



# Te Kura o Hanana Update

Friday 8th February 2019

Dear Parents, Carers and Whānau members

Welcome back to the 2019 school year. We hope that you all have had a great holiday. A special welcome to new students and whānau members.

We have had an easy transition with classroom and support staff returning. Unfortunately we have recently received Pa Wylie Te Peeti's resignation as teacher and student support, te reo kaiako and kaumatua. We understand Wylie's difficult decision to take up other employment. Wylie has been a valuable asset to the school and he will be sorely missed. We are presently attempting to fill Wylie's position and would appreciate assistance with this. Do you know of a suitable person who could fill part, or all, of Wylie's role? Please get in touch with me or Rhea, the Board Chair.

Lois Erceg-Erkilic (Mrs E) is presently on sick leave for a week or two. Mrs Sarah Sheehan will continue to work with the Senior Hub on her own until Lois returns. Staff, relieving teacher or I will provide support as needed. There are reliable systems and programmes in place that will allow the students to continue with their ongoing learning needs. At present the children have returned to school and have settled well into their routines.

We have continued to have a falling roll with the number of Year 8s less than last year's number. As a smaller school, and smaller ratios of teacher to student numbers, we aim to ensure that the individualised learning pathways for all students will be maintained and extended.

## **Communication**

It is essential that we all work together for our tamariki. Please don't hesitate to keep us informed of anything that may impact on your child's safety or ability to learn. As usual, contact the school (teacher, senior teacher, myself or board member) if there is any concern, whether this is about your child, something that is bothering you or something that may affect others in the school. We are constantly reviewing our internal school policies and procedures to improve our school and appreciate feedback and feed-forward from members of our wider school community. If you know or believe a child is being bullied or is unhappy please let us know straight away. It is very difficult to deal with situations that have occurred sometime in the past.

Murray Powell  
Principal

### **School Pool**

The Horowhenua Council staff have now handed the running of our pool back to us. Our children will be swimming during school hours. It is extremely costly to run both our pools. Power and chemicals are not cheap. We will keep them open as long as possible for our children to grow their swimming skills and to keep cool on hot days. In the past, we have had parents with the necessary qualifications open the pool after school and at the weekends during term one. We don't believe we have anyone suitable to do that at this stage. Please call the office if you can help or know anyone that will be willing to do this, even on a casual basis.

### **Breakfast Club**

Last year we had a number of tamariki arriving at school very early. Ideally, they should not be at school before 8.30am. Please contact the office if your child needs to come slightly earlier for any reason. This year Breakfast Club will run from 8.30am until 8.55am. Carol Brady will be running this for now. If you wish to help out, please contact her for details.

### **Car Show Fundraiser**

Each year parents run a Sausage Sizzle at the local Car Show for a fundraiser. Please contact the office to let us know which time slot you can assist with. We set up at 8.00am and finish around 2.00pm.

### **Parent Help**

We would love to hear from any parents/carers who can help with Lunch time fundraising. These funds support our tamariki in Education Outside the Classroom, sports resources and other vital equipment.

Our school has a wonderful group of community people that support our garden club members. If you have time to work in our garden, please contact the office.

### **Lunch Orders from the Four Square**

At our recent teachers only day, our order list was discussed. Shannon School is a Health Promoting School. We will continue this year to discuss healthy choices and lunch box ideas. Ideally, we would like to be a water only school, but have kept the small flavoured milk drink on the list at this stage. The Four Square has our current list and it is displayed on our notice board. If you have any feedback regarding our new list, please discuss with school staff and **not** the Four Square team.

We have also changed our rubbish and recycling system. It is great to see the children are on board with this from the first day.

### **Powhiri**

Next Thursday 14th February we will have a powhiri to welcome our new students and their whanau members at 10.15am. All welcome.

### **Newsletters**

Please sign up through our school website page to receive our newsletters via email. We will also display copies on our notice board in the office foyer.

School Office