

# Room 4

At technology yesterday some of our Year 7 boys creating these very decorative boards. They had to find an inspirational word and by using various art techniques they came up with these masterpieces.



Dear Parents/Caregivers, Tena Koutou Katoa

### 1) Attendance

Student attendance, along with effective teaching, has the greatest influence on student engagement and achievement. All students must be present at school so they can participate and engage in learning. Parents and Boards of Trustees are legally responsible to ensure students' have regular attendance at school. Students with high absenteeism are less likely to succeed in their learning. If a student misses just five school days each term, or one day a fortnight, they will miss the equivalent of one year of school over 10 years. **PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD IS AT SCHOOL EVERYDAY.** If there are problems or issues getting your child to school, please let us know. We often have some ideas that can help. We also have a number of students who are regularly late, this means that they usually miss important instruction every morning and consistently miss this instruction in the same learning area. We now are requiring all students who arrive at school after 9.00am to report to the office so that Mr Bowmar can mark them present. This is because the teacher will have already called the roll before that time and will have marked late students absent.

### 2) Internet Safety Agreement

As most parents will know using the internet to access the vast and exciting educational sites has become part of all classrooms throughout the world. As part of our responsibility to ensure our pupils are only able to access educational sites, we have a number of safety mechanisms/procedures in place. These are listed below;

- Pupils are only allowed to access the internet with a teacher present.
- Junior pupils are supervised and assisted by a teacher when accessing the net.
- We have a "Net Nanny" installed in our server that only allows educational sites.
- Internet student agreement which outlines student responsibility when using the internet.

It is our vision that this educational tool is used in a safe and appropriate manner by all our pupils and we ask that **you discuss and if you haven't signed, please sign the attached Internet Agreement** with your child and have them return it to school.

### **3) 'Snapped Ya'**

Last week we had our first 'Snapped Ya' of the year. 'SnappedYa' is a PB4L (Positive Behaviour for Learning) initiative. The PB4L focus for last week is **Respect**. The recipients are **Jessie-Lee Beatson, Zion Edwards-Epiha, Te Rehua Harrison, Rangimarie Rakich, Kree Hape and Jacob Merlo**.



The PB4L focus for this week is **Tikanga**. The recipients are **Brodie Dawson, Zion Edwards-Epiha, Simeon Tahitahi, Angel Tawhai, Cyris Murray-Foster and Mataki Wharewaka- Cassidy**.

### **4) Meet the Teacher Afternoon**

We will be holding an informal 'Meet the Teacher' afternoon on **Tuesday 28th February**, outside the Whare from 4.00pm - 5.30pm. We will be putting on a sausage sizzle for all those parents and children that attend this event. We will also have the pool facilities available to use during this event. Please note that the pool will only be available for families of our school. We look forward to a pleasant afternoon which we hope you will be able to attend.

### **5) Uniforms**

Our uniforms are looking really smart! Please ensure that your child's shirts are clearly named, especially as our students are now swimming. Remember all students require a school hat for all breaks this term. The expectation is that all students are in uniform and if for any reason your child has not yet purchased a polo shirt, it is important that you contact the school. We will assist in any way that we can.

### **6) Mathematics Specialist Teacher**

We are very fortunate this year to be involved in a Ministry of Education initiative to train a specialist maths teacher. Keriana TePaa is undergoing this training and will be studying at university as part of this programme. She will be working with small groups of students to accelerate their progress in mathematics and will also be working with whanau and teachers to help with some learning ideas.

### **7) Assessment**

Over the next few weeks students will have assessments in numeracy, reading

and writing. This data is shared with students, so they know where they are, where they should be, but more importantly, they set goals for their learning. Students then conference with their teachers on what they need to do to achieve these learning goals. We welcome any inquiries about this and it would be very beneficial to your child's achievement to have conversations at home around their set goals.

### **8) Western Zone Swimming**

Our Western Zone Swimming competition will be take place on **Friday 3rd March**. As usual we will be sending a large contingent of pupils from Year 4 - Year 8 to the **town pool** to compete in the annual Western Zone swimming competition which involves Pukepoto, Pampurua and ourselves. The official start time is at **9:30am**, however since we are organising this event we will be leaving school **around 8:50am**. We look forward to another awesome day and we extend a warm welcome to all parents/caregivers to come along and support your tamariki. Keep an eye out for further information in upcoming newsletters.

### **9) Library**

Do you have an hour or so to spare once a week? If so, we would love to hear from you. The library team is looking for a group of parents/community members to form a **FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY** group. The library is always being upgraded and the more hands the better. So come on in, have a cuppa and help make our library a stimulating and vibrant learning centre.

We welcome any ideas or suggestions to improve our school. Please feel free to share any ideas. Thank you

Kia Ora,  
Jackie Osborne  
Tumuaki/Principal

**If you wish to receive the newsletter by email please indicate on this return slip (remember it is also on our website)**

Please email me the Ahipara School Newsletter

My child's name is \_\_\_\_\_

My email address is \_\_\_\_\_

My name/signature \_\_\_\_\_

### **Vaccinations**

It is time to build on basic protection by having your child immunised. Your Public Health Nurse has made arrangements to deliver education sessions to the Year 7's for the combined Tetanus, Diptheria and Pertussis (Whooping Cough) vaccine and Year 8's for HPV vaccination. Consent/ non-consent forms will also be given out at this time. Parents and caregivers are welcome to attend: 1st session.

**Wednesday 22nd February**

Year 7: 10:30am

Year 8: 10:45am