



Merrilands School Newsletter

Issue 11

Friday 29 October 2021

'A CARING COMMUNITY INSPIRING LIFELONG LEARNING'

Tēnā koutou katoa

It has been an action packed start to our last term of the year, a term that we know is going to really fly by.

Last week our Year 5 & 6 students were supported by an incredible group of volunteers from 'Let's Go' to learn about and practise their safe cycling skills. This involved two full days of action packed riding both within school and out and about in the community, practising safe riding etiquette on our local walkways.

Middle and Junior school children will be learning about and practising their scooter safety and skills next week. Children in Rooms 4, 5 & 6 need to bring along a scooter if they have one, along with closed in shoes and a helmet on Monday for their practise sessions. Children in Rooms 7, 9, 10 and 11 will be working on their scooter skills on Wednesday so can children in these classes please bring their scooters, shoes and helmets to school on this day.

(please ensure scooters & helmets are named somewhere to help everyone with identifying whose is whose)

I regret to share with you that Mr Kennedy will be leaving us at the end of the year. Mr Kennedy began his journey in education as a Teacher Aide at Kaimata School where he was inspired to train to become a teacher. He spent his training years working at Kaimata whilst studying and this school has been a treasured place for him. An opportunity has come up to rejoin Kaimata School as part of the teaching team for 2022. We have really enjoyed supporting Mr Kennedy in his first 2 years of teaching and know he will continue to make a real difference in the next stage of his teaching career.

COVID-19 continues to disrupt and determine what we are doing and how we are doing things. We will keep you updated about events such as the Year 5 & 6 Dinner/Dance and end of year assemblies and summer sports when we have confirmed the safest ways we can run these events. Thanks for your continued support.

Ngā manaakitanga
Michelle Cronin
Principal

Key Dates for Term 4

NOVEMBER	
M 1 – F 5	Safe Riding Week
Mon 1	Scooter Skills – Middle Team
Tue 2	Highlands Orientation Y6
Wed 3	Scooter Skills – Junior Team
Wed 3	ICAS Spelling & English
Fri 5	Parihaka Day
Mon-Fri 1-5	Water Safety Week
Tue-Th 10-11	Y6 Todd Energy Water Safety Programme
Wed 10	ICAS Maths & Science
Wed 10	Water Safety Classroom Day – Swim NZ
Thu 11	Home & School Mtg 7pm
Mon 15	Teacher Only Day – School Closed
Tue – Fri 16-19	Fire Safety Week
Tue 16	Primary Chess Tournament
Mon – Fri 22-26	Keeping Ourselves Safe Week
Tue 30	Year 5 & 6 Dinner / Dance
DECEMBER	
Wed 1	Board Meeting – 6.30pm
Fri 3	Athletics Day
Wed-Tu 8 - 14	Life Education
Mon 13	Trophy Assembly 10.15am (Date change)
Mon 13	Reports home
Wed 15	Final Assembly 11.30am
Wed 15	Last Day of Term 4 School closes 12.00pm

WHAKATAUKI

**He iti hau marangai e tū te
pāhokahoka**

*'Just like a rainbow after a storm,
success follows failure'*

Kei ōu ringaringa te ao

'The world is yours'

Kīwha (expressions)

Meinga! Meinga!

'Is that so!'

Nā wai tāu?

'Says who?'

**HIGHLANDS
ORIENTATION**

Next Tuesday Highlands Intermediate is hosting an orientation visit for those Year 6 students who have enrolled to attend in 2022. This follows on from the visit by staff and students from Highlands to us last week.

Please be aware that getting your child to and from Highlands is parent's responsibility.

9.30am – 11.30am

DRUM LESSONS

We have drum tutor Alan Whatt providing drum lessons to students on Thursdays.

If you would be interested in drum lessons for your child please contact Alan -
allanwhatt1066@gmail or 0212108943
directly to discuss getting involved/costs etc.

(Note: this is a private tutoring arrangement between Alan and families of students involved)

FRESH AIR CHALLENGE

This November Merrilands School is taking part in the Fresh Air Challenge, which is a NPDC initiative. We are joining a lot of other New Plymouth schools and businesses in promoting getting active on the way to and from school/work, to enjoy our fresh Taranaki air from 1-12 November.

We will be recording how the children get to school each day, with the opportunity to win prizes from NPDC.

Active ways of getting to school include walking, cycling and scootering.

We encourage whanau that drop their child(ren) off, to do so on Mangorei Road, Miro Street or Karaka Street (the back gate) so they too can participate by 'park n walk'.

Dropping off on Kauri Street does not qualify for the Fresh Air Challenge. The Mangorei Road pedestrian crossing is manned by teachers from 8.30am to 8.55am and then again by the Road Patrol children from 2.55pm to 3.10pm, for your child's safety.

CYCLING IN ACTION