



Whareama School

www.whareama.school.nz

Newsletter No. 1

30th January, 2017

Term 1, Week 1



WELCOME BACK

Hi everyone and welcome back to the 2017 school year. We hope you have all had a great break, have managed to recharge the batteries over the holidays, and are set for another big year that has come upon us so quickly.

Our starting roll this year is 38, with 16 in the Junior Room and 22 in the Senior Room and ensures a steady starting roll with 4 more students due to arrive over this year at various times. We pride ourselves on allowing plenty of one on one support for students and also for students to be involved in a wide range of opportunities that everyone can be part of. In many larger schools the numbers dictate that they need to select certain students for activities, but it is great that we seem to still be able to take everyone to everything. A huge welcome to Nelson Bird, Apirana and Nevaeh Allanson-Te Whare to our school whanau, who are all starting school this week. We also welcome back to Whareama School Hunter and Bayley Williams, who come back to us from Martinborough.

SCHOOL CHARTER

We have included the strategic aims from our school charter and it is a direct reflection of our and your ambitions and goals for our students. We are currently finalising our annual plan for 2017 and the targets will be made available soon. The staff will meet and look over our beginning year data and decide on the focus for our students so we can continue to strive towards achieving the 3 strategic aims.

Strategic Aim 1: *All students will leave Whareama School at or above National Standards in reading, writing and mathematics.*

Strategic Aim 2: *All students at Whareama School will be self-managing, independent learners through emphasis on the Key Competencies and values.*

Strategic Aim 3: *This is being completed by the Board of Trustees currently.*

CURRICULUM

This year we have decided to run a theme called “Think like an Inventor”. In term 1 we are looking at our bi-cultural heritage and Maori inventions, in term 2 we will be studying New Zealand inventions, in term 3 we will be looking at inventions around the world and in the final term we will be doing a school wide wearable arts unit. We are playing a wide range of fun, inquiry based activities that will allow the students to develop their own questions and then to seek answers to questions, problem solve, explain findings and evaluate their learning. We are studying numeracy and measurement and time in our mathematics unit and our literacy focus this term is guided reading and recount writing. We are doing aquatics and cricket skills for our physical education unit and portraits for art. Our second language programme will focus on Maori legends. The students will be taking part in a wide range of activities that will involve activities at school and also many activities out of school.

MARAE NOHO/ BEACH ED 2017

We are currently planning to go to Riversdale Beach to take part in the Beach Ed programme and we want to tie this into a noho at the marae. We will stay overnight at the marae and then go to the beach the following day. More information about this will come out soon but for now we are planning to have a noho on Thursday the 16th of February and then Beach Ed on Friday the 17th. The Year 7 and 8 students will have Design Tech on the Friday, instead of Beach Ed.

HOMEWORK

Both junior and senior rooms will be starting homework on Tuesday next week and this will consist of reading, spelling, mathematics through Maths Buddy and any work that requires completion from unfinished class work. You will also receive a class newsletter next week, to outline some of the other bits and pieces of news you may need starting the school year.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

This year the Year 7 and 8 students who will be going to Design Technology at Makoura College on Fridays from Week 2 this term. There is a separate letter coming home for each of these students later this term to remind you about this programme. The school van leaves school at 10am each Friday and returns in the afternoon for all students to attend each week. There is a cost of \$20 each term as part of the take home component and this will be billed at the end of term.

STATIONERY

Most of the junior room students have all of their stationery at school however at the end of the year the senior students took home most of their books and stationery. If you would like your child to carry on with any of those books please send them back to school by Friday. Any books that the children are then missing will be supplied to them from our stationery cupboard on Tuesday next week. The extra equipment that needs to be supplied will be billed to your school account. This year we would like all children to have their own felts and colouring pencils. These are a couple of things that we do not sell through our stationery cupboard at school, so if you could find the time to please go and get these for your children that would be greatly appreciated. If you purchase these from the Warehouse Stationery please nominate our school, it will go towards us getting cash back at the end of the year.

FUNDRAISING- Langdale Horse Sports

A huge thanks needs to go out to Janelle and Mark who organised the fundraiser at the Langdale Horse Sports this year. The fundraising committee will be meeting soon and we are going to decide on some major fundraisers for the year, let everyone know what they are, then expect every family to commit to at least 1 event over the year. We look forward to you all supporting these events as much as possible. Congratulations to Tessa and Poppy for their success at the Langdale Horse Sports. Tessa won the Horsemanship Cup and Poppy won the best Local Combination Cup.



SCHOOL TRACKSUITS

These will be sent home next week with each child.

SWIMMING

Every child in the school will be part of the regular, daily classroom swimming programme so please remember to send them along with their togs and a towel in a swim bag each day.

KI-O-RAHI COASTAL CLASSIC

On Friday the 3rd of March our school is hosting the first ever Ki-o-rahi sports tournament. This will be at Riversdale Beach and will be run with Whaiora and Kokiri Te Puna from Wellington. We have around 200 students from schools in the Wairarapa coming to this and we will be entering a Year 5/6 team. The Year 7/8 students will be at Design Tech on this day.

2017 SCHOOL TERMS

Term 1: Monday 30th January – Thursday 13th April (Thursday 13th will be a teacher only day)

Term 2: Monday 1st May– Friday 7th July

Term 3: Monday 24th July – Friday 29th September

Term 4: Monday 16th October – Thursday 14th December

ALSO IMPORTANT

The weather is hopefully going to get better so please sunscreen your children in the morning and ensure they all have their hats at school. We have sunscreen at school as well however if your child has sensitive skin and requires a different lotion please send some to school with them. Ensure lunchboxes are filled with the appropriate foods, no junk food and lollies please and we also want to only use the heat up microwave predominantly in the winter. Water bottles are essential as well so we can keep the kids hydrated throughout the day.



PHONE LIST

Please can everyone check the phone list and send any changes or updates to Diana in the office so we can email you out the latest and most up to date information next week, if necessary. We have attached the phone list to the newsletter for you to check.

PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT INTERVIEWS – to be held on Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd March and a booking sheet will come out to you shortly. We will use this time to show where your child is at with their learning, provide next steps and how we can support each other to provide the best education for your child.

SCHOOL BUSES

As a friendly reminder please remember if there are any changes to what bus you would like your child on please give us at least 24 hours' notice. There are minimal spaces available on buses at certain times but please ask and we will help where we possibly can. The phone number contacts for the bus drivers are Janelle 0273532329 for the town bus, Ryshell 0273080809 for the Homewood bus and 3723395 for

Brent driving the ICA bus. If your child is not on their bus for any reason please let your bus driver know as soon as possible.

SPORTS

Options for sports will be out later this week so please look for this newsletter and once again we will need some parent support to help run these after school opportunities.

Kiwi cricket starts next Friday. Please check the Whareama Thunder Facebook page. We have all our regular players back and our practices start on Wednesday next week.

FORMS

Here is a quick checklist of the forms that have come home today so you can fill in the appropriate form, return them to school by Thursday, so we can tidy up the administrative side of beginning the year:

- Transport Form
- Cyber Safety Form
- Phone list with any changes if needed

REMINDER – Monday 6TH FEBRUARY – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR WAITANGI DAY

Regards

Darren, Heather, Irene and Diana

Upcoming Events:	
TERM 1:	
Mon 6 th February	WAITANGI DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
Fri 10 th February	Design Technology Starts – Y7/8
Weds 22 nd February	Immunisations talk - Y7+8
Thurs 16 th February	Planned Marae Sleepover
Fri 17 th February	Beach Ed @ Riversdale Beach
Mon 6 th February	Waitangi Day – School Closed
Weds 1 st March	Rural Schools Swimming Sports
Fri 3 rd March	Ki-o-rahi Coastal Classic
Weds 8 th March	Masterton School Swim Sports
Thurs 15 th March	Wairarapa Swimming Sports
Weds 22 nd and Thurs 23 rd March	Interviews
Mon 27 th March	Science Roadshow – Senior Room
Thurs 6 th April	Immunisations - Y7+8
Thurs 13 th April	Term 1 Ends (teacher only day – no students)