



Happy Matariki Everyone!



We hope everyone is enjoying lots of happy time with their whanau and friends during Matariki. Thanks to our whanau visitors who have come in and helped with our classroom activities. If any of you are heading out to fish over Matariki, here is some advice from a student in Room 9. This story won her a fishing rod in a school-wide competition! Awesome writing Shyla-Jade.

How to fish for the future

Have you ever seen people poaching fish before? Well here's an explanation of why fishing for the future is important.

Fishing for the future can be quite easy for some people. If you aren't one of those people, listen carefully, here's what you can do.

Make sure you bring a ruler to see if the fish isn't too small. Anything smaller than 25 centimetres must be put back in the water, but carefully with a wet towel. When you put it back in the water with your bare hands, the fish's scales will come off and they will get sick and die. You wouldn't want to kill a beautiful, innocent, baby fish, would you?

You'd probably be happy when you catch a big fish on your fishing rod, torpedo or net. Well here's an end to that. Big fish might be pregnant so if you eat pregnant fish you are also eating the baby fish smaller than 25 centimetres. Even if the fish is not pregnant, the very big fish still needs to breed!

When you catch a good-sized fish you put it in a bucket or chilly bin. But before you put the fish in the chilly bin or bucket, you want to put salt ice in it, not fresh water ice. The salt water is really important. If you don't put salt water in it, then the fish will go off quicker and you wouldn't want to eat rotten fish!

So make sure you fish for the future with these few simple tips to follow...and don't forget, always wear a life jacket and tell your family where you are going and when you will be back.

Thank you Mr Minstrel, for telling us how to fish for the future!

By Shyla-Jade Goodhue-Wikitera



AHIPARA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

NGA KORERO O TE KURA O AHIPARA



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Number 20

Dear Parents/Caregivers, Tena Koutou Katoa

1) Celebrating Success

This week's 'Celebrating Success' goes to **Liana Brown** and **Blair McDonald**. Liana has been selected for the Presidents XV Taniwha squad and Blair has been selected for the Mangonui Taniwha squad. This year the annual Taniwha Shield Rugby Tournament will be hosted by Mangonui, in Taipa. The tournament starts on the 11th July and runs to the 15th July. Congratulations Liana and Blair on your selection.



2) Mid Year Reports

As mentioned in the last few newsletters, we will be holding our annual **Pupil/Parent/Teacher Report Interviews on Thursday 6th July**. Interview times will start from 8:00am and will finish at 6:00pm. Parents will need to make alternative arrangements during the day as our teaching staff will not be available for normal classroom duties. We look forward for the opportunity to explain your child's report in depth with you and your child. We strongly recommend that you bring your child to the interview as they are the main stakeholder in the partnership that can ultimately effect positive change to their achievement levels. Students will also be taking an active role in this process and will be reporting on their progress of their learning. All pupils have been given an interview time sheet which needs to be returned to allocate a time for your interview. If you did not receive one of these, please contact the school office to request a time. If you are unable to attend on this day don't hesitate to contact your classroom teacher to make alternative arrangements. We are aiming for **100%** of our students sharing and celebrating their progress with their parents. As part of our community consultation, we will be asking you to complete a short survey about how we can improve at the finish of your interview. This will assist us with reviewing our programmes.

3) Uniforms

We have a collection of uniform clothing that has been handed into the school office. If your child has lost any uniform item please come in and check. We can't over emphasise the importance of ensuring that all clothing is clearly named so we can return lost items to the correct owners. Please ensure your child comes to school in correct uniform. A reminder that our winter uniform of a polar fleece and a jacket are available for purchase at The Warehouse. If your child wears long sleeved clothing under their polo shirts could you please ensure that they are school colours. If children are wearing **plain BLACK** sweatshirts, cardigan, jerseys, etc they will not be asked to remove them

4) Medicines

We have a number of asthma inhalers and various medications held at school that belong to students and a number of these are now out of date. Could you please ensure that any medication in the sick bay is current and if your child no longer requires it, please collect it from the office.

5) Cyber Safety and Digital Citizenship

As more and more children have access to social networks it is timely to think about how we can support them in a digital world.

Here are some tips.

Facebook requires users to enter their real birth date. If they're under 13 and truthful about their age, they won't be allowed to sign up. Just like communities in the physical world, no social networking site, virtual world, online game, or any other social-media service can provide a guarantee of 100% safety, Facebook included. Why? Because this is the social Web, and safety depends a great deal on users' behaviour toward one another.

Specific social networking risks include...

- Harassment or online bullying ("cyber bullying") on the part of your children or others.
- Posting information about themselves that: a) could be used to embarrass or manipulate them; b) could cause psychological harm; c) could be used by criminals to steal their identity or property or determine their physical location to cause physical harm.
- Damage to reputation or future prospects because of young people's own behaviour or that of their peers, unkind or angry posts, compromising photos or videos, or group conflict depicted in text and imagery.
- Spending too much time online, losing a sense of balance in their activities ("too much" is subjective, which is why parents need to be engaged).
- Exposure to inappropriate content, **it's about respect.**

It's also important to talk about the **Golden Rule: treating others the way you want to be treated.** This also applies to using new technologies. Make sure your teens know where to go for support if someone ever harasses them. Help them understand how to make responsible and safe choices about what they post, because anything they put online can be misinterpreted or taken out of context. Whatever you post, positive or negative, can affect your relationships with people, how they feel about you and what they might say about you to others. We all need to remember that we're interacting with people in social networking sites – not text and images – even though the text and images are much more visible than the people.

Because Facebook use is based on real names and identities, it's directly tied to "real life" – in the case of young people, mostly school life and relationships. So, just as in offline life, children need their parents' help as they navigate both adolescence and the social Web.

You can help them understand...

- How important it is for their own online well-being to be mindful of what they say,

share, and upload (as well as send on mobile phones)

- How smart it is to present themselves in a positive light online
- How much better their online experiences will be if they stay on good terms with others in their online as well as offline communities. "A Parents' Guide to Facebook" is online at www.fbparents.org

6) Matariki

Please keep an eye out for invitations to your child's class for Matariki celebrations. The juniors are planting native trees next week and would love some assistance if you have any time to spare.

7) Garden Update

This Saturday we have some major infrastructure work happening. This is around drainage and making gravel paths so we can move our planter boxes down. Our fruit trees have been purchased and the garden will slowly start to take shape in the coming weeks. Thank you to all those who have volunteered and helped behind the scenes.

8) Pokemon Cards

These are starting to cause some issues around ownership and teachers are spending more and more time sorting this out. We have asked our students to problem solve this issue and come up with some ideas so that we won't have to ban them from school (which we really don't like to do). If you have some ideas about how students can manage this, please talk to your child and help them to come up with a solution.

9) End of Term Dates

Next **Friday 7th July**, we complete Term Two and school will be closed for 2 weeks at the normal time. We reopen on **Monday 24th July**.

Nga Mihi
Jackie Osborne
Tumuaki/Principal



We welcome any comments about our school. We are continually striving to improve and value any ideas on how to do so.