

# Newsletter - Thursday 28th November 2019

#### KAWAKA EOTC TRIP

On Tuesday the Kawaka Syndicate went to the Fell Museum in Featherston and a walk to Cross Creek. The highlights of the day were ...

- The video about the history of the Fell Museum "Wow we learnt heaps. It felt like we were there!",
- Seeing the train..."They even started up the train engine".
- Meeting Neil from the heritage museum and learning about the POW camp "They were kept there for ages during the war".
- Riding the mini fell train in the park "We screamed and screamed really LOUD in the tunnels".
- Walking through the bush to Cross Creek.

It was a great day and the parent helpers and teachers were exhausted at the end LOL! Thank you to all the parent helpers and the Kawaka teachers for all your organisation.





### CHILDREN'S HEALTH

Here are some important notes to be aware of:

- Dehydration and clothing Please help us to remind your children to drink a lot of water during the day and to wear clothes that they can easily remove/put on to adjust to the changing temperatures. This will help them to avoid headaches and sore tummies.
- Hay fever This year seems particularly bad for hay fever. We are having a number of children come to the office with red eyes from rubbing, sneezing, headaches etc. If your child has hay fever and requires medication eg: eye drops or tablets during the day can you please drop these off at the office. This means that with your permission we can help give your child their medication rather than ringing you to come and collect them.
- Dental Bus Please do not panic if your child is not seen this year as the Dental Bus will be back at the beginning of 2020. As a growing school the dental service takes longer than previous years to see all our children. If you have any urgent concerns about your child's teeth and they need to be seen this year pop into the Dental Bus to talk to them.

## SAVE THE DATES AND COME ALONG

# Curriculum Consultation Parent evening: Monday 2nd December 7.30-8.30 pm

We need as many parents as possible to come along for our Greytown School Curriculum Consultation Parent Evening. We will have nibbles to entice you as you discuss some easy topics with questions to get your ideas on areas of the curriculum we are revising. These discussions will help shape our learning programmes going forward! See the flyer at the back for more information.

# Celebration Awards: Monday 16th December 11 am-12 pm

Our annual Celebration Awards Assembly will on the second to last day of term and held in <u>our school hall</u>. Teachers will contact parents of the recipients of the 3 class awards prior to this day, and we hope you can come and see these being awarded to your child. In addition to this, we will be

- giving out our new school badges to those students who have achieved 3 years of culture, service and sports achievement to the school.
- announcing the Head girl/boy and Deputy Head girl/boy for 2020.
- awarding trophies and certificates that children of all ages are eligible for.

During all of these awards, we will also have the choir and lipsync winners performing,

# Final Assembly: Tuesday 17th Dec 12:00pm - 1:00ish

Our final assembly will again be held in the <u>Kuranui College Auditorium</u>. During this assembly, we will be

- Thanking our current Head girl/boy and Deputy Head girl/boy for all their hard work in 2019, and officially handing over their leadership roles to the new 2020 leaders.
- Awarding Year 8 trophies and certificates.
- Final Speeches
- Our Kapa Haka and School Band will perform

#### Please note

- we have said the end time is 1ish. This assembly may run over the one hour we are planning it does depend on how long it takes to award all the prizes with children getting up/down etc.
- parents need to pick up their child from Kuranui on the last day earlier than normal as this will be the official end to our 2019 school year there will be no school bus running that day.
- Black Hats and House Captains roles will not be announced until the start of 2020.

We hope that you can come to all or some of these events as they are important parts of our school life and it is wonderful to celebrate all that our children have been involved in.

#### STAFFING AND CLASSES FOR 2020

Behind the scenes, we have been employing a few new staff members, promoting a few others and sadly starting to say goodbye to those not returning in 2020.

We would like to congratulate Gaylene Hansen who has been appointed as our new Kōwhai leader for 2020 and beyond. Gaylene has done an incredible job as our SENCO leader this year and will continue in this role also. I would like to say a huge thank you to the stunning job that Dorreen Mackenzie has done as Kowhai leader over the last 18 months while Kath McRae has been on maternity leave. Dorreen will be moving into another leadership role focusing on strengthening our Māori partnerships and curriculum development.

As you know we are saying goodbye to a few staff members.

Megan Jacobson has resigned as she is now living in Christchurch.

- Deidre Hodgkinson, one of our STEAM teachers has resigned as she has two children getting married in early 2020 and is looking to further her studies and community work in Masterton. We may see her around relieving occasionally.
- Sheri Wales will be returning back to semi-retirement as a reliever.
- Yolandi Verwey will be leaving us to work in other local South Wairarapa Schools. We may see her around relieving occasionally too.
- Natalie Orbell is leaving as she has recently graduated from teachers college and has been successful in gaining a position at Featherson School Te Kura o Paetūmokai.

I would like to thank these people on behalf of our children, staff, BOT, parents and community for all their numerous contributions to our school, their care and fun they have brought to our school and for the role they have played in shaping our children's education. We wish all of you the very best for your future successes.

In saying goodbye we also say hello and welcome to two new staff members in 2020.

- Mr Daniel Salter will be teaching in our Year 5/6 Kahikatea team. Daniel is an experienced young teacher who is currently working in a collaborative learning environment at Kelson School. Daniel has recently purchased a house in Featherston with his wife and 7-week old son Henry. He is currently a syndicate leader at Kelson School, leading his team. He comes with a lot of strengths especially collaborative pedagogy and practice, digital curriculum and maths.
- Nickee Verstraten will be teaching in our Year 3/4 Kawaka Team. Nickee Verstraten is another experienced young teacher who is moving from Matamata to Masterton in the new year with her partner. Nickee is currently working in a collaborative team with years 4-6. She comes with strength in collaborative pedagogy and practice, digital curriculum, sports and literacy.

This means that our Teaching Team and Class Structure will be

# Kōwhai (Yr 0-2)

Leader: Mrs Gaylene Hansen

Room 4 Reception Class - Mrs Kirsten Matthews (4 days) and Mrs Kath McRae (1 day)

Room 5 Year 1 and 2 - Mrs Gaylene Hansen (4 days) and Mrs Kath McRae (1 day)

Room 2 Year 1 and 2 - Mrs Nikki Regnault (3 days) and Miss Alison Morgan (2 days)

Room 1 Year 2 - Ms Dorreen Mackenzie

#### Kawaka (Yr 3 and 4)

Leader: Mrs Rhonda Jones

Room 6 Year 3 and 4 - Miss Nickee Verstraten

Room 7 Year 3 and 4 - Miss Rachel Burt

Room 8 Year 3 and 4 - Mrs Sue Lyford

Room 9 Year 3 and 4 - Mrs Rhonda Jones

## Kahikatea (Yr 5 and 6)

Leader: Mrs Penny Hopkins

Room 13 Year 5 and 6 - Mr Derek Walker Room 14 Year 5 and 6 - Mr Daniel Salter

Room 15 Year 5 and 6 - Mrs Penny Hopkins (3 days) and Mrs Tina Reynolds (2 days)

Room 16 Year 5 and 6 - Mr Blake Walker aka Mr BW's

## Kauri (Yr 7 and 8)

Leader: Mrs Alex Henderson (Miss Southall is getting married in January! YAH!!) Room 10 Year 7 and 8 - Mrs Tina Reynolds (3 days) and Mr Neil Preston (2 days)

Room 11 Year 7 and 8 -Mrs Alex Henderson Room 12 Year 7 and 8 - Mr David French

#### GROWTH MINDSET AND RESILIENCE

As you can see over the next two and a half weeks there will be award celebrations with cups, certificates etc awarded and some of the student leadership roles announced. This will mean that some children will miss out on an award which is never easy. Please reassure them it is not that we do not believe in them, value them and appreciate all that they do. An example is the Head Boy/Girl and deputy roles. This year we had a large number of amazing speeches and candidates for these roles. It was an extremely hard choice involving voting from students and staff. It was not easy to make a decision.

As we are locking in the final placements for 2020 classes and wrapping up the 2019 year, children will start experiencing a range of emotions. Some of these will be based on the reality of change coming, others based on perceptions of what they think will happen and others on pure tiredness. These feelings can be sadness with leaving a teacher or certain friends, apprehension of what may come, and others will be excited as they move up or around the school. Like us please take time to discuss these changes with your child and how they are feeling. Coping positively with change is an important life skill to learn and teach. Please continue to support and reassure them that change is part of life and often brings new opportunities and friends that they never would have anticipated.

#### **FINALLY**

We are already really looking forward to 2020 as there are going to be some big things happening that have been in the planning stages in 2019. We will have the start of our new senior building construction beginning by the end of the year, the bike track will be completed in the new year and the start of a new play-based learning area outside Rooms 1 and 2 will also begin. Greytown School will definitely be moving forward in an exciting way so watch this space and hold on to your seats!

**Miss Patrice O'Connor** 

### **Dates For Your Diary**

29th Nov Mufti day/Sausage sizzle1st Dec Year 8 Moving On Conference3rd Dec Regional Athletics

# School Holiday program in Hall

Wednesday 18th Dec to Friday 20th Dec And 27th-30th January Please contact Kylee 027 8782611 or Kylee.clint@gmail for more information.

## **Mufti Day**

This Friday November 29th we will be holding a Mufti-day. Students are asked to bring a gold coin. We will also be having a sausage sizzle on that day for \$2. The money collected will go towards supporting one of our Year 8 students, Oscar Whibley Smith who has recently been diagnosed with scoliosis (curvature of the spine). The surgery he needs can only be performed at Starship in Auckland. The money raised will help support Oscar and his family's travel to Auckland.

#### **Old Mobile Phones**

Just a reminder that we collect old mobile phones to send them off for recycling. There is a box in the office where they can be left.

### "Pack The Bus"

This Christmas we are taking part in the "Pack the Bus" campaign an initiative with Tranzit, Property Brokers, Mediaworks, Mitre10 Mega Masterton & the 3 Wairarapa District Councils. "Pack the Bus" aims to PACK a Tranzit school bus FULL of donated Christmas Gifts which will be distributed by the Wairarapa Foodbanks prior to Christmas to those families in our community who need extra support ensuring they also have an awesome Christmas. The 'Pack the Bus' will visit us on Tuesday 10th December from 10.30am to 12pm where you can donate gifts. So bring along your unwrapped presents to help fill it up.



**School Information** 

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