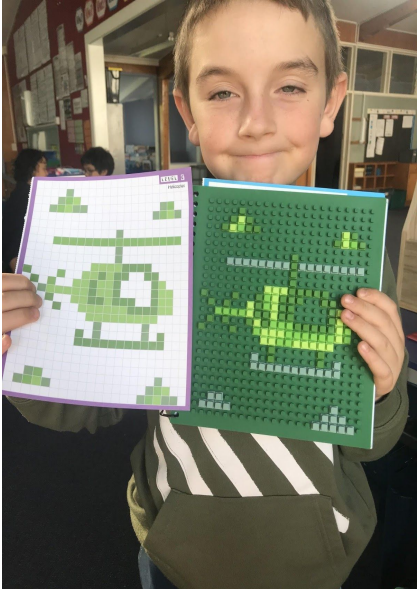
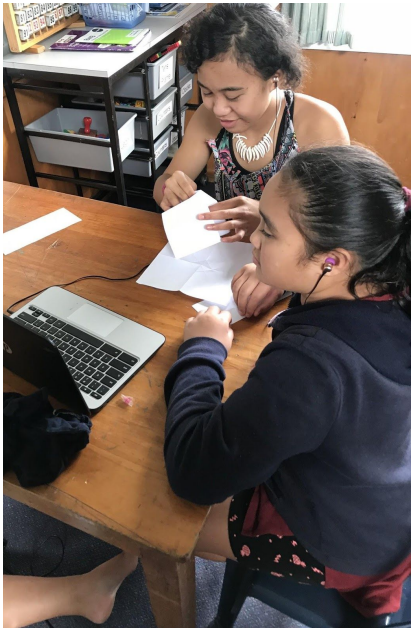


SHANNON SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Friday, 25th May 2018

Grey Street Shannon Ph: 06 3627866
Text Your Absences: 027 7555591
Email: office@shannon.school.nz
Website: www.shannon.school.nz
Facebook: Shannon School Te Kura o Hanana



A Note from Our Principal



Dear Parents/Carers

Digital Learning and Communication

This is the first of our newsletters in a digital format - with paper copies available at the school office, Shannon library, preschool and Kohanga Reo. We will endeavor to also supply a hard copy to those that do not have internet access at home. We are presently also developing a school app that will provide easy access to school messages, absences, newsletters, Facebook, Website

Education Summit

I attended the recent Summit in Christchurch, which was instigated by and involved government personnel, with 800 other interested participants. The government is in the process of reviewing present education systems and institutions and developing a world class education system that caters for all our students in a rapidly changing world. Their vision is to develop a plan moving forward for the next 30 years.

Our children need to be prepared for our rapidly changing digital world. We already know that a 19th Century model of schooling and learning neither engages nor meets the needs of our kids. It was refreshing to hear that many of the ideas and values, expressed for our communities for future learning, are already happening here at Shannon School.

Digital Learning - Risks

The global digital world that we live in provides us with great opportunities for learning. It also provides a world where everything is readily available - this includes the ability to bully through using social media, access to pornography and age-related materials not suitable for our youngsters. At school we do track what our Chromebooks and digital devices are used for at school and away from the school. If children are accessing inappropriate material at home parents/carers need to ensure awareness of this. At school we have controls in place but out of the school parents/carers need to have control of what children are accessing.

13 Reasons Why - Not Suitable for Younger viewers

As you will be aware, the second season of 13 Reasons Why has been released.

The Ministry of Health has been working with other Government agencies and service providers to develop resources around this series. This series is definitely not suitable for young children. "The RP18 classification recognises that 16- and 17- year olds continue to be at high risk of suicidal thoughts, but also recognises that teens should continue to have access to the show with the support of the adults in their lives." The Ministry of Health advice is that restricting young people from watching the series is unhelpful, as they may then hide their distress from adults. Where a young person is already in a vulnerable space, it may be wise to suggest they delay watching the series, or **watch with an adult** to allow for ongoing shared conversation around the topic.

The Mental Health Foundation has a hub - www.mentalhealth.org.nz/13ReasonsWhy - which includes information on where to go for assistance

Health Promoting School

A reminder that as a Health Promoting School we are very conscious of healthy food and drink options for our children. At present we have a number of children bringing drink and food that is unacceptable. Please ensure your children bring healthy food to school.

Support Services

We have a Resource Teacher of Māori (RTM) based here at the school. We have a visiting Social Worker in Schools (SWIS) and School Health Nurse. We have several Resource Teachers of Learning and Behaviour (RTLB) dedicated to assisting us. If you need any of these services, or other services, for your children don't hesitate to contact us. There are also other services that we may be able to access.

Health and Safety – School Gates

We are still working on the best solution for ensuring our children are safe at school. The Ministry has just provided further funding to ensure the fences and gates are fit for purpose. There will be some modifications and additions over the next weeks. We recognise that this is a frustrating situation but as a school we are doing our best to hurry the process along.

Bullying

Our Behaviour Curriculum states: *"The Shannon School community is a place where care and trust are emphasised above restrictions and threats, where unity and pride of accomplishment replace winning and losing. Where each person is asked, helped and inspired to live through the school's values and principles of the Virtues Project. Such a community aspires to meet each student's need to feel competent, connected to others, and autonomous."*

We use restorative justice practices, in conjunction with teaching social behaviour practices, through our school values and the Virtues programme. In the ideal process of restorative justice students and adults: take responsibility for what they do in order to - make restitution which results in - reconciliation, which is to make friends again, which - restores the relationship and offender back into the community.

We do not tolerate any forms of bullying. We spend a considerable amount of time in talking with children to find out what has happened. We also have to deal with bullying incidents that have happened outside of school, especially during the weekends. We attempt to notify parents/carers of both the bully and the victim. If there has been a deliberate act of physical bullying towards a child or adult then the bully is stood down. We do need to know from the child and/or adult if a child is being bullied and/or does not feel safe at school so that we are able to spend some time and research on the particular issue.

If anyone believes that a bullying incident has not been dealt with there is a Concerns and Complaints process. Please contact the appropriate staff member firstly, and then myself if there is a concern, and following this a complaint to the board if you believe nothing is being done to rectify the issue by staff.



Have you checked out our new worm farm? We have around 2000 worms in our worm farm at the moment, and they are loving it! We have started to compost our fruit scraps into our worm farm

Q: What kind of worms make the best carpenters?

A: Inch worms

Q: What do worms use to leave messages?

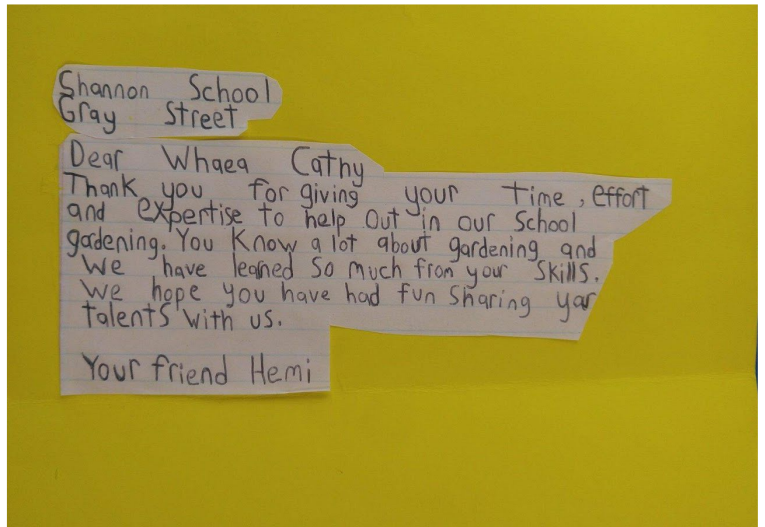
A: Compost-it notes!

Kia ora whanau,
If there are any Mothers or wahine out there who are able to help our tamariki make poi this Tuesday and the following Tuesday, please contact Pa Wylie. Our girls are excited to learn from some experts!





On Friday the 18th of May, we had a Thank You Luncheon for some of the wonderful community members and organisations that have supported us this year so far. The learners are so grateful to have such wonderful supporters who contribute to our school and their learning experiences. Our learners presented cards, poems and waiata to all of the helpers that could be there with us. Not to mention the delicious kai they all made to share!



Notices

UPCOMING EVENTS, DATES AND NOTICES



- **LONG WEEKEND** - The school will be closed on Friday 1st June (next Friday) for Queens Birthday weekend. This will give the children a four day weekend, as Monday is a Public Holiday as well.
- **FEES** - There are a number of families that have outstanding fees from last year. Without parental support in terms of paying school fees and donations, many programmes will not be able to be offered. We appreciate that some of our families may be under financial pressure and we have endeavoured to keep our fees low. Co-curricular activities are not funded at all by the government. This means that all costs for sporting and cultural activities need to be met by parents. One way that families can ease the financial pressure to some extent is to begin a regular automatic payment. This means that the costs involved with your child's education can be spread, lessening the burden at any one specific time. **The term one technology fee of \$17.50 per child is now overdue.**



HEALTH & SAFETY - We are required to know who is in our school at all times. This is very hard when you are making a quick drop off or pick up of a child or children. If you intend to stay in class or catch up with a staff member, please sign in and out at the office. If you pick up a child for an out of school appointment or from sick bay, you will need to sign them out. We require **all visitors to report to the office.** Preschool will have their own policy.

WELCOME TO HANANA KURA

This term we wish to welcome 9 new students to Shannon School. It is lovely to have you join our wonderful kura. We have 8 new members in Te Rito Hub. Leon, Hemi, Pati, Amelia, Erin, Eva, Dallas and Aniwaniwa. William has joined Harakeke Hub. Nau mai haere mai to you and your whanau.

THANKYOU THANKYOU THANKYOU

A big SHOUT OUT to the following people who spent two nights stocktaking at the Warehouse as a fundraiser for a new van for Shannon School. They raised a total of \$1,500. YOU ROCK!! We really appreciate you all giving up your weekend to support our kura. **Kai pai to Michael Bal, Tamara Bal, Vaughan Mickie, Jo Harrington, La'sacha McCutcheon and Brayden Toia.**



A group of Senior learners chose to go to the National Young Leaders Day held in Palmerston North on Monday along with 2500 other young people from around New Zealand. We listened to some keynote speakers who talked about how to be a good leader by telling us about their lives. One of the speakers was William Wairua who showed us some awesome dance moves and talked to us about influencing people in a positive way. Overall we had a great day and we learned a lot about how we can step up and become leaders in our school and

community.



We have been focusing on Rippa Rugby for the first 4 weeks of this term. A big THANK YOU to Matt from Horowhenua Rugby who came in and refreshed our rugby skills. A team of Year 7&8's went over to Foxton on Wednesday to compete in the Kerekere Interschool Rippa Tournament. We are very proud of our learners who did extremely well both on and off the field.

Thank You One and All

Thank you for helping at our school
We all think you are really cool

We are filled with glee
When we all see
What you have done for us
Yipee!

We would like
To thank you all
For keeping our school
Looking super cool!
You have made our day
Hip Hip Hooray!

