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Newsletter March 17th 2021

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Kia ora te whanau

PRINCIPALS BLURB

Thank you to everyone that attended our Whanau BBQ last week. It was great to see such a large number of whanau enjoying themselves playing sport, eating kai and just hanging out. The rain even held off. Apologies if our modes of communication haven't been effective, however this is important to me that we have all parents/whanau informed of events, cultural activities and any teaching and learning information. Please complete the survey with your up to date contact details and your preferred mode of communication. We want to break down any barriers that we currently are experiencing so we can communicate consistently and effectively.

Bell Times

Our bell times will remain the same for 2021 as we have seen this benefit the students last year. These will be our bell times for 2021.

9.00 am - School begins

11.00 am - Morning tea - students play

11.30 am - Students sit and eat

11.45 am - Students in class

1.00 pm - Lunch break - students play

1.30 pm - Students eat lunch

1.45 pm - Students in class

3.00 pm - School ends

Communication

We are using several platforms for communicating with whanau. School loop, Facebook, Website, email and text will be the avenues that we are committed to using to deliver consistent communication of information. We will be sending out a google form for you to complete. Please complete your contact details so we have up to date and correct contact information. This is the link to the survey [communication](#)

Hot X Buns - Year 6 Fundraiser

We are selling Couplands hot X buns

- Traditional 6 pack \$5
- Chocolate 6 pack \$5

\$1.50 from each pack sold goes towards our Year 6 camp.

Can all prepaid order forms and money please be given to the school office by Monday 22nd March 2021. Collection date will be Tuesday 30th March 2021.

Whanau teams

Every child is in a whanau team. We have 4 whanau teams, Matai (Blue), Rimu (Red), Kowhai (Yellow), Kauri (Green). We have tried to ensure that all students are with sibling groupings in the whanau teams. We will be in these teams for various sporting and cultural activities throughout the term. If you are unsure of which whanau team your child is in please ask your child's teacher.

Wairere Toi

We are lucky to once again have the Wairere Toi working with our students on a Thursday afternoon. We are working in our whanau groupings with our senior students supporting our Junior students. They are participating in a variety of activities engaging in haka, poi, art, and tikanga and te reo maori.

Scholastic Lucky Book Club - Issue 2 2021

Brochures have been distributed to students. This offer will close on Wednesday 24th March. Please bring your orders to Diane at the office.

Whanau Hui

Thursday 25th March - cuppa and a korero about being part of a dynamic and exciting group of whanau who organise and support our fundraising events at Firth Primary school. Come and have a cuppa between 2pm and 4pm if you are keen to be part of this group. We have had some amazing fundraisers and whanau in the past who have organised some great events, however COVID prevented this last year so we want to reactivate this group for 2021. We would love to hear your ideas. Please text, email or call the office, 021804407 - principal@firth.school.nz.

Uniforms

Thank you for your patience as we wait for our uniforms and hats to arrive. I apologise that these are taking so long, I am as frustrated as all of you however due to COVID and the chinese new year shipments have been slow moving from China. We are hoping these are here by the end of March. You will have the option to purchase a polo shirt or sports shirt. They are both \$40 each. Your child will need a compulsory school hat that you can also purchase at the school office for \$15. All students will

require a regulation hat to access outdoor play areas. We will review the optional uniform again at the end of 2021 and we ask that your child wear plain black on the bottom, shorts, track pants, skirt or tights.

Swimming Sports

Thank you to those parents who helped at our School Swimming Sports.

It appears that some of our whanau did not know about the sports day. Please make sure that you complete the google form so we can make sure that we have catered for all communication lines and communicated effectively.

Whanaungatanga

At the end of the year we will put all smiley faces in a grand draw and we will have 2 lucky students who will win a special prize at the end of year prizegiving.



Whanaungatanga In the Playground.....

Teachers are responsible for giving out smiley faces to students in the playground that have been displaying our Firth Values. The student then writes their name and room number on the back and they place these in the whanau points box situated in each classroom. Students receive 10 whanau points that are recorded on the whanau team chart which is displayed in each classroom. At the end of the week these will be collected by our student leaders and a draw will take place at assembly held each fortnight. Students will receive a duffy book if their name is drawn from the box. 2 draws for Juniors and 2 draws for Seniors.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Thursday 25 March: Interschool Swimming Sports
- Thursday 25 March: Whanau Hui 2pm - 4pm -
(come have a cuppa, you do not have to stay for the whole time, you can just pop in)
- Thursday 1 April: Teacher Only Day
- Friday 2 April - Tuesday 6 April: Easter Holiday
- Tuesday 13 April 1:30pm: Duffy Role Model Assembly
- Thursday 15 April: Whanau Interviews
- Friday 16 April: Term 1 Ends
- Monday 3 May: Term 2 Begins

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's happening.

Nga Mihi
Michelle Ryan
Principal

