



## NEWSLETTER - week 5, term 1, 2020

### From the Principal

Kia ora e te whānau,

Half way through the term already! A great week last week for the Mana sleepover and Taupō camp.

#### MANA SLEEPOVER

Last thursday night Mana syndicate had their sleepover. The weather was fantastic and the children had a great time participating in a variety of camp type activities. For a number of children it was their first time sleeping over without their parents, but they showed great manawa titi - resilience. Thank you to all the parents who did stay overnight and help out in a variety of ways.



#### TAUPŌ CAMPS

Our Taupō students went to camp at Greytown last week. The weather was amazing for the whole week and everyone was very grateful for the swimming pool to cool down at the end of each day. The highlight for most was the Patuna Chasm. It was a stunning walk through the bush, a limestone chasm with fossils and a waterfall, and a walk or swim through the Taukokoputuna river. The students worked in groups to plan and cook their own meals and took responsibility for pitching their own tents. Throughout the 3 days the students displayed our new school values in a variety of situations. Thank you to all the wonderful parents who helped out over the week.





## COVID 19 UPDATE

This week all students have been reminded of good nose blowing and [handwashing technique](#). The recommended time for handwashing is 20 seconds, or two repeats of the Happy Birthday song. We now hear lots of singing of this song as we walk past the Kōwhai syndicate toilets!

On a more serious note, we would like to stress the importance of students staying at home if sick. Please also be understanding if you are contacted to collect an unwell child.

## SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Our School assemblies are a time to celebrate achievements and share some of what has been happening in our school. We also acknowledge students who have shown our school values through the presentation of values awards. Our next assembly is next week (Friday 13 March) and we will be presenting **Whitireiatanga** awards for students who have shown that they **aim high**. All families and friends are most welcome to attend.

At our last assembly we presented 37 students with **Manawa Titi** awards for showing the value of **resilience** - pictured below, less those that were at swimming or don't like their picture taken!



Back row: Te Aio, Scarlett, Tommy, Jesse, Joe, Charlie. Middle row: Sian, Jack, Maddy, Hope, Danae, Annabel, Olivia. Front row: Ella, Vaimatau, Isaia, Phineas, Kayla-Rose, Maddi



Karli, Maddeline, Cannon, Belle, Anna, Indigo, Riley

**Ngā mihi,**  
**Mike Forrest,**  
**Tumuaki - Principal**

**"Ka ako tahi tātou, ka tupu tahi tātou. Together we learn, together we grow."**

## PTA News

In 2019 the Plimmerton School Parent Teacher Association presented the amount of \$70,000 to the Board of Trustees. This was raised by your support of events like the Craft Beer Fair, the Quiz Night and of course our amazingly successful Gala.

Some of the stalwarts of the PTA have moved on now as their children are attending college. This means that to continue to be able to provide Plimmerton School with additional resources and staffing not funded by the Ministry we need active innovative parents to join the PTA. The resources we have which make us a desirable school, have been contributed to by parents who want to make a difference for their child and their learning.

We would like to invite you to the Annual General Meeting of the PTA which will be held in the Staffroom at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 7th April. This brief meeting will be followed by our monthly meeting. Even if you would just like to come to find out more about the PTA's role at Plimmerton School please know you will be made very welcome at this meeting.

If you have any queries please contact Katrin Ellison 02108001086 or Rosemary Oxnam on 2338677 ext 9.

Our Term 1 Sausage Sizzle will be held on Friday, 13th March and Friday, 3rd April. Thanks for your support.

## Student News

### Calling all scientists, technologists, engineers and mathematicians - we need your help!

Some of our Year 5/6 students will be taking part in the Wonder Project Rocket Challenge in Term 2. It's an amazing programme designed to get young Kiwis excited about STEM - science, technology, engineering and maths.

The programme pairs STEM professionals with teachers to deliver the learning and we need more volunteers to help our kids design, build and launch water rockets!

Keen to help? It only requires 1 hour a week for 6-8 weeks during Term 2. The Wonder Project team provides all training and resources, including a rocket kit, a rocket launcher and all the learning modules.

You don't have to be a rocket scientist to guide young people on the Rocket Challenge.

Register online at [wonderproject.co.nz](http://wonderproject.co.nz)

[Here is a fabulous recount of camp from one of our Year 8 students...](#)

## My Greytown Camp Experience

by Annamieka Moreton

### DAY 1

The long-awaited day had finally arrived : Camp! A windy ride to Greytown later, we all stood, looking out in awe at the green, grassy campsite, a site for sore eyes. Everyone carefully chose a tent site and set out on pitching their tents, big and small.

Time for activities! Pancake making was definitely my favourite, but another contender highly favoured was the obstacle course, reaching over all stretches of the playground. Other activities were : physical skills, bush art, drama and a lava game. Don't forget Greytown Community Pool!

After drastic dinners from everyone it was the nightline, where adults finally got their chance for revenge at the children. Clanging pots and shrieking filled the air, and the sound of water being poured. We scattered around each other nervous and fearful , until it was our turn...

Pyjamas and teeth, then a sound sleep followed.

*"Ka ako tahi tātou, ka tupu tahi tātou. Together we learn, together we grow."*



## DAY 2

Everyone woke up happy. Of course they did! Today was the Chasm! Carefully double checking equipment and packing lunches, we determinedly hopped into cars to reach Patuna Farm. Past regret, we had arrived at the start of the chasm, after an earthquake-feeling trailer ride. It was time! Cautiously, we poked our feet into the cold, cold water. Drawing it up in shock, I realised I would have to get used to it. Trudging along, we began the long chasm, sloshing in cold water and falling over slippery rocks.

At the almost end, everyone who had remained dry wouldn't anymore. The deepest bit of the chasm lay before us, over all the teacher's height. We would have to swim. Kids threw out their bags and dived into the water, while others took minutes of persuasion and help. But, everyone safely made it across and could eat their lunch, soaked.

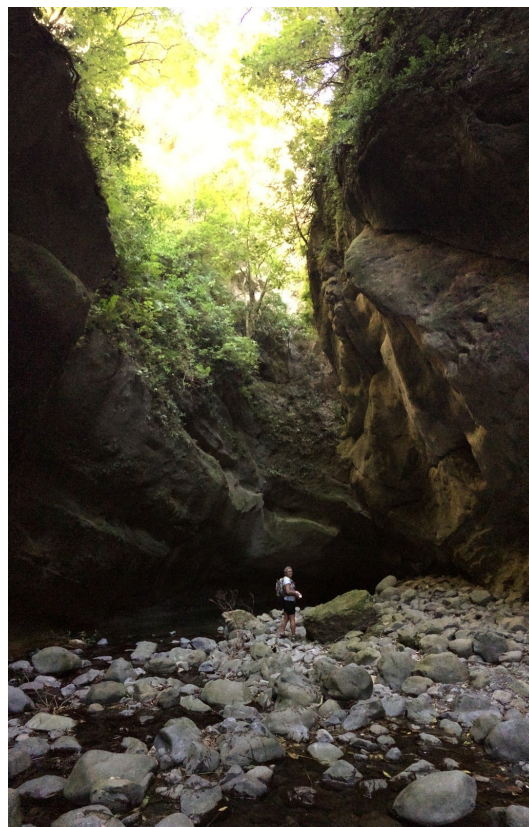
Arriving back at camp followed some free-time and recounting stories with other groups that arrived, one after the other. A refreshing time in the pool relaxed everyone, smiling and happy in the late afternoon hours.

Dinner, desert, and fun physical games, then Day 2 was finished.

## DAY 3

I woke up with a heavy heart. It was time to leave the beautiful campsite, but not the memories. In the blistering sun, we all packed away tents and settled out leftovers. Hurried lunch, then people unwillingly sulked into cars.

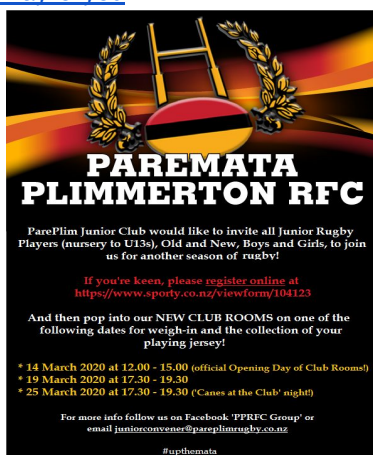
We had had an amazing camp but it was grudgingly time to go back.



## Community News

*These are provided as a service to the community & may not reflect the policies and practices of the school.*

"Former student Ella Wood has released her first two singles online! Ella is currently in year 13 at Aotea College. The songs are available on a number of platforms and can be downloaded and shared. Check them out by following this link <https://smarturl.it/ellamayforyou> "



*"Ka ako tahi tātou, ka tupu tahi tātou. Together we learn, together we grow."*