



WHAKATANE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 9th FEBRUARY 2024

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Kia Ora Whanau

Ko Mike Webster toku ingoa, te tumuaki o te kura takawaenga o Whakatane. Hello, I am Mike Webster and I am the Principal of Whakatane Intermediate School. Greetings and welcome to all new and returning whanau for the 2024 school year. It is with genuine excitement that we begin another year of countless opportunities & experiences, and new partnerships as we guide our students through this year of education. Underpinning our routines is the usual quality teaching & learning programmes that our school is known for. The first few days went very smoothly and it was great to see such large numbers of new and eager students, together with their whanau meeting their teachers and attending the official powhiri. The school has quickly settled into a routine with a real enthusiastic atmosphere amongst the students, staff and within the classrooms.

It is a pleasure to welcome some fantastic new staff members into our Kura. Ms Tessa Parker joins Te Whanau o Otamakaokao, Ms Sarah Morgan joins Te Whanau o Wainui te Whara and Whaea Ashton Thrupp joins Te Whanau o Ohinemataroa as Syndicate Leader. We welcome Mrs Anne Rodden and Mrs Trish Pearce into Te Puna Oranga, our Learning Support Centre, and see Mrs Jose Rust return as the School's SENCO. We also welcome Whaea Haruru Douglas into the Senior Leadership Team in her new role as Deputy Principal. All these staff members have settled in extremely well and we look forward to working with them as they help provide a quality learning experience for our students.

This week has seen the regular activities of the term one programme begin with the annual Surf Days. Each class spends a whole day at West End, Ohope Beach with Ollie Dobbin and his team at the Salt Spray Surf School. The day is about building and developing connections within the class as friends, and helps to set a positive and supportive culture for the rest of the year. The students get the chance to learn to surf and can share their experience as a class when they return to school. It is always a highlight of the term for each class and Ollie and his team do an excellent job in safely managing the learning experience. It is also great to have whanau present for these days and we thank you for your support.

To help the safe movement of students, particularly after school, could whanau refrain from dropping off and/or collecting their children in the car park on James Street. We feel it is a little unsafe to have vehicles in and out of this carpark, with so many students walking around.

Thank you for your support in making the start of the year so positive. The doors of Whakatane Intermediate are always 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



Tuesday 13th February – School Swimming Sports

- Monday 26th February – Board Meeting
- Wednesday 20th March – Goal Setting Interviews
- Thursday 21st March – Goal Setting Interviews
- Friday 29th March – Good Friday – Public Holiday
- Monday 1st April – Easter Monday – Public Holiday
- Tuesday 2nd April – Easter Tuesday – Public Holiday
- Friday 12th April – Last day Term 1
- Monday 29th April – First day Term 2

PARENT/TEACHER GOAL SETTING INTERVIEWS 2024

Our goal-setting interviews will be held at Whakatane Intermediate School on:
Wednesday 20th March (1.00pm- 6.00pm)
and

Thursday 21st March (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 20th March. 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. Thursday 21st March is a normal school day.

Interviews can be booked online and booking details will be advised in next week's newsletter.

SCHOOL SWIMMING SPORTS TUESDAY 13th 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 Tuesday morning to cancel or postpone if the weather is too wet. In that case, all students will remain at school.

WHAKATANE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL - TERM DATES 2024

TERM 1: WEDNESDAY 31 ST JANUARY	- FRIDAY 12 TH APRIL
TERM 2: MONDAY 29 TH APRIL	- FRIDAY 5 TH JULY
TERM 3: MONDAY 22 ND JULY	- FRIDAY 27 TH SEPTEMBER
TERM 4: MONDAY 14 TH OCTOBER	THURSDAY 19 TH DECEMBER

NORMAL SCHOOL TIMETABLE

School starts 8.50am sharp
Morning tea 10.40am – 11.00am
Lunch 12.30pm – 13.30pm - School ends 3.00pm

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.”



SAMOA TRIP 2024

Fly to a tropical paradise, bask in crystal clear waters and immerse yourself in the warm and welcoming culture of **SAMOA**. We would like to offer our students the opportunity to attend this exciting cultural overseas experience. We plan to take a limited group of students and parents/caregivers to Samoa in Term 3 this year. This is one of the many amazing opportunities on offer at our school each year. Positive attendance and impeccable behaviour are prerequisites for students wishing to attend. If you are definitely interested in learning more, get your 'Registration of Interest' form from the school office (**available from Monday.**) This will need to be filled out by a parent or caregiver and returned to school. We will then have a meeting on Thursday, 22nd February, at 5.15pm to discuss this exciting, self-funded adventure. A non-refundable deposit of \$500.00 will be required. Regards, Rebecca Paterson (Deputy Principal leading the trip)

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 24th 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 for details. Thank you, Sue Wadsworth, School Librarian.

WHAT HAPPENS ON A VERY WET/VERY HOT SCHOOL DAY?

A decision is made at morning tea if the day is wet/very hot as to whether or not school will close early at 2.30pm. A notice is placed on the school answerphone at 11.00am advising if it is an early finish. Notices are also placed on Radio 1XX and The Sun FM and our Facebook page. Buses always run at the normal time of 3.00pm and bus students are supervised until then. If you want your child to stay at school until 3pm they can and they will be supervised by their teacher. Please either ring the school, listen to a radio station or check Facebook for information if you think it may be an early finish. Please also discuss this with your child/children so that they know what to do on a very wet/very hot day. You can imagine how difficult it is to have large numbers of children trying to ring home at 2.30pm to make arrangements with their parents. Thank you for your help with this. **Please note that not every wet/hot day will be an early finish.**

SCHOOL HATS - Please make sure all hats are named. Students can wear their own hats to school. Any hat can be worn, as long as it is appropriate and has nothing that could cause offence on it. The hat must be worn the correct way. Students are responsible for looking after their own hat.

**BREAKFAST CLUB – MULTI CULTURAL ROOM
FROM 8.15AM MONDAY TO FRIDAY
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 12th February at 9.00am 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.
Regards Haruru Douglas (Deputy Principal.)

ABSENCES/LATE ARRIVALS – Unless your child is ill or there are some very special circumstances, everyone is expected to attend school every day. In the case of an absence it is really important that you let the school know. Please leave a message detailing the reason for the absence e.g. sickness, funeral etc. so the correct information can be entered into the system as the Ministry of Education requires that each absence has its own special code. **Please phone the office (07 308-6480) to report an absence. Absences should be reported by 9.30am as we send out text alerts if a child's name appears "unmarked" at that time.** Any student arriving after school starts (8.50am) needs to report to the school office for a late pass.

ASTHMA INHALERS - If your child has an inhaler, please ensure they bring it to school and know how to use it properly. We should also have these details noted in our enrolment information. We have an inhaler here if necessary but if a student is not carrying their own inhaler, we will call a caregiver before administering it. Any questions – please call the office.

TECH CONTRIBUTION – The Technology contributions for 2024 are \$100.00 per child per year or \$25.00 per term. Please make payment at the school office. Contact the office if you have any queries or concerns regarding payments. If you send payments to school with your child please ask them to call at the office before school. Thanks for your help with this.

PLEASE NOTE if you wish to use internet banking or set up an automatic payment, our bank account number is as follows **123253 0016645 00**. Please ensure your child's name is entered in the reference along with what the payment is for (i.e. tech, camp etc.) Receipts are emailed.

TO CONTACT THE DENTAL CLINIC - PHONE 307-1548

**HAE TAEKWON-DO WHAKATANE
MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY CLASSES
APANUI SCHOOL**

ages 5-11 5.30pm – 6.45pm
ages 12+ (family class) 6.30pm – 8.00pm
first 4 lessons free

contact haetkdwakatane@gmail.com
or phone 027 9213737 (Gemma) or go to Facebook

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