

Te Kura o Taupō



NEWSLETTER - week 3, term 4, 2020

From the Principal

Kia ora e te whānau,

SCHOOL POOL

It has been a disrupted start to the summer's swimming programme with some issues with the school pool gas boiler. Unfortunately diagnosing the issues and getting the parts has taken some time! We are optimistic that the repairs needed will be completed early next week and that the pool will be warm enough for swimming to recommence.



BREAD TAGS

Thank you for all the bread tags! We are still collecting them in the office. Thank you to Brian Keats who has made us a box with dividers. This helps sort them ready to send to Africa, so that they can be sold for funds to buy wheelchairs.

KŌWHAI STUDENTS - RETURNING TO COLLECTION FROM CLASS AFTER SCHOOL.

As you know, due to Covid levels, the Kōwhai children have been walking down the driveway to meet parents at the end of the day. This has had some benefits including children being more independent and managing their own belongings. We will be encouraging children to keep using these skills.

However, we have missed parents visiting classes and catching up with teachers. So now we would like to make a change to the afternoon pick up routine and from **Monday 2nd November** we will be dismissing children from class.

Parents of Kōwhai students, in the interest of safety, please talk to your child and any older siblings about where they are going to meet you and please let your teacher know by email or in their notebook. Please email or call the office with any changes to established pick up routines. Please remind your child that if no one is at the agreed pick up point they should return to the office.

Please also can you be aware that classes may be using the area by the Junior Playground in the afternoon.

OLYMPIC AMBASSADOR

Yesterday we had the pleasure of having an Olympic Ambassador visit our school to talk to the students. This year our Olympic Ambassador was Peter Taylor, a member of the New Zealand rowing team who won a bronze medal with partner Storm Eru in the lightweight double sculls at the 2012 London Olympics. Peter talked alot about our school values of whitireiatanga - we aim high, and Manawa titi - we are resilient. He shared the story of how he missed out on selection five times before he made the New Zealand rowing team. Peter encouraged the students to give everything a go and find the thing you are passionate about.

BOOK CLUB

Students will be bringing home a Scholastic Book Club pamphlet over the next week. This is full of great books at some very good prices, including some bonus Christmas titles. If you would like to order some books please order by credit card using the instructions on the back page. You will not need to fill out the order form but simply order via scholastic.co.nz/LOOP or download the app.

END OF YEAR CONCERT

Our end of year concert will be held on Wednesday 9th December from 6 - 7 pm. This is an opportunity for the bands, syndicate choirs and kapa haka to perform for their friends and whanau. Everyone is invited to come early and picnic at school before the concert begins. Students are encouraged to wear some Christmas decorations.

YUMMY STICKERS

Thank you parents and students who brought in yummy stickers. We raised \$817.00 to spend on sports equipment. The last few years we have raised around \$300 so this year was an exceptional effort.



KEEPING OURSELVES SAFE PARENT MEETING

From Week 7 of Term 4 students in both Kowhai and Te Mana o Kupe syndicates will be taking part in the Keeping Ourselves Safe programme.

Keeping Ourselves Safe is a comprehensive child abuse prevention programme for schools. Its purpose is to:

- teach students a range of safe practices that they can use when interacting with other people, both online and face to face
- teach students how to recognise the difference between healthy and unhealthy relationships, and encourage students who have been or are being abused to seek help
- prevent abuse by making parents and teachers more aware of their responsibilities to help students avoid abuse.

Teachers in both syndicates will teach the lessons which form the programme, with the support of Sue Bush, our School Community Officer from the New Zealand Police. Her role is to support schools to plan and implement Keeping Ourselves Safe.

On **Monday 9th November**, Sue will present an overview of Keeping Ourselves Safe for parents. You are invited to a meeting at **6.30 pm in the school library, Te Korowai Manaaki**. From **7.10 pm** Sue will be focussing on the prevention of digital harm for our students and this part of her presentation will provide very helpful information for parents of students up to Year 5 and 6. Parents of **Hongoeka Syndicate students are very welcome**, as the topic of digital harm links closely with the health unit currently being covered in that syndicate.

Thank you
Rosemary Oxnam

PROVIDING FOOD OR PRESENTS FOR BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS AT SCHOOL

We have had inquiries recently from parents wishing to send food or presents to school to share, as a way of celebrating their child's birthday. While we appreciate the gesture, we would like to draw the attention of parents and caregivers to our Healthy Eating Procedure which can be found on the school website in School Docs.

The school's guidelines under Food and Nutrition state:

- Providing food to children/classes by parents/guardians to celebrate a child's birthday (or similar) at school will not be permitted.
- These guidelines were developed to protect children who have food allergies but also to remove the pressure that many parents felt under, to provide food for a whole class to celebrate their child's birthday.

We do then, respectfully ask that parents do not send food or presents to school to share on their child's birthday. Your child's birthday will still be acknowledged and celebrated by their teacher and classmates.

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

YEAR 8 LEAVERS DINNER FUNDRAISING

The year 8 leavers will be fundraising over the next few weeks for their leavers dinner. Next week they will be selling ice-blocks at lunch time. The ice blocks will be \$1. Mana and Kowhai students can order in class in the morning and their ice blocks will be delivered to their class. Hongoeka and Taupo students will purchase their ice blocks from tables set up on the courtyard.

MATHATHON

Thank you to all the students and parents who have gathered sponsorship for the mathathon. Please ensure each sponsor signs the form when the money is collected. The completed forms and money need to be back at school by the 30th October with either cash or eftpos at the office.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Our School assemblies are a time to celebrate achievements, share some of what has been happening in our school and acknowledge students who have shown our school values through the presentation of values awards. Our next assembly is tomorrow - Friday 6 November. All families and friends are most welcome to attend.

SECOND TEACHER ONLY DAY THIS TERM

This is a reminder of the teacher only day scheduled for Week 5 - Friday 13 November.

Ngā mihi,
Mike Forrest
Tumuaki/Principal

PTA News

SAUSAGE SIZZLE

We will have our Friday lunchtime **sausage sizzle** fundraisers **6 November** and **4 December**. Please note there is a price change, as the price we pay for the food has gone up in the last few months:

Sausage \$2

Charlie's Juice pouch \$2

PLIMMERTON VOICES

Do you have an interest in local people and what they do? Then this event next Friday may be of interest to you - "Plimmerton Voices". The google form to secure seats is here - <https://forms.gle/5GxT69Hphd1mCZYs8>

MONSTER GARAGE SALE

Our **Monster Garage sale** (instead of a Gala this year) will be held on Saturday 21 November. More information and how you can help will come out next week.

Thanks for helping with our fundraising activities.

ENTERTAINMENT MEMBERSHIP

Support Plimmerton School by buying an Entertainment Membership! It's a fully digital solution that is valid for 12 months and is easy to use. Thank you for your continued support - 20% of every Entertainment Membership goes directly to our school. To support Plimmerton School, just click on this [link](#).

Sports News

NAVY NETBALL TEAM vs. BASKETBALL A TEAM

The top netball and basketball teams had an epic Netball match yesterday lunchtime. It was a close encounter with both teams showing a lot of skill and determination. The Netballers ended up winning the match by 2 points! We look forward to the return game next Wednesday, which will be a basketball game. Thanks Thomas Duncan for organising.

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