

Community Newsletter

SHANNON SCHOOL

Friday 3rd July 2020

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It was with great sadness that we heard of the unexpected passing of our much loved former teacher, Celia Thompson (Miss Durand to some of us) on Sunday the 14th June. Celia started at Shannon School in Room 14 in 1981 and left 24 years later in 2005. For some families, she taught two generations of tamariki. The majority of her time here was in the new entrance class. She was a very favourite first teacher of so many in our community. Celia was kind, gentle and a devoted teacher. She had a great sense of humour. Some of us were in her class when she lost some of her finger tips in a lawn mower accident. For children that followed, she told a story of losing them guillotining paper! Celia and Larry moved to Golden Bay from Shannon about five years ago. She was still teaching. Celia was a precious taonga to our Shannon Kura and Community. Celia will always hold a special place in all of our hearts where we will remember her with fondness, respect and deep aroha.

E te Whaea Celia kua noho Totara nui koe i waenganui i nga whanau o Hanana, E te Whaea haere koe Kia au to moe. Whaea Celia you were like a great Totara amongst us in our township of Shannon ... we farewell you ... May you rest in peace.

Principal's Voice



Dear Parents/Carers/Community Members

Tēnā tātou e te whānau. Ānei te reo mihi aroha i runga i tēnei pouritanga mo te Covid 19 kei te rere haere tonu to tātou ao. Ka huri ngā whakaaro ki ngā tini mate o te ao. Ngā korero mutunga kia koutou haere haere e moe. Huri kia tātou te hunga ora. Tihei Mauri Ora!

What a rollercoaster of a ride we have all been on in recent times. We are still reflecting on what the implications of what possible change is needed in our school due to our recent experiences. We have found that our children have returned from the pandemic lockdown calm and ready to learn. It has been a strange year:

- we started the year and, within a short time, were looking at how to provide for learning if we went into a possible pandemic lockdown
- We went into level 4 and within a day prepared our children with learning packs (which included some digital devices, scissors, coloured card), readers and library books
- In Lockdown 4 we immediately went into a 2 week 'holiday' period. During this time staff were immediately in touch with most of our whanau and tamariki.
- Lockdown level 3 - we were starting to prepare for reopening the school. We again dropped off resources to whanau who needed them, including musical instruments.
- Level 2 - a number of our staff are immune-compromised so consideration of this was as vital as keeping all our children safe, several who are also immune-compromised. As a school we reopened the school with stringent spacing and hygiene practices.
- Level 1 has gradually allowed us to return our school to most of its usual practices.

Many of us personally, and as a school, had other things happening in our lives during this lockdown period.

- Just prior to moving into Lockdown 4, Whaea Basia Powell ended up in hospital for 9 days
- Sarah Sheehan gave birth to her beautiful daughter Riley.
- We employed Rhea Hyde as a Limited Authority Teacher (LAT) to replace Sarah on parental leave.
- It was a sad time for many of us. My close cousin died during lockdown and I was unable to be there. In our local community, we had whanau members pass away during the various levels of Lockdown.
- With Rhea becoming a teacher in the school, she stood down as Chairperson of the Board of Trustees and Leigh Harrington took on this role.
- Both Carols in our school office, with a number of other community people, must be highly commended for the amazing work they did in Shannon looking after our Shannon community during the Lockdown.

Kahui Ako - Community of Learning

As leader of the Kerekere CoL and co-leader of the wider Horowhenua CoL there have been a number of initiatives we have introduced over the last two years to improve the well-being and learning of all our Horowhenua students. At the start of this year our local Whakawehi (Poutu) marae organised and ran a Teacher Only Day for all of our Raukawa Schools. A special thanks to our Ngati Whakatere whanau for putting together such an amazing programme. A similar day was held by Muaupoko for the Levin schools. These days are part of our strategy of enabling culturally responsive best practice for all teachers. Everyone involved were 'blown away' with these events and have asked for such days to continue across the Horowhenua. We are presently gathering data looking at what teachers, students, whanau and the community believe what success looks like for our students.

Ngā mihi
Murray Powell



We want to introduce the newest member of our school family.

Riley Olivia Sheehan was born during lockdown on 7th May weighing 7pounds 14ounces.

Sarah and Dan want to thank everyone for their lovely messages and support.

Shannon Kids' Club welcomes primary school aged children, Anglican Church Hall, Fridays, usually 5-7pm, info posted up at 4 Square and the Community Notice Board next to the library about sessions happening. Queries: Sharon Williams 027 3930414.

Shannon Youth Group welcomes college youth, weekly on Wednesdays, varied session content. Queries: Leigh Harrington 021 837478.

CAP Life Skills, with the lovely life skills manager Stephanie Fleming and our very own Virginia Kohika, coming mid August, will be advertised soon and limited places, if you are keen to find out more Virginia is happy for you to ring her on 021 026 66301 to discuss.

H.H.C.N - Helping Hands Community Network, New free service available for Shannon, Opiki and Tokomaru residents. The H.H.C.N Essential Items Office is officially open Tuesday 10-11, Thursday 1-2pm at 13 Julyan St Shannon or by appointment. No more going without essential items due to lack of funds or unforeseen circumstances. You can even relax with a coffee while we fill your order. Call Anita 06 3627740 between 10-5pm Mon-Fri to book your appointment.

Move Well, fitness class designed to support the fitness, strength, mobility, coordination and balance for older people (but suitable for all but the super fit) occur on Tuesdays 10am at Te Whare Oranga, 13 Venn St, friendly group, bit of a laugh and fitness too, transport available if required. Queries Sharon Williams 027 3930414.

Budget cooking, with our very own Jenny Small and Jackie J, coming soon, will be advertised at the 4 Square and Community Notice Board.

Kaumatua and friends, Meet and Greet, welcome at Te Whare Oranga, 13 Venn St, Thursdays 10.30am, fortnightly housie and fortnightly catch up with friends, chat and snack and sometimes guest speakers with interesting info to share. Queries: Teri Whiti 022 530 3819.

Board of Trustees



Ka nui te mihi ki a koutou – ngā whanau ō te Kura o Hanana. Following up from Murray's report, a lot has happened since our last community newsletter through this very unusual time. We have seen some significant changes as well as some fantastic work put in by the whole school community.

In terms of changes, as you will now be aware, Rhea resigned from her role as BoT Chair in preparation for taking on a teaching role in the Harakeke hub alongside Mrs E-E. It's a privilege for me to take up this role of chair, particularly at a time when the school is in such a positive space and moving forward with some exciting initiatives.

In her time as Chair, Rhea carried out the role beautifully – with integrity, humility and conviction. As a school community we are all aware of her significant contribution in this space and want to express our appreciation to her for her mahi and willingness to carry this responsibility. We as a community have also responded very enthusiastically to Rhea taking up the teaching role at the school and are confident that it will again be a position that she gives herself passionately to. Ngā mihi ki a koe Rhea – we are looking forward to watching you flourish as you continue to invest in the lives of our tamariki.

I also want to say a huge thank-you to all the school staff for their very hard work during lockdown. It was a time that required innovation, extra hours and energy and, by all accounts, we have come through it in good heart. We as a community recognise Murray's leadership and the teamwork of all the staff – both teaching and support – over this period. I'm also aware of the significant pastoral care that our staff (both teaching and support) continue to offer, particularly as we as a community regroup and make sense of life after lockdown. Kia ora.

With regards to our support staff, the week of 8-12 June was NZEI Support Staff Week, which included celebrating the significant pay equity settlement for Teacher Aides. It was also an opportunity for the school to express our deep appreciation to the team of support staff who tirelessly and lovingly pour themselves into ensuring that our tamariki are supported in their learning journeys – huge thanks to all of you. I know that I am not alone in sensing the warmth and care that you all convey as you go about your mahi.

In terms of our school direction, there is always a lot going on, but I wanted to highlight the encouraging journey that we are on with regards to kaupapa Māori. The government has given a strong and clear mandate for all schools to develop greater proficiency in Te Reo me ōna tikanga among staff and students, which itself is exciting and is aligned with the keenness in our Shannon community to progress this. We now have several staff members who are committed to helping take the school forward in this Kaupapa and are already seeing positive initiatives including increased use of Te Reo, focused tikanga groups, and increasing connection with Whakawehi marae (Poutū Pā).

As a board we want to continue to make ourselves available to hear your thoughts and perspectives, so do feel free to approach us at any time.

Nāku te rourou, nōu to rourou ka ora ai te iwi.

Leigh

Kia ora koutou,

Ko Kapakapanui te maunga, ko Tokomaru te waka, ko Waikanae te awa, ko Te Ati Awa te iwi, ko Whakarongotai te Marae, no Kapiti ahua. Ko Papaioea te kainga. Ko Elizabeth raua ko Ariki aku tamariki. Ko Trudi Kareko toku ingoa.

Kia ora, I'm Trudi and I began my education in the Horowhenua, attending Taitoko School, Levin Intermediate, and then onto Waiopahu College. After graduating from Massey University, I was lucky enough to venture back to the Horowhenua in the form of teaching and learning alongside an amazing bunch of learners and educators here at Shannon School. I must've really loved it here because I made Shannon School my home for the next 9 years!



Throughout my professional career, I have been able to take on various roles within leadership teams and special education. I have supported learners, their whanau, and educators in both mainstream and specialist school settings, in rural, small town, little city, and major city areas. I've completed my Postgraduate Diploma in Specialist Teaching, and more recently I have worked within a range of Specialist Schools in Auckland.

My new role as Learning Support Coordinator, enables me to work collaboratively within schools with the aim of achieving inclusive and positive outcomes for all. I support three local schools in Foxton and in Shannon and work closely with other LSC's in the Horowhenua region. We act as key contacts for whānau, helping them to partner successfully with their schools. Our goal is to help identify, understand, and plan for the needs of our learners. This role enables us to coordinate services and support, ensuring there are robust, carefully monitored, and appropriately resourced plans in place for our learners who need that extra support.

I'm loving being back here at Shannon School and look forward to meeting and working alongside more of our school community as the school year progresses.

*I can be easily contacted by email tkareko@coleystreet.school.nz
Or on mobile 0212059364*

*Ngā mihi
Trudi Kareko*

Hi, my name is Whaea Rachel and I am excited to teach and learn at Shannon School in Te Rito Hub for the duration of term 3! I'm studying to be a primary teacher via Waikato University's distance programme and am in my final year of study. I live rurally just south of Shannon and through my degree I've taught at Koputaroa and Fairfield. When I'm not working I enjoy archery, going for walks, swimming and being outside in nature. I also enjoy spending time with my family, friends and pets. I'm looking forward to becoming a part of the Shannon School community.

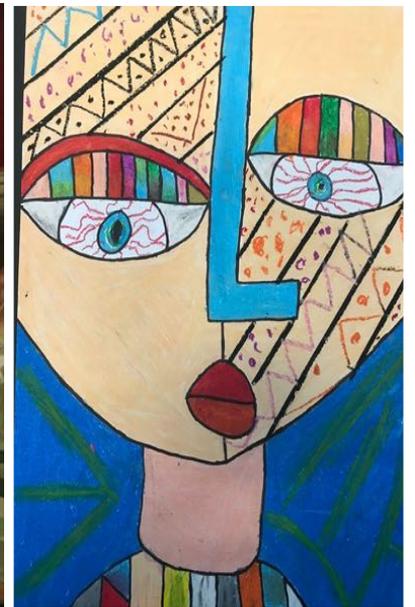




Ever since we have come back to school since lockdown we have been fortunate to have beautiful weather. We have been able to do a lot of learning outside in the sunshine!



Harakeke Hub Locked into Learning



The Harakeke Hub has been creating some awesome art. We have been experimenting with pastels to show blending, deep value and patterning. We have also selected Autumn leaves from under our trees to do blind drawings which means looking at the real leaf without looking at what we are drawing. The selfie face art was a maths inquiry focusing on identifying parallel lines, line segments, inverted curves and patterning. The selfie art also involved experimenting with pastel skills.

Mentoring children, MentorEd offer mentoring for children at Shannon School and are recruiting mentors for this role. We are looking for kind, compassionate and patient people to mentor primary school aged children. You must love children's company and be able to visit the child at school weekly during term time, this can involve reading, writing, cooking, arts, music, sport, gardening, playing games or other activities; if you have particular hobbies these can often be incorporated in working alongside the child. We do ask that you commit for each academic year at a time. Mentors receive quality training and support. For more info please call Sharon Williams 027 3930414.

Parenting Support - Triple P discussion groups, (Parentline Manawatu) for the first time here in Shannon: 4 sessions for parents / carers of Primary School Aged children and 4 sessions for parents / carers of Teenagers (and Tweens!), coming soon, will be advertised. Queries: Sharon Williams 027 3930414.

Shannon Progressive Association
Incorporated
Annual General Meeting
Thursday 9th July at the Gospel Chapel Hall
(opposite Police Station)
Ballance Street, Shannon
Join us for an informal post COVID Pot Luck
Tea at 6pm followed by the short AGM.
A chance to get out and about and meet
other community folk.
Information phone Janette on 3627872 or
0272533955

The Shannon Covid-19 Response Group, wish to thank those that donated and supported the lockdown civil defence response here in Shannon and the surrounding area. If you are struggling with anything after lockdown, there are lists of support services on the Library notice board.

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