



# WHAKATANE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

## Newsletter 10th February 2023

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### Kia Ora Whanau

Ko Mike Webster toku ingoa, ko ahau te tumuaki o te kura takawaenga o Whakatane. Hello, I am Mike Webster and I am the Principal of Whakatane Intermediate. Greetings and welcome to Whakatane Intermediate for the 2023 school year. It is with genuine excitement that we begin another year of quality teaching & learning, countless opportunities & experiences and of course new partnerships as we all work together, to guide our students through another year of education.

This year saw a new way of starting, with a different first week programme to welcome in new students and their whanau. It began with a day to informally meet the teacher and view the classroom, before everyone joined together for the traditional powhiri and welcome into the school. It was great to see such large numbers of new and eager students, together with their whanau at these times wanting to join our school. The feedback has been very positive and the school has quickly settled into a routine with a real enthusiastic atmosphere amongst the students and staff. There is real feeling that this year will be something amazing, something special and we look forward to doing what we can to make that happen.

It is a pleasure to welcome some fantastic new staff members into our School. **Mr Ben McDonald** joins **Te Whanau o Wainui te Whara**, **Mrs Kelsy Grace** and **Mr Angus Liley** join **Te Whanau o Otamakaokao**, **Mrs Jade MacFarlane** and **Ms Sarah Afriyie-Agyemang** join **Te Whanau o Wairere** and **Mrs Lynne Robb** joins **Te Aronui (Technology Team)**. All these staff members have settled in extremely well and are looking to make a positive contribution to the school. In late news, **Mrs Kelly Warneford** secured a position with the RTL service and began there at the beginning of this year. We farewelled Ms Warneford last week and thank her for all that she has contributed to the school.

This week the school was proud and excited to officially open the Anne Volmuller Turf. This multi-purpose artificial turf was completed over the holidays and is another amazing facility available to the students. The turf project has been a multi-year project and it was fantastic to finally open it and celebrate its completion. Mrs Anne Volmuller is a former long serving staff member and Deputy Principal of Whakatane Intermediate, whose dream it was for the school to have such a facility. Her passion and commitment to the school is captured within this new asset, and it is appropriate that it is named after her. The day itself was bathed in sunshine and we thank our guests who attended, in particular Kaumatua Rapata Kopae who blessed the Turf. The students have already enjoyed using it at break times and pretty soon it will be filled with sports practices and Physical Education Lessons.

Next week we are holding our Whanau Teacher Evenings, where whanau can meet with their child's teacher and discuss goals for the year. It is an ideal time to continue building a connection with your child's teacher. We therefore warmly invite you to make a booking for the evening and look forward to seeing you in school next week. Another event that occurs next week is our School Swimming Sports held on Friday February 17th at the Whakatane Aquatic Centre. This year it returns to its full school participation structure and we welcome all whanau to come and support the students.

Finally we would like to wish **Mrs Helen Dobbin** all the best for her upcoming, two week voyage to the Sub Antarctic Islands aboard a Royal New Zealand Navy vessel. Mrs Dobbin won this amazing opportunity through the Blake Inspire for Teacher Foundation, after attending other professional development courses. We look forward to hearing how the trip went and seeing all the learning activities that will be brought into the school.

The doors of Whakatane Intermediate remain open to friends and whanau. Please feel free to contact us about any concerns, questions or offers of support at any stage.

Nga Mihi  
Mike Webster

### **IMPORTANT - CYCLONE GABRIELLE UPDATE**

At this point in time, Whakatane Intermediate School will be open as usual on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February. Please bring appropriate wet weather clothing to school if necessary. If whanau feel it is unsafe to travel, then feel free to keep your child at home and advise the school. The school will update via the Facebook page and Website over the weekend if there is any change.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February – Goal Setting Interviews  
12.00pm – 6.00pm (see below)  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Goal Setting Interviews  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February – School Swimming Sports  
(see information below)  
3.15pm – 6.00pm (see below)  
Friday April 7<sup>th</sup> - Good Friday

### **STUDENTS' OWN CHROMEBOOKS**

If your child HAS NOT had their device connected to our system yet, they need to bring it (fully charged) to the office first thing Monday morning (13<sup>th</sup> February.)

### Mission Statement

“A friendly, caring school with quality learning and quality behaviour that respects the needs of the individual student in the spirit of partnership between the school, caregivers and the community.”

“He kura manaaki, he kura atawhai i nga tikanga rangatira, nga tikanga ahua noho o te taura i roto i te wairua ngatahi kei waenganui i te kura, nga kaitiaki me te iwi kainga.”

### PARENT/TEACHER GOAL SETTING INTERVIEWS 2023

Our goal-setting interviews will be held at Whakatane Intermediate School On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February (1.00pm-6.00pm) and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February (3.15pm – 6.00pm.)

We invite and encourage all parents/caregivers to take this opportunity to attend a one-to-one interview of 15 minutes at which your child's learning and future goals will be discussed. School will close at 12.00pm (noon) on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February. Lunches will be provided. Buses will still run at the normal time of 3.00pm for those students who are not being picked up at 12.00pm or during the afternoon. Any other students who cannot be collected at noon can be supervised until 3.00pm also.

Interviews can be booked online by visiting

[www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz) and using the code **uf6n9**.

The booking site is now open. Select your preferred time. You will receive confirmation by email within minutes of your booking. If you are unable to book online, please call the office and we can book a time to suit. It is our goal to have all parents/caregivers attend these interviews.

Regards, Rebecca Paterson (Deputy Principal.)



### VANUATU TRIP 2023

Fly to a tropical paradise ... mix with locals and snorkel in warm, sparkling waters amidst colourful fish ... a cultural experience of a lifetime! We have an exciting trip on offer at Whakatane Intermediate School – one of the many amazing opportunities that our school creates for the students.

In Term 3 we are planning to lead a group to Vanuatu to take part in an extraordinary cultural experience. The students will learn about traditional village life, visit a school, interact with the local children and enjoy many other experiences. If you are definitely interested in learning more, get your "Registration of Interest" form from the school office. This needs to be filled out by a parent/caregiver and returned. We will then have a meeting on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 5.15pm at school to talk about this exciting, self-funded adventure. A non-refundable deposit of \$500.00 will be required.

Regards, Rebecca Paterson (Deputy Principal.)

**TO CONTACT THE DENTAL CLINIC  
PHONE 07 307-1548**

### SCHOOL SWIMMING SPORTS - FRIDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

All students will walk in class groups to the Aquatic Centre at Rex Morpeth Park at 9.00am (please arrive at school by 8.45am) and return to school at 2.30pm. Students need to wear correct uniform to/from school and we suggest they wear their togs under their uniforms. (PLEASE NAME ALL ITEMS CLEARLY.) Students need to bring a hat, togs and towel. School lunches will be provided. They should also have sunblock and apply it regularly. School sunblock will be available also. We welcome parents and friends of the school to come along and support our students on the day. A decision will be made at 9.00am on Friday morning to cancel or postpone if the weather is too wet. In that case, all students will remain at school.

### BREAKFAST CLUB – MULTI CULTURAL ROOM

**FROM 8.15AM MONDAY TO THURSDAY – ALL WELCOME**  
Staff member Nicola Marsh is hosting a **FREE Breakfast Club** this year in our Multi Cultural Room.

### HPV FOR YEAR 8 GIRLS AND BOYS

All year 8 students will have a short education session on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February about the HPV vaccination. Students will receive a form to take home, fill in and return to school. It is a personal choice whether you would like your child to have the vaccine or not, but the **forms must be returned informing the school of your decision.**

**Please note, this is not a vaccination for Covid-19.**

Here is a link for more information regarding the HPV vaccination: [www.health.govt.nz/hpv](http://www.health.govt.nz/hpv).

Regards, Tai Miskell (Deputy Principal.)

### IMPORTANT - ROAD SAFETY

**We are concerned about traffic in James Street and Fraser Street in the morning and afternoon. We need all parents/caregivers to comply with the traffic regulations e.g. no parking on broken yellow lines, footpaths or driveways.**

**Also - the speed limit around schools is 40kph.**

**This is to ensure the safety of all students.**

**PLEASE DO NOT PARK OR TURN INTO THE BUS BAY.**

**SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB** - Book Club catalogues have gone out to classes. Please have orders and money (with cheques made payable to Scholastic NZ) to the Library by **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February**. More catalogues are available from the school library. Many thanks for your support. You can also order and pay online with Book Club Loop - or visit [mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz](http://mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz) for details. Thank you, Sue Wadsworth, School Librarian.

**ASTHMA INHALERS - IMPORTANT** - If your child has an inhaler, please ensure they bring it to school each day and know how to use it properly. We have an inhaler here if necessary but if a student is not carrying their own inhaler, we will always call a caregiver before administering it. Any questions – please call the office.

### SECOND HAND UNIFORM

**THERE IS A GOOD SELECTION OF SECOND HAND ITEMS (JERSEYS, SHORTS AND POLO SHIRTS) FOR SALE AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE. \$10.00 & \$20.00 PER ITEM. CASH ONLY PLEASE.**

### WHAKATANE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

#### TERM DATES 2023

**Term 1:** Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April

**Term 2:** Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June

**Term 3:** Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September

**Term 4:** Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December

### Mission Statement

**“A friendly, caring school with quality learning and quality behaviour that respects the needs of the individual student in the spirit of partnership between the school, caregivers and the community.”**

**“He kura manaaki, he kura atawhai i nga tikanga rangatira, nga tikanga ahua noho o te tauira i roto i te wairua ngatahi kei waenganui i te kura, nga kaitiaki me te iwi kainga.”**



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