



# WAIMAHIA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER #19

*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**

**Friday 1 September, 2017**

## **Malo e lelei!**

Spring is finally here and we are hopeful that with it we will enjoy some warmer weather. We are all super busy at school with lots of learning and activities going on for our students both during and after school.

## **Education Review Office Report**

As you know, last term our school was reviewed by the Education Review Office (ERO). The purpose of the visit was to review the progress the school had made in meeting the learning needs of students since the last review in 2013. What the ERO team found was that we had a lot of work to do and there were a number of areas that we needed, and still need, to work on. This was not news to our Board, leadership team or staff in general. Here are some statements from the summary of our ERO report.

*“Waimahia Intermediate School has experienced significant change since the 2013 ERO review. Since the last ERO review the board was placed in a position of crisis management where they had to respond to a number of complex and sensitive challenges involving leadership and some staff. Urgency is now needed to improve many areas of school operations including governance, the provision of an effective and responsive curriculum, and teaching practices.*

*The new principal and deputy principal are committed to making improvements to ensure school practices provide equity and excellence for students.*

*There have been MoE initiatives and professional development over the last few years, particularly guiding teachers to better support children’s literacy learning.*

*The achievement of students in relation to the National Standards increased slightly in 2016, and is comparable with other schools. However, there is a disparity in the achievement of Māori students.”*

I would like to assure you that our Board and staff are committed to continuing the changes we are already making at school. The Ministry of Education and NZ School Trustees are supporting our teaching team and board of trustees in making improvements to the way we do things at school.

If you would like to hear more about what we are doing to ensure your tamariki are learning at school, please join us for a community meeting to talk about “Our Way Forward” on Wednesday 7 September at 7pm at school.

## **Important Dates**

Monday 4th September  
**Start of Tongan Language Week**

Wednesday 6th September  
**ALL High School Enrolments for James Cook High and Manurewa High are due in.**

Thursday 7th September  
**7.00pm “Our Way Forward” Community Meeting**

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.**

### **Waikai Student-Led Cafe**

As part of our Enterprise Programme. We have changed the way our Student-Led Cafe is run. Every Friday a different class has an opportunity to run our cafe. The students plan the menu based on a budget, they cook the food and serve it in our cafe. The menu changes from week to week. I certainly enjoyed Apolima's efforts with their very Samoan menu. Room 3's macaroni cheese was a huge hit with other students. We are looking forward to seeing what is on offer today from Room 6. The feedback from our students has been very positive. They are enjoying the opportunity to practice their food technology, maths, literacy and their organisational skills in a real life situation.

### **Life Education Trust**

The Life Education Trust has been at our school to support learning. As part of our health and wellbeing focus this term, life education trust provided a programme that focussed on harmful substances. We are really grateful to have had the Trust, who provided funding so we could utilise this awesome programme at no cost to the school or parents!

### **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.

### **Tongan Language Week 7**

Next week we celebrate Tongan language week - ***Ko hoku Tongá | Tongan Identity What does it mean to be Tongan?*** People from Tonga wish to be identified with the richness of their language and culture, and the best of their inner-most qualities, values and beliefs. Tongan people use loto poto (wisdom), mo'ui fakalaumälie (spirituality) and nofo -'a-käinga (collective living) as bases from which to contribute to society.

### **Year 6 Orientation Days**

The enrolment and transition process for Year 6 students wishing to attend Waimahia Intermediate School is underway! We will be welcoming year 6s from Roscommon (5 September), Weymouth Primary (6 September) and Rowandale School (7 September) to join us in an orientation day, next week! We have fun filled, interactive learning activities planned for students and information sharing/question and answer time for whānau.

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.

### **High School Enrolments**

A reminder to start getting high school enrolments organised for 2018. IN ZONE enrolments for local high schools can be returned to our school office - the DPs from James Cook High and Manurewa High will come to collect them. OUT OF ZONE enrolments have to be taken directly to the college you are applying for. Please remember that all high school enrolments are due in by 6th September.

### **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.

### **Headlice**

We continue to have an issue with head lice here at school. It is not a one dose treatment for headlice to eradicate them. You need to treat your children in a methodical way over a sustained period to rid them of these creatures. I suggest a metal comb and regular treatment weekly in order to ensure they are gone.

Can I please ask again that you help by

1. Checking your children's hair regularly
2. Treating your children's hair regularly
3. Supporting each other by everyone being vigilant with the treatments. This is the only way we can rid the school of them.

Malo aupito!

Melini Fasavalu

***Tumuaki / Principal***