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Newsletter July 2nd 2020

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Kia ora te whanau

PRINCIPALS BLURB

This term has certainly zoomed by with the challenges of covid, distance teaching and then all returning to our “new normal”. I firstly want to acknowledge our dedicated teachers who have worked tirelessly through lockdown and continue to be committed to the teaching and learning our Firth Students. For our teachers this has been a 22 week term as during the last term break teachers were planning and creating opportunities for students to continue to learn through digital and hard copy platforms. They have defiantly earnt a well-deserved break. Thank you also to all of you for continuing to support your child/ren at home during covid, this is noticeable as they have settled back into learning at school really well. We are currently working on 2 major projects at school with the possibility of a turf being constructed and the development of the area between our classroom blocks. We will be asking for parent suggestions and contribution as to what the possibilities of this could look like and of course our students will also have input. More information and the opportunities for whanau hui will be available early in term 3. We are also exploring options of a change in uniform design and colour as currently we are the same as several other schools in our district. This is to enhance a sense of pride at Firth and to promote us as a Firth whanau, to stand out and have a sense of belonging. We will share the designs with you once we have them for consultation. Our teachers have been busy testing students during the past 2 weeks and we will be reporting to you in week 3 (Thursday 6th August) of term 3 with scheduled parent interviews. I am excited to welcome Whaea Maureen to our staff. She will begin with us at the beginning of term 3 and open an extra new entrant classroom, this will be known as Room 2. A letter will be sent home to those parents of children moving into her class next term as we want to keep our class sizes to an optimum number to ensure a great start for our students at Firth. Some of you may have seen and met her already as she has been one of our amazing relievers supporting during terms 1 and 2. I hope you all have a restful break/holiday and stay safe.

Welcome:

A special welcome to our new students:

Bianca Stiglmeier, Lincoln Webb, Legend Wilson, Leon Brown, Jordan Whaiapu-Peters and Zacheriah Retimana and their families. We hope your time here at Firth is enjoyable.

Op Shop:

A massive thank you to Robyn McRae-Aoake and her team that worked tirelessly last week at the local op shop as a fundraiser to support our students at Firth Primary School. We will keep you updated on the amount raised and where this money will be allocated to support students and whanau at Firth.

Matariki:

We are planning a celebration of Matariki and the Maori new year on Friday 24th July. Our students have been working hard this week working on projects that represent Matariki, their wishes for the new year, working collaboratively across year groups. We will have a show case of learning during this day with performances by our Kapahaka team, choir and presentation of learning by students in each class. We hope you can join us to plant our wishes for the coming year and share kai with all of us at Firth. More detail of the day will be finalised and confirmed when we return from term break. We will use this time together to reconnect as a whanau and community after what has been a challenging start to our year with covid 19 and look forward to a future of students reaching potential. If you are able to support in

any way possible with donations of food or can help make food alongside our students please email me at principal@firth.school.nz, or your child's classroom teacher.

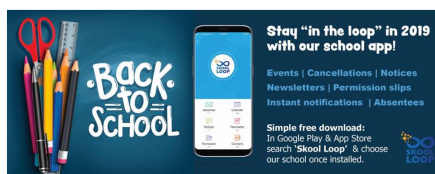
PhotoLife - School Photographs

Class, team, individual and sibling photographs will be taken on **Thursday 23 July 2020** (First week Term 3). Information regarding PhotoLife's Online Ordering System was distributed to students today, Thursday 2 July. Sibling Photo Request Forms are available from the school office.

Yummy Sticker Collecting We are still collecting Yummy stickers. They can be found on all types of fruit, not just the apples and this will assist us to win free sports gear again at the end of 2020.

TEACHER'S EMAILS

Mrs Johnson	cjohnson@firth.school.nz
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Mrs MacPhail	kmacphail@firth.school.nz
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Maureen Toki	mtoki@firth.school.nz



Please download this app if you haven't already, as this is a great way for us to communicate with you.

Term Dates 2020

Friday 3rd July – Last day of term 2

Term 3 - Monday 20th July - Friday 25th September

Term 4 - Monday 12th October - Wednesday 16th December

Thursday 23rd July – School Photos

Friday 24th July – Matariki celebration – showcase of learning

Thursday 6th August – parent interviews

Friday 21st August – Teacher Only Day

Keep up-to-date with what is happening at Firth Primary School on our Website. Firth Newsletters are now available at www.firth.school.nz

Firth Primary School Facebook page.

We have a facebook page - please 'like' our page to keep up to date with what is happening at Firth, and other important information.



Kia kaha, Nga mihi
Michelle Ryan
Principal

