



Huia Range School

Term 1 Week 7 Wednesday 20th March, 2019

Website: www.huiarange.school.nz

He mihi mahana kia koutou – A warm greeting to you all

School Phone Numbers 027 781 2224 06 374 6444

Christchurch

Our thoughts and sincere condolences to the families and friends of the victims of the terrorist attack in Christchurch on Friday afternoon.

We have had a number of support visits from our local police and expect more over the next few days.

We have been supplied with a huge amount of information from the Ministry of Education and I have attached their tips for parents to this newsletter.

We have reviewed our school lockdown policy and procedures and made a few minor adjustments. These are never published or given to parents or caregivers so that no one can plan around what our ideas are.

We are updating all staff again next week and will have a practice drill in the near future (we have been advised not to do one this week).

If you have any concerns about your child please do not hesitate to ring Suzie and make an appointment to discuss your problems with me.

Board of Trustees

If you are interested in being on the Board, there is an evening session being run tonight.

The event is called Kōrari and it is at Dannevirke South School at 6.00pm.

Paid Union Meeting

The paid union meetings were cancelled this week because it was felt that with the horrendous situation in Christchurch last week it was vital for schools to retain their normal routine to ensure children stay settled at school.

An online vote will take place instead.

Swimming Sports

The school swimming sports are on tomorrow Thursday, 21st March for our year 4 to 8 students.

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to help.

All year 4 -8 children need to meet their teacher at WaiSplash between 8.45 and 9.00am.

The class rolls will be checked at 9.00am and swimming will start as soon as rolls are completed.

Children need to bring their togs and towel, lunch and snacks (the canteen won't be open) a full water bottle and a plain house tee shirt (to wear when they are out of the pool).

They also need to wear their school uniform to and from the pool and have a named plastic bag to put their uniform in while they are swimming.

Whanau are very welcome to come and support the children swimming.

We politely ask that you allow the timekeepers and recorders to do their job without interruptions, because constant interruptions always lead to mistakes!

Children will be sent home from the pools at 3.00pm. If you are taking your child earlier, please tell their teacher

Senior Kapa Haka

The muster and first practice are planned for tomorrow Thursday 21st March from 3.30pm - 5.00pm in the school hall.

Whanau are asked to attend to discuss practices and requirements to attend Nationals, in Hamilton, in November and any other issues that need to be discussed so full planning can be undertaken.

Up Coming Events

March

21 - Thursday
Year 4 - 8 swimming sports

21 - Thursday
Kapa Haka muster year 5 - 8

22 - Friday
Back Paddocks year 7

28 - Thursday
ePro 8 Challenge Year 7/8

29 - Friday
ePro 8 Challenge Year Year 5/6

April

1 - 3 Monday - Wednesday
Basic First Aid

2 - Tuesday
BOT meeting 6.30pm - staffroom

3 - Wednesday
Interschool Swimming

9 - Tuesday
STRIVE Day

12 - Friday - Final day term 1

Ka kite ano. Kia nui te ra.

Robyn Forsyth Principal

Measles

There are currently no confirmed cases of measles in the MidCentral district but it's possible it will spread to the region, the DHB Medical Officer of Health says.

Vaccination is the best protection against measles. MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) vaccine is normally given at 15 months and 4 years, and General Practices in MidCentral continue to follow this schedule.





Tips for parents and educators: Supporting children and young people.

Lockdowns are an important part of school safety and crisis preparedness. We want to thank schools and early learning services for keeping all children and young people safe on Friday.

Now we need to help them recover well. An incident like this can confuse and frighten anyone who may feel unsafe or worried that their friends or loved-ones are at risk. They will look to others for information, guidance and support.

Parents and teachers can help children and young people feel safe by;

- providing reassurance and keeping to routines
- staying calm and promoting a calm environment
- doing enjoyable things together
- taking time to listen and talk

Be guided by their questions, be factual and age appropriate with your response. Children and young people do not always talk about their feelings readily – ask them if they are feeling worried.

- Keep your explanations developmentally appropriate.
 - Very young children need brief, simple information that should be balanced with reassurances that their ELS, school and homes are safe and that adults are there to protect them.
 - Older primary school aged children will be more vocal in asking questions about whether they truly are safe and what is being done at their school. They may need assistance separating reality from fantasy. Discuss efforts of school, emergency services and community leaders to provide safe schools.
 - Secondary school students will have strong and varying opinions about the causes of violence in schools and society. They will share concrete suggestions about how to make school and communities safer and how to prevent violence and tragedies in society. Have a way of recording the ideas and how you might build on the ideas expressed.
- Emphasize the role that students have in maintaining safe schools by following school safety guidelines (e.g. Signing out when they leave school, not providing building access to strangers, reporting strangers on campus, reporting threats to the school safety made by students or community members, etc.), communicating any personal safety concerns to teachers and accessing support for emotional needs through teachers and the pastoral care system.
- Observe children’s emotional state. Changes in behaviour, appetite, and sleep patterns can also indicate a child’s level of anxiety or discomfort. In most children, these symptoms will ease with reassurance and time. However, some children may be at risk for more intense reactions, particularly those who have experienced difficulties and change. Parents and teachers, seek support through your school pastoral care system or your GP.