and that students with special needs will not carry guaranteed funding. This would mean that if a school was in a tight financial situation (**we are not**) it might be forced into choosing between student needs and all the other requirements of a school eg support staff, power, computers etc. All our union staff will be attending next week's meeting. Thanks for your understanding and support. Many thanks ....Cheers RP

***Could all trophies from last year please be returned to school urgently***

# Year 1—6

Sue Brookes

Assistant Principal Yr 1-6



Tena koutou,

Everyone is enjoying the spring weather at the moment. It is great to see the students being able to enjoy the less muddy field.

Last week a group of parents and students went to Waihi to the GymSport competition. Everyone enjoyed the day. Many members of the group got placed in the competition. Congratulations to all that competed.

The School Jump Jam Team made it through to

the North Island finals. It is a pity that it is on at the same time as the local Dance Production. Well done to the team and Mrs Baxter for all the hard work and training.

A group of students did some fence weaving last week to help advertise the fabric show that is being held in the memorial hall this weekend.

On Wednesday we have a group going to the Thames Valley Cross Country Champs in Whitianga. Good luck to everyone who is com-

peting.

There is a fundraiser at the Run , Walk Festival this weekend. Thank you to all who are helping. This will help lower the cost of the year 5/6 Camp.

It is hard to believe that the term is nearly finished. Keep smiling and enjoy the improving weather.

Regards Sue Brookes

## Yr 1—8 Assembly Awards

<i>Room 9 Harekeke</i> Kimliam Wharepapa / Ronan Brunsten	<i>Room 3 Kaponga</i> Tyson Hurst /Nova Rowberry /Izabell Hansen
<i>Room 4 Manuka</i> Millie Wilkinson/ Lachie Ashford / Archie Gleeson	<i>Room 5 Kowhai</i> Jamie Thornton /Bailey Mackwood
<i>Room 6 Pohutukawa</i> Cotter Jensen/ Stacie Bathurst	<i>Room 7 Rimu</i> Izzy Milne /Mussy Taikato
<i>Room 20 Totara</i> Brock Taikato	<i>Rm 8B</i> Ben Milne /Finn Sutherland
<i>Year 7/8 IF</i> Jordn Casse / Brianna Fulton	<i>Year 7/8 MJ</i>



# *News and Views from the Middle Ages Year 7/8*

Maryanne Judd  
HOD Yr 7/8



There will be no “News and Views” this week as the year 7/8 students have been away on camp.

## *Of Secondary Importance: Year 9-13*

*Alistair Luke HOD  
English*



Another big fortnight has passed for students involved in Education Outside the Classroom. A group of year 11, 12 and 13 students took on the Tough Guy and Gal Challenge in Rotorua. Students who run inside certain times are eligible for NCEA credits at levels two and three and to this end the following students were able to achieve these credits:

**Jaak Buetzow**

**Reuben Fleetwood**

**Tautahi Hansen**

**Teppey Makino**

**Trinity Moore**

**Matthew Thompson.**

In addition, **Anna-Maria Sagas**, one of our international students, ran a fast enough time to gain merit. All of these students are year 11 so it is particularly pleasing for them to gain these credits at level two. All students involved learnt a great deal from the experience and are keen to improve and return next year. Thanks and congratulations to **Hayley Leach**, who has been helping to train the students, and who also participated on the day.

The year ten Outdoor Education class spent the night in the bush at Wentworth Valley last Friday. The students impressed Mr Wynn and Mr Murray with their determination to survive the night without sleeping bags.

Senior students are, at present, involved in their practice external examinations. These are important as barometers for how students are placed for their final examinations in November. They also carry weight as a reference point if a student is unable to sit the final examination for any reason. Students will receive feedback on their performance in class and reports will be sent home during the last week of term so parents and students can discuss areas for improvement.

Finally, a further congratulations to the following students who have achieved excellence in internal assessments recently. In Level one Food Technology **Marley Emerson, Kayla Smith, Tylar Campbell, and Grace-Ann Lopes** all achieved this grade in their last assessment. In level two English **Quinn McCabe, Ben Williams, Kelsey Pugh, and Molly Laing** have all gained excellence grades recently. Well done to all these students.

Nga Mihi



## *The “Nurses Natter”*

Tracey Hilt - Public  
Health Nurse



### ***Important news flash from Waikato District Hospital Board—Population Health***

**SORE  
THROATS**

▼

**RHEUMATIC  
FEVER**

▼

**HEART  
DAMAGE**

Get **ALL** sore throats checked at your swabbing service as soon as possible to help prevent Rheumatic Fever.

**FREE** sore throat swabbing is now offered at your local pharmacy, Pathlab, some high school clinics and GP practices.

Check out your closest swabbing service here: [www.rheumaticfever.health.govt.nz](http://www.rheumaticfever.health.govt.nz)

The graphic features a woman and two young boys standing in front of a house. The text is overlaid on a teal background with a circular pattern.

Please refer to the link above for further information or you can contact me on  
021 241 7800

## ***P T A BBQ & Tent***

Any school groups wanting to use the PTA's BBQ or tent must book from the school office. For the BBQ there is a \$20 bond with a refund of \$10 if it is brought back clean and tidy. All users must bring their own gear - utensils, oil, gloves, sauces, etc and bring their own cleaning gear. Gas bottle must be refilled and returned immediately. Any damage must be reported to the office.

The tent must not be dragged - repairs are the responsibility of the user.

TERM 3 CALENDAR		
7	5	Year 7-8 camp week
	6	Senior exams
	7	Senior exams Thames valley Primary School Cross Country
	8	Senior Exams
	9	Full School Assembly Mates and Dates Year 12 NZ Secondary School Swim champs Thames Valley Primary Schools Cross country back up
	Sun 11	NZSS Swim champs Ski Trip year 12 until Friday 16th
8	12	Ski trip year 12
	13	Ski trip year 12 Waikato Primary Schools Cross Country
	14	Yr 9-10 Drama performance ski trip year 12
	15	Ski trip year 12 Tairua parents 2017 5.15pm
	16	
9	19	Basketball fundraiser
	20	
	21	Thames Valley Primary Schools Touch tournament
	22	
	23	<b>Last day term 3</b> Loud Shirt Day Mates and Dates year 12 11-13 Reports issued 9-13 Assembly LAST DAY TERM 3

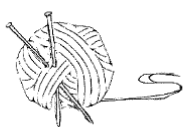
This calendar was correct at time of printing. For confirmation on any of these entries please contact the teacher involved or the school office

## Give it a Go

*with Fibre*

10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> September 2016  
Whangamata Memorial Hall  
9.30am-3pm

Learn to: **weave**  
**spin**  
**felt**  
**knit**  
**crochet**  
**... and more**



**A weekend of hands-on  
demos and workshops**




## VEGETARIAN Festival

**FREE ENTRY FOR ALL**  
**SUNDAY 9th OCT 2016**

**10AM-3PM**

- Over 30 delicious food stalls
- Cooking demos
- Live entertainment

 [facebook.com/waihivegetarian](https://www.facebook.com/waihivegetarian)

 132 Landlyst Road RD1, Waihi Academy