



Year 6—Eltham Camp

On the 19th of February, the Year 6 classes went on a 4 day camp at Eltham. 54 students supported by an extremely helpful parent group, experienced the camping life of cooking, tenting and group exercises. They also went to New Plymouth, the Rotokare Scenic Reserve and Dawson Falls. Here are a few snippets from their thank you letters to the parents that helped.

"I had never been on a school camp before this! It was so much better than what I expected. My favourite part was hiking by the stream. I loved climbing up the rocks and crossing the stream. I also liked cooking our meals on the fire, it was easier than I thought it would be!" Evie Lerner

"On the first day, I really enjoyed Lake Rotokare. I loved learning about the fence and all of its abilities, the tracking tunnels, the different sorts of traps, and the plants. The hike to Dawson Falls was also pretty fun, especially the "rock climbing" bit." - Zuoan Wu

"Everyone appreciates how the parents got up early and went to bed late to ensure we had the best camp ever. I also liked how encouraging you were on camp, my socks will never be the same!!" - Liam Meijer

"My favourite meal at camp was the 'Billy Mince'. It took a while to cook the billy mince but it was appetizingly good. When I went home, the next day we had billy mince for dinner. The billy mince that we cooked was good but it wasn't as good as the one at camp." - Sae Nakata



Room 15 & 16 Trip to Bushy Park

Rooms 15 and 16 were so lucky with the weather for our visit to Bushy Park on Monday. We had a great day exploring the forest and the wetlands. One of our favourite activities was at Ratanui when Lisa from the Museum told us the story about "How Kiwi saved the Forest." Lisa is a great story teller. She showed us some actions to help us remember the story. Thank you to the parents that assisted on our trip.



Picnic on the Field

School Family Picnic in our beautiful school grounds.
Thursday 14th March, 5 →7pm

- ⇒ Bring your own food and refreshments. (No money required!!)
 - ⇒ BBQ provided.
 - ⇒ Bouncy Castle/Face Painting
 - ⇒ Decorate a Biscuit.
 - ⇒ Old fashioned Races. (If you can please bring a hard boiled egg & spoon).
 - ⇒ If you have any sacks please drop them into the office.
- P.S—The pool will be closed that evening.



Rededication and Reopening of the Whanganui Regional Museum

We have accepted a special invite to the Museum Festivities on Saturday 16th March at 2pm to celebrate the re opening of our city's Regional Museum. Our students will join others from around the city in a mass Kapahaka performance on the forecourt in front of the museum. We ask as many students as possible, in their school uniform, and their families, to join us at the bottom of the forecourt steps leading up to the old Sergeant Gallery at 1.45pm. Our school's Maori Tutor, Ash Patea will be revisiting with the students the words and actions for Haere Mai, Te Wai o Whanganui and E Rere. If you are able, we appreciate you supporting this community celebration. I will be holding the St Johns Hill School flag somewhere at the bottom of the steps!!!

A Question for us Parents

Are we aware of what our child sees on games they play on social media?
I was informed this morning of a pop-up that can appear on games such as "Fortnite" and "Peppa Pig". The concern is a pop-up which encourages children to self harm. This we find alarming. Through Netsafe each year we revisit cyber safety at school and will be doing this across the school. Please talk and monitor what your child watches.

A Message from the NZ Police:

New Zealand Police say they are concerned about any social media game or app that may encourage young people to hurt themselves or others. "We would recommend parents and caregivers sit down with their young people and speak with them about the dangers of viewing or engaging in the behaviour reportedly encouraged by this game. If parents feel they need further support, they can go to the Ministry of Health website for advice on a support service they may wish to engage with." says a police spokesperson.

HELPFUL HINTS:

- Some things you can do to help your children stay safe online include:
 - * Install software on your computer which either blocks restricted content or monitors activity so that you can review online behaviour.
 - * Know who your children are making contact with online. If they are not your children's actual friends then question their cyber friendship.
 - * Know which social networking sites your child is on and what information they are posting.
 - * Check that your children understand the dangers of posting personal information on social networking sites.
 - * Do not allow your children to use the computer in private areas of your home.
 - * If you or your child becomes suspicious about a person online, stop contact immediately.
- Netsafe has plenty of advice on staying safe in cyberspace. For more information visit their website <https://www.netsafe.org.nz/>
- WHERE TO FIND HELP AND SUPPORT**
Need to Talk? - Call or text 1737
Lifeline - 0800 543 354 or (09) 5222 999 within Auckland
Youthline - 0800 376 633, text 234, email talk@youthline.co.nz or online chat
Samaritans - 0800 726 666
Depression Helpline - 0800 111 757
Suicide Crisis Helpline - 0508 828 865 (0508 TAUTOKO)

Virtues Awards

Well done to the following students who were recently recognised for displaying their virtues.



Flexibility:
Mitchell Young.

Ako-Co operation working with others:
Hayley Bartlett.

Ako-Co operation:
Willow McCreedy.

Ako-Self discipline:
Jonas Pa'a.

Caring: Sophie Cairncross, Isla McKee, Caius Haxton, Taumaruru Town.

Friendliness: Vinnie O'Leary, Indigo Su'a, Thomas Zangel, Charlotte Foothead.



Flexibility:
Niamh Tighe, Ihaia Cooper.

Responsibility:
Lucy Reid, Isla Jones.

Ako-working and learning together:
Oliver Cairncross.

Friendliness:
Molly Carson, Wyatt Cross.

Caring: Thomas Bowen, Harriet Aplin, Jade Papworth, Zac Davy.

School Swimming Sports – Wednesday 13th March, 9:30 – 12:00

On Wednesday the 13th of March we will be holding our senior school swimming sports. This event will be held at the Splash Centre starting as close to 9:30am as possible. Students in years 4, 5 and 6 will be involved and will have to be able to confidently swim one length of the Splash Centre in either freestyle, backstroke or breaststroke. All students that are competing will be leaving school at 9:05 and walking to the Splash Centre. We will require some parents to accompany us for this walk. Please contact your child's classroom teacher if you are able to help.

School Triathlon – Friday 22nd March, 1pm – 2:45pm

On Friday 22nd of March we will be holding our senior school triathlon final. Prior to this date year groups will have run their own event and students will have recorded a time for doing a full triathlon. On the day of the final students will be grouped with others that have recorded similar times in practice races. Students will need to complete all three sections of the triathlon to compete on the day. They will require their togs, towel, bikes and helmet.

Children have this amazing way of becoming exactly who we tell them they are. If we tell them they are strong, they become strong. If we tell them they are kind, they become kind. If we tell them they are capable, they become capable. Speak life into your kids, so they will have what it takes to tackle their own life one day.

Amy Weatherly

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whanau,
Tena Koutou Katoa

A big thank you to the many parents and whanau who have helped our wonderful staff recently with EOTC experiences. I visited our seniors in Taranaki, our Year 4's at Bushy Park and look forward in a few weeks to visiting our Year 5 classes at Makahika.

The students have had wonderful learning experiences which will form fantastic childhood memories. Teachers take on enormous responsibility leading camps and I really appreciate their willingness and enthusiasm to do so.

By now you should have received the agreed learning and social goals your child/ren are working on. Please put them somewhere you can refer to and talk with your child about progress in them.

Below are a few events I ask you to put in your calendar for March:

- Monday 4th PTA Meeting, 7pm School Staffroom.
All new members welcome.
 - Wednesday 13th Senior Swimming Sports
Splash Centre
 - Thursday 14th School Picnic, 5 → 7pm, Top School Field.
 - Saturday 16th Museum Rededication.
 - Tuesday 19th School closes 12.30pm for Teachers Stop Work Meeting.
 - Friday 22nd School Triathlon.
- Have a great weekend
Michael Fitzgerald.

Farewell



Today we farewell our experienced, hardworking, and dedicated Administration Manager Annette Parkinson. We thank her for the 12 years of loyal service to our school and wish her every blessing for her retirement. I am sure she will be getting lots of calls from us to "pick her brains"!!! We will miss you Annette.

Welcome to School

A very warm welcome to Charlotte Aplin who recently joined our school family. We wish you all the best for your learning at our school.



Union Meeting

Tuesday 19th March School closed PM

According to our Collective Agreement our Union NZEI, has called a paid union meeting on Tuesday 19th March.

Students will need to be collected from school on this day at 12.30pm, lunchtime. Teachers will be discussing the Government response to recent claims and in light of this information, be deciding upon future action ie accept or reject offer.

School PTA Meeting

Monday 4th March, 7pm, Staffroom

All new members always welcome!!
Come along and see what we are all about!



Bible in School

Starts Wednesday 20th March. Programme delivered to Room 1→7. This is an international religious education programme which also supports the teaching of the values/virtues we promote and encourage at our school. Unless you personally have strong grounds for your child not to participate we encourage attendance. If your child is not to attend, please send a note. Children not attending will be supervised at the library. Thank you.