01 November 2019

Tena Koutou Katoa

Greetings Parents/Caregivers/Whanau

I hope you had an enjoyable Labour weekend.

The students are really enjoying their learning experiences. Thank you staff and helpers for all you are doing to engage our students and grow that "love of learning". The spring weather is great, especially with students across the school preparing for athletics.

Below are some key events to please put in your diary. Term 4 is a particularly busy time in schools. Not only preparing for end of year and all the administrative tasks required but also planning for 2020. We appreciate knowing of any change or if your child is not returning in 2020 as this impacts on sorting classes for next year.

Thanking you Michael.

Term 4—Significant dates to diary

November:

 \Rightarrow

- Tuesday 19th School Athletics \Rightarrow \Rightarrow Friday 22nd Mufti/Wheels Day - Foodbank Appeal \Rightarrow Tuesday 26th Interschool Athletics - Cooks Gardens \Rightarrow Wednesday 27th **BOT Meeting** \Rightarrow Thursday 28th Piwakawaka Team Picnic -(Rm 11/12/13/14) \Rightarrow Friday 29th Mitre 10 Mega Tough Kids December: \Rightarrow Tuesday 3rd Tui Team Picnic (Rm 9/10/15/16) \Rightarrow
- Tuesday 3rd Year 6 Senior Operetta - 7pm \Rightarrow Wednesday 4th \Rightarrow Wednesday 4th Ruru Team Picnic (Rm 5/6/7/8) Friday 6th **Reports Home** \Rightarrow Friday 6th Year 6 Social $\begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \uparrow \\ \uparrow \\ \uparrow \end{array}$ Tuesday 10th Karearea Team Picnic (Rm 1/2/3/4) Thursday 12th Year 6 Leavers Assembly, 9am-11am Friday 13th School closes 12noon.

Welcome to School

Great to have Alex Law join our family this week. We wish him all the best with his learning at our school.

Voluntary Donation

Thank you to all who have been able to make this payment to our school. High decile schools are once again being "hit in the pocket" financially. The Government is now allowing decile $1 \rightarrow 7$ schools to opt into a scheme where instead of asking parent/whanau for a donation, they can apply to the MOE for \$150 per pupil. Schools decile are done on a region by region basis. For Whanganui, St Johns Hill School is a Decile 9, the highest in Whanganui. However if we were put on a national decile system against many areas for example, Khandallah in Wellington/Remuera in Auckland/Hokowhitu in Palmerston North, I believe we would be much lower and we would receive considerably greater resourcing. Therefore, now not only do we receive significantly less money to operate the school, provide any special needs programme and support, employ teacher aides, purchase resources etc but now we are also disadvantaged in being unable to opt in for MOE School Donation Scheme.

If we were in the scheme, we would be able to apply for \$63,000. Currently from our school donation request we have received to date \$16,800. You can see the significant financial disadvantage. Protest is being made regarding the decision, however no change is going to be made.

The response is that families from high decile schools have the better means to support their school financially. I know, for some, this is not the case. We do appreciate your efforts to support our school through the donation, and your support of our hardworking PTA, who also put in much effort to fundraise for "extras" the school needs. On that note, a huge thank you to our PTA who have just contributed \$21,000 from their recent fundraising efforts for heat pumps. We now have them installed in all our classrooms, ready for the hot summer months. Yes!!!



Virtues Programme

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



Self Discipline: Ariana Taituma, Tyson Back, Taylor McLachlan. Determination: Charlie Devane. Co-operation: Xavier Saunders, Consideration: Kayla-Rose Yakas, James Macpherson, Sam Ellingham, Jonty Belliss. Diligence: Sophie Bennetts. Kyley Kirk Kindness to his new buddy Jethro: Carter Hoskin Rangatiratanga-trying to do our best always: Connor Ellicott, Lukas Gruebsch.

Chess Nationals Report

On the 18th of October, Matt Smith, Jack Bowen, Liam Meijer and Talyor McLachlan went to Christchurch to represent St Johns Hill School in the National Team Event and then competed as individuals. First was the team event which was run by Chess Power. Our school placed 16th out of 42 teams. Taylor got 5 points in the team event. Matt also got 5 points in the team event and Liam also got 5 points and Jack got 3 and 1/2 points finishing with 18 and 1/2 points. The next day, the individual tournament also run by Chess Power. We each played 9 games. Liam got 7 points (wins) and placed 7th overall. Taylor got 6 points and came 22nd overall. Matt got 4.5 points and got 54th overall and Jack got 3 and 1/2 points placing 89th overall. There were 126 people in the individual tournament.

Thank you so much to all the families that supported our trip with

the gold coin donation on the mufti-day. Also, a huge thank you to our parents who helped make this happen.

By Matt, Jack, Liam and Taylor.

Room 6 Art Gallery Visit

Room 6 visited the Whanganui Art Gallery last Friday. We viewed the 'Retrospect' Exhibition by Wi Taepa, which looks at over thirty

years of clay work by the Māori ceramist. Wi combines his background in whakairo (carving) and sculpture, creating beautiful vessels that tell stories about his life and the environment around him. Clay building techniques of coiling, pinching and slab are used to create Wi's artworks. Upon returning to the art classroom,

Sietske Jansma (art educator) modelled making a pinch pot using some of the techniques and features viewed in Wi's work. A slab of clay was handed to students (and parents!) to make their own innovative pinch pot creations, using inspiration from Wi and Sietske. The finished artworks are being fired, to be returned to their artists in a few week's time.

A big thank you to whanau who supported us on this visit.



Academic Achievement and/or Progress: Congratulations to the following students:



Jett Casey	Outstanding work with coding.
lvy Lilley	Outstanding development of her writing
	(speech).
Lila Cavanagh	Excellent Procedural Writing - Very clear instructions
-	on how to make a cup of Milo.
Ethan Toy	Excellent thinking around algorithms and instructions.
Liam McCosh	Creative thinking expressed orally and in his writing.
Macey Wakeling	Excellent written retelling of a story.
Zac Davies	Confidently reading longer texts.
Serena Chernoff	Excellent effort in writing. Rangatiratanga.
Logan Plant	Excellent problem solving when applying his fraction
	knowledge during mathematical collaboration.
Sophie Puklowski	Applying herself in all learning areas.
Natasha Yuen	Always having a great attitude and fantastic work in
	all learning areas.
Gabriella Agnew	Showing determination across literacy learning
-	areas, always trying your best and challenging
	yourself.
Saskia Metcalfe	, Developing a positive attitude towards her
	reading at school and at home!
Jackson Hay	Setting learning goals and thinking in depth in
	reading.
Isaak Joblin-Mills	Always doing his best and having a growth mindset.
Colored Blocker	

School Photos

Photolife keycodes were sent home with all students last week. Photos can be viewed and ordered online at: www.photolife.co.nz using your individual keycode. Order before 17th November for free delivery.

Bird of the Year

Mrs Beautrais and Whaia Lisa from the Whanganui Regional Museum came to Room 5 to teach the students about the Tieke. The Tieke is the bird Mrs Beautrais is hoping people will vote for this year for Bird of the Year. The Tieke has been brought back from extinction and can be seen at Bushy Park. Every Room 5 student made a Tieke mask. Whaia Lisa told Room 5 the legend of Maui and Tieke.

Mrs Beautrais told everyone to persuade 10 people who could then persuade 10 more people to vote for the Tieke. Room 5 is also busy making posters to hang up around the school. You can vote for the Tieke at www.forestandbird.org.nz/bird-year-2019 Voting opened the 28th of October and closes 5pm Sunday the 10th of November 2019. By Emily Jamieson.



Here is Room 5 wearing their Tieke masks.

School Website Address: www.stjohnshill.school.nz

Green-Gold Enviroschool EARTH KIDS Education for Sustainability Schoolgen School Health Promoting School



Thank you PTA for all your help, support and hard

work with this fundraiser. \$12,208 was raised.

Prizes will be available for collection from Room 17

(Classroom at end of school main driveway) between

3-3.30pm on Monday 4th November. Parents/Caregivers need to accompany their child to collect the prize.

PB4L - Positive Behaviour For Learning

PB4L is a school wide look at behavior and learning from a whole-of-school as well as an individual child perspective. The framework is based on international evidence.

PB4L School-Wide takes at least 3-5 years to put in place. Over this time, schools should see:

Incidents of problem behaviour decline

- The behaviour of students improve
- Teachers spending more time teaching
- Students more engaged and achieving

PB4L School-Wide takes the approach that opportunities for learning and achievement increase if:

- The school environment is positive and supportive
- Expectations are consistently clear
- Students are consistently taught desired behaviours
- Students are consistently acknowledged for desired
- behaviours and undesirable behaviours are responded to in a fair and equitable way.
- We are currently investigating our school taking on this professional development.
- Our school has a very responsive behaviour management programme based on restorative practice, our virtues programme and concept of Living above the line. However maintaining this safe and positive environment requires us to regularly be reviewing, adjusting and adapting innovative practices. Our school is finding that students needs are changing and that managing challenging behaviour is growing. Parents are also reporting increased tensions with student behaviour and wellbeing.
- We are happy that this commitment to PB4L over the next few years, will assist students, staff and whanau.
- Staff meet with the PB4L facilitator later this month and further information will follow.

Celebrating Success

Congratulations to the following students who have achieved success in their chosen activities.

Grace Ivory: 2nd overall Level Two Aeroschools Taranaki-Whanganui Gym Sports Tri Series 2.

Leah Bullock: Raced at the NZ Motox Mini Nationals during the school holidays. She finished 5th in NZ, 7-9yrs 110cc class, first girl home. Racing her brothers bike and having only spent a couple weeks on it to practice. We are very proud of her determination!

Lily Newton: Congratulations to Lily who won her category in the recent Whangavegas Extravaganza Wearable Art Competition. Lily's design Rainbow Phoenix was inspired by the birdlife at Bushy Park and won the under 13 category which is a great achievement at just 9 years old. You may recognise the model, Lily's older brother Jake who was one of our Rata house leaders last year.





