



# WAIMAHIA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER #18

*Kia Ora, Kia Orana, Talofa lava, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Malo e lelei, Ali'i, Malo ni, Ni sa bula vinaka, la Orana, Aloha mai e, Taloha ni, Halo Olaketa, Mauri and a warm Waimahian Greetings*

**MANA, MANAAKITANGA, MĀTAURANGA**

**Thursday 17th August 2017**

## **KIA ORANA TĀTOU KĀTOĀTOĀ!**

Despite the wet weather, students have had a really positive start to term 3 - learning environments are "buzzing". Welcome back to Whaea Pauline Tapiki who is working alongside Whaea Iriarangi in Te Manukura Maia. Welcome to Whaea Linda Paekau to the Waimahia staff this term. Linda will be supporting students in classrooms across the school.

We celebrated **Te 'Epetoma o te Reo Māori Kūki 'Āirani - Cook Islands Language Week** along with the rest of the nation in week 2. Each day we had new words and phrases to learn and we closed our assembly that week with Whānau and Class challenges to show off the new language we had learned in class. Our Cook Islands Cultural Group were invited to Weymouth Primary and Roscommon School for their language week celebrations. This was a great opportunity for our tamariki to share their cultural learning with younger students in our community. *Tongan Language Week and Māori Language Week are coming up later this term. If you would like to help with the activities for either of these weeks, please contact Whaea Dee or Mrs Diaz here at school.*

## **RUGBY LEAGUE TOURNAMENT**

Both our girls and boys teams represented our school in rugby league tournaments this week! We sent along three teams, two boys and one girls, and our Under 55kg team came in third in their category.

## **ASPIRE CAMP - BLUE MOUNTAIN ADVENTURE CENTRE**

A group of our students were fortunate enough to take part in an adventure experience run by the Salvation Army. Our students who took part in high ropes, caving, hiking, trips to the snow, team building, problem solving and much more. All of our students learned more about themselves and how they handle different situations. Thank you to Mrs Diaz for coordinating this trip and going along for one of the nights. Very special thanks to the Salvation Army who provided this amazing opportunity for our students!

## **3 Way Conferences**

3 way conferences were a huge success this week with the many families attending. Thank you for supporting your child's learning. If you have not already been in to meet your child's teacher, please make a time to see them and hear all about the wonderful learning they are doing and the goals your child has set for the remainder of the year!

## **DIVERSITY FESTIVAL - 7.30pm, 12 September at Vodafone Events Centre**

Mr Rapana and our school choir have been working hard at school in preparation for the Manurewa Diversity Music Festival. This is always a wonderful event and our students enjoy being able to showcase their talents alongside other students in our area. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children aged 2-13 years, and \$25 for a family pass (2 adults + 2 children). Tickets are on sale at our school office.



## **UNIFORM**

At Waimahia Intermediate it is an expectation that all students are in the correct uniform every day. We have had a number of students coming to school in the incorrect uniform, mostly shoes. If you are not able to provide plain black shoes for your child, we are able to provide them with some shoes from Kids Can. Wearing the correct uniform is about displaying Mana and having pride in our school. Please ensure your child is in the correct uniform every day.

## **Auckland Teacher Shortage**

As I am sure parents are fully aware, there is a shortage of teachers across the whole of Auckland which is creating real issues for schools. We have had a number of occasions now where teachers have been away sick and we have not been able to get a reliever to cover. We do use a recruitment agency to supply our relievers, however, they often now run out of people unless you are able to ring in advance to book. This generally doesn't work when a teacher is away sick!

When we are not able to get a reliever for a teacher, in the first instance we try to cover their class with the staff we have. If this is not possible we have to split the class between other classes. We do our very best to avoid this at all cost, however sometimes it has just been unavoidable, particularly if we have more than one teacher away. We thank you for your understanding and support.

## **2018 SCHOOL ENROLMENT**

Our local high schools, James Cook High School, Manurewa High School and Alfriston College have provided enrolment packs for our Year 8 students. All our Year 8 students were given the enrolment form for the school they are in zone for. The enrolment forms need to be filled in and dropped back to school by Wednesday 6th September. If you wish to apply for an Out of Zone enrolment, you need to contact the high school you want your child to attend. The cut-off date for out of zone enrolments is 6 September. If you have any questions at all about enrolment please contact me or Lisa at school.

We are now taking Year 6 enrolments for next year. If you have a Year 6 child and would like to get in early for enrolment for next year, please contact Mr Wearing in the office.

## **HEADLICE**

We have noticed students at school with headlice. We ask that you check your child's head/hair and provide treatment if necessary. Headlice are very resilient so if you find lice in your child's hair, please persist with treatment until all lice are gone.

Don't forget to also change your child's bedding and treat other members of the family if any are found. Regretfully children will be sent home if head lice are found and will not be able to return until clear. Your cooperation is much appreciated with this matter.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Friday 25th August	Daffodil Day - wear yellow to school & bring a gold coin for a donation for cancer research
Monday 4th September	Start of Tongan Language Week
Monday 11th September	Start of Maori Language Week
Tuesday 12th September	DIVERSITY MUSIC FESTIVAL @ Vodafone Events Centre
Tuesday 26th September	Boys basketball tournament
Thursday 28th September	Girls basketball tournament
Friday 29th September	Last day of term 3. We will be finishing at 3pm as usual.

Meitaki atupaka!  
Melini Fasavalu  
***Tumuaki / Principal***