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Newsletter September 17th 2020

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Kia ora te whanau

PRINCIPALS BLURB

Welcome to week 9. We are still operating in COVID Alert Level 2 with our processes and guidelines from the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health. Thank you to all of our students and whanau who continue to work together to stay safe in a frustrating and challenging time. Here's hoping this may change next week and we move to Level 1. Our student leaders participated in the National Young Leaders Day Zoom day last week and heard some inspirational messages from some amazing leaders who have overcome fears and disabilities to be brave, be strong and be steadfast, achieving the goals they had set for themselves. We are approaching the end of term 3 in what has been a challenging year with the uncertainty of Covid levels and the many disappointments we have faced with many activities and events being cancelled. However, our students are building resilience and tolerance and gaining an understanding of a "new normal". We are all looking forward to term 4, where we are hoping we can once again have our whanau in school, supporting alongside students as we host various sporting, academic and cultural events.

Welcome:

A special welcome to our new students:

Demetrius Mike-Filivao, Neteira-Rose Tutauha-Walters, Beauden McKenzie, Mila Winikerei, Lorenzo Martinez and their families.

Car Park Safety

Please ensure that your child is escorted across the carpark by an adult during drop off and pick up times. We have noticed students being called across the carpark while cars are moving in this space. Please do not stop or park in the middle of the car park as this is creating unsafe space for our students and blocking the flow of cars entering and exiting. Safety of our students is paramount and we appreciate the frustrating and challenging restrictions during COVID level 2, however we ask that you please be vigilant to keep nga tamariki safe. We have also spoken to our students and staff so we are all working together for the safety of everyone.

Yummy Sticker Collecting

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

Rongohia te hau survey

Reminder this is due on Friday 18th September 2020. Please complete this survey as this supports in the focus for our strategic planning moving forward.

Bell Times

We are trialling a change in bell times to allow more fluidity with teaching and learning. I can assure you that students are still having the same amount of time to eat. The only major change is that the brain breaks during the day are determined by the students and teachers of each class.

9.00 am school begins

11.00 am morning tea - students play

11.30 am students sit and eat

11.40 am students in class

1.00 pm lunch break - students play

1.30 pm students eat lunch

1.40 pm students in class

2.50 pm school ends

Tell us what you think?

We have had an overwhelming response to our new uniform designs. We are processing the final design and these will be made ready for sizing. We will carry out consultation next term regarding whether we go compulsory for every student. We will begin with the sports uniforms and then proceed with our school uniform. The consensus was to remove the vision from the back as it is already on the front. The number on the back is for our Rugby Uniforms only. We will team the shirt with anything black on the bottom, track pants, shorts or tights, without logos.





National Young Leaders Day

Thoughts from our Firth Primary School young leaders who participated in the Regional Young leaders day through zoom. Our leaders were immersed in the message from guest speakers, Rylie Hathaway, Stan Walker, William Pike, Okirano Tilaia, of kia kaha, kia maia, kia manawanui.

Okirano Tilaia, taught us how to truly express ourselves in many different ways. He made us think about how we can thrive, succeed and follow our passions while always being respectful. **(Zeppelin, Digger, Ezekiel).**

William Pike taught us to accept every opportunity we get, to overcome every challenge with bravery and to work toward your goals and to never give up. We were very inspired by NYLD 2020! I hope you learnt something amazing, by being with positive and uplifting people will make your mindset positive. **(Nazareth, William, Raquelle).**

Stan Walker is an inspirational man and he is a really good singer. Stan has gone through lots like surgery and a pandemic. He was bullied at school so he told us that to overcome that he surrounded himself with his family. He was brought up not to cry or show emotion, which made him strong and a great singer. **(Quinn, Bronson, Teagan, Carter).**

Riley Hathway is amazing and that it is cool that she swims with sharks. To get good at something you have to work hard. It's amazing that she has tik tok renegade! Don't let anyone tell you to stop doing the things you love most. My group agreed that we should all help the ocean by picking up rubbish at least once a day. **(Grace, Jodeci, Paige, Hailey, Phillipa).**



Important Term Dates 2020

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

LAST DAY OF TERM 3 - Friday 25th September

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

Book Fair - online 14th September - 25th September



Kia kaha, Nga mihi
Michelle Ryan Principal

October School Holiday Football Programme

Monday October 5 to Thursday October 8

Looking for something for the kids during the second week of the October school holidays? This is a fun football and physical literacy programme open, boys and girls of all ability levels – footballers and non-footballers alike.

Children can register here: <https://matamataswifts.com/juniors/holidaycamp/>

Holiday camp details

- Venue: Matamata Domain.
- Times: 9am to 3pm daily.
- Cost: \$30 per day or \$100 for all four days.
- Ages: boys and girls aged from 5 to 13 years.
- Players to bring: training gear including football boots and indoor shoes (depending on numbers and weather we may also play inside); a change of clothing; lunch; water bottle.

For further information, please contact Dwayne Barlow (021 993 832 or dwayne@dbmm.co.nz).

Mobile Ear Clinic

Date: Monday 12th October
Friday 13th November

Venue: Pohlen House Carpark
58 Rawhiti Ave, Matamata

(appointments available 9am - 11am ph 078383563)

Drop in Clinic - 11.30 am - 1.30 pm

