



# Merrilands School Newsletter

Issue 1

Friday 12 February 2021

'A CARING COMMUNITY INSPIRING LIFELONG LEARNING'

## Tēnā koutou katoa

Welcome back to school for 2021!

We've had such a wonderful start to the new school year. We are really proud of all of our tamariki as they've returned to school, settling into the routines and striving to be the very best they can be.

We have welcomed a whopping 36 new students to our school so far this year. On behalf of everyone at Merrilands, I again extend a heartfelt welcome to all of our new students and their whānau. I'm sure you're all going to enjoy your time here with us.

The Community BBQ tomorrow night is a great opportunity for families to reconnect and for new families to meet other people. We hope to see you all there between 5.00pm-7.00pm. The pool will be open so people are welcome to bring their togs. Adults please make sure you are supervising your child/ren while in the pool. The Home & School have sausages & ice blocks for sale but encourage you all to bring a picnic this year.

For those students who sat ICAS assessments last year, these have started to arrive in the post and will be distributed to bring home as they come to us. There was a much longer than usual wait on results this time round.

Kapa Haka this year is continuing but in a slightly different way. Matua John will be leading our roopu, with Mr Kennedy continuing to support also. Whaea Unity will continue to guide and support our school but her timetable at NPGHS this year meant that she wasn't available each week at the same time. We look forward to continuing to keep connected with her as we appreciate the incredible work she has put in over the years to guide our roopu. Matua John looks forward to working with her, and our tamariki through Kapa Haka this year and continuing to grow and develop Kapa Haka at our school. He comes with experience from Taradale Intermediate where he has led their roopu of 200+ students for a number of years. He has also performed at the national Matatini festival so will bring lots of experience to the role. He invites any whanau who would like to come and learn our local waiata to join them on Wednesdays at 2.10pm in the hall.

Have a wonderful year and if I haven't caught up with you yet, I look forward to doing so soon.

Ngā manaakitanga

Michelle Cronin  
Principal

### Key Dates for Term 1

FEBRUARY	
Tue 16	Community BBQ 5.00pm & Korero Mai - Class Info Evening
Fri 26	Assembly 10.15am – Seniors
MARCH	
Sat 6	Multi-Ethnic Extravaganza Street Parade
Mon 8	Taranaki Anniversary Day School Closed
Fri 12	Assembly 10.15am – Middles
Fri 12	Swimming Sports – 12.30pm
Wed 17- Fri 19	Yr 5 & 6 Camp – Vertical Horizons
Wed 24	BOT Meeting – 6.30pm
Fri 26	Assembly 10.15am – Juniors
APRIL	
Thu 1	Teacher Only Day – School Closed
Fri 2 – Tue 6	Easter – School Closed
Fri 16	Assembly 10.15am – SHINE Assembly followed by SHINE TIME
Fri 16	Term 1 Ends
MAY	
Mon 3	Term 2 Starts
Fri 14	Assembly 10.15am – Leaders

## Community BBQ & Korero Mai Time

Tuesday 16 February

A great opportunity for families to reconnect and for new families to our school to meet other people.



Come along from 5.00pm – 7.00pm this coming Tuesday.  
Bring along a picnic for your family.



The Home & School will also have sausages (\$2) and iceblocks (50c) for sale.

*(please note: this year there won't be other food options available to buy so a picnic for your whānau is a great idea!)*

### Korero Mai Time:

Meet your child's teacher & hear more about what's happening for their class this year at the following times:

5.00pm	Year 1 & 2	Rooms 9 & 11 with Mrs Shaw & Mrs Lee-Mori
5.30pm	Year 3 & 4	Rooms 4, 5, 6 with Mr Kennedy, Miss Wormald & Mrs Looney
6.00pm	Year 5 & 6	Rooms 1 & 3 with Mr Skipkov & Mrs Walsh

Bring along togs for a free swim (*parent supervision of your own children is essential*)  
Bouncy castle as well as some chill out time for all of the family.

See you there!!

### SWIMMING

Our pool is up and going and with the warm weather, classes are making the most of it. Swimming is an important part of the PE Curriculum so please make sure children bring their togs every day.

If for some reason your child is unable to participate, a note to the classroom teacher is expected.

### DROP OFFS / PICK UPS

Safety outside our school gate is paramount. It is illegal to stop on yellow lines so please don't stop here on Kauri Street where yellow lines are clearly painted, even if it is to quickly get your children in or out.

It stops visibility to the crossing, stops traffic flow and doesn't help our children to follow the road rules.

**Thanks in advance for helping to keep ALL of our children safe by following the road rules.**

### UNIFORM

Wearing our school uniform with pride is something really important at our school.

A reminder that all children should be wearing the school green polo top, navy blue fleece, and plain navy blue shorts / skort / skirt / leggings / trouser.

The Warehouse was advertising navy blue options from \$6 last week so if you are in need of extra changes check out their ranges.

Please name your child's clothing. This is the only way it can get back to them, should it be left somewhere. With swimming season on there is even more reason to get things named so please check your child's uniform tonight.

We also encourage children to take responsibility for their own clothing, right from Year 1, by putting their shoes & jerseys in their bag when they take them off. This is all part of our school value of Self Managing.

It is a simple way of solving the problem of not being able to find clothing. Taking responsibility for putting things in the right place avoids blaming others for taking belongings when they most likely have simply been misplaced.

### CRICKET

We have four teams entered in this term's cricket competition. Thanks to those who got their registrations in so quickly and also a big thanks to Mrs Lee-Mori for her time coordinating cricket again. We wish all teams a great season of cricket!

### YEAR 5 & 6 CAMP

All Year 5 & 6 students should have brought home a camp newsletter this week. Come to Korero Mai time on Tuesday to hear more about camp. This is a great time to ask any questions that you might have too.

## MERRILANDS SCHOOL

'A Caring Community Inspiring Lifelong Learning'

*'Where every child gets to shine'*

**S**elf Manage   **H**elp Others   **I**ntegrity   **N**ever Quit   **E**xcellence

Our school values are now firmly engrained in everyday school life. They are a really powerful way to promote positive behaviours and positive attitudes towards learning. We know they are becoming an increasingly common language within your homes too.

Classes spend time learning about our values in their classes. Students earn SHINE tokens in the classroom and out in the playground when values are noticed in action. These are acknowledged on individual SHINE cards, with students also going in the draw at assembly time to win a SHINE reward. This process reinforces these values as really important everyday actions

SHINE time at the end of each term is a really positive way to acknowledge and celebrate all of the ways students have been working throughout the term to grow their own personal values. Here are some pictures from SHINE time at the end of last year. The SHINE time movie is also showing on the TV in the office if you'd like to check out all of the activities our children were involved in.



## CELEBRATING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

*At the Week 2 assembly the following students were acknowledged for their super efforts:*

Room 1	<b>Ciara Manu</b> - For a fantastic start to the year helping others and the class. Ka rawe! <b>Manaaki Young</b> - For a great attitude towards class and learning. Keep this up for an awesome year ahead!
Room 2	<b>Addisyn Rolfe</b> - For making such a great start in Room 2 and Room 11. Welcome to Merrilands School! <b>Olivia Dore</b> - For making a fantastic start in Room 2! Welcome to Merrilands School.
Room 3	<b>Hunter Brand</b> - For being a friendly member of class and welcoming to our new students. <b>Kalani Waiwiri-Nathan</b> - For always helpful in class and a dependable student. We can always rely on you!
Room 4	<b>Reece Te Riini</b> - For a really positive start at Merrilands School. You help others and set a shining example for others! <b>Michke Grobbelaar</b> - For an excellent start to the school year. Your care for others and the empathy show is outstanding. Ka pai!
Room 5	<b>Kymani Tangiteina</b> - For an excellent beginning to the year. You are helping our new students and being a positive role model for others. Ka rawe! <b>Donovan Marr</b> - For a positive start to the year. You are setting a great example for others as a year 4. Keep it up!
Room 6	<b>Jack MacDonald</b> - For an excellent start to the school year. You are managing yourself and helping others in an outstanding manner. Keep it up! <b>Miya Hetherington</b> - For an amazing start to the year. We love your courageous attitude, Miya! Keep shining!
Room 9	<b>Sienna Smith-Rees</b> - For being a fabulous teacher and role model <b>Ian Lodewyckx</b> - For being a fabulous teacher and role model
Room 10	<b>Emma Mulligan</b> - For making a great start in room 10. Welcome to Merrilands School. <b>Cameron Inwood</b> - For making a great start in room 10 and being a wonderful helper for the teacher.
Room 11	<b>Rome Watene</b> - For an excellent attitude in class towards others and in learning new routines in Room 11. Ka pai - you SHINE! <b>Hannah Huang</b> - For an excellent start to the year in Room 11. You are listening carefully to learn in class - kai pai!

## SHINE DRAW

LUCKY SHINE WINNERS AT OUR WEEK 2 ASSEMBLY DRAW:

### JUNIOR

Max Kawau - Rm 11  
Addisyn Rolfe - Rm 2/11  
Korra Taipari- Rm 9

### MIDDLE

Ellie Gillum - Rm 6  
Ellie Eastwood - Rm 6  
John Taylor - Rm 5

### SENIOR

Kassidy Saunders - Rm 3  
Nakira Te Awa - Rm 3  
Lucas Harvey - Rm 3

