



## **School Newsletter**

### **Week 1 Term**

**Thursday October 18<sup>th</sup> 2018**

Welcome to term 4 everyone. My apologies for sending out a school-wide email this week that welcomed in term 3! I spent the holidays in France celebrating my youngest daughter's marriage and I had not quite recovered from the trip I fear. Thanks to those of you who reminded me it is indeed term 4.

School will be closed on Tuesday after Labour Weekend for Teachers Only Day. Again I apologise for not drawing this to your attention at the end of last term. It has been in the calendar and on the website for some time but I should have alerted you to this earlier. We will amend our processes moving forward. We will always add a day to Labour weekend.

### **The Big Shake Out**

This morning we joined with the rest of New Zealand and tested our earthquake procedures. The evacuation went very smoothly indeed. We all assemble on the netball courts away from our services and buildings.

This event was followed up in each class with discussions about emergency plans both here, at home and in the wider community. The interesting thing we have noted is how few students can identify where their parents work or tell us a contact phone number for at least one parent. Some students were unable to tell us their home address which surprised us. These details may be useful in an emergency especially if students are unable to access their phones for any reason. Can I ask you to talk about these types of information with your child or children so they are prepared for any situation? Many thanks.

### **The term 4 curriculum**

This term the focus is on Future Selves. Year 8s are looking at "What type of learner am I, what strengths do I have and what might my future hold knowing this?" Our year 7s are building leadership capacity to be role models in 2019. We have begun our Puberty Education that is running alongside the Life Education programme for the first 4 weeks of the term. These learning opportunities are focusing on making good decisions, peer pressure, the use of social media and general health and wellbeing.

Over the next few weeks we will undertake the end of year assessment tasks also. Report writing has begun.

### **Orientation Mornings**

Although it has not yet been confirmed it is highly likely that the Wellington primary and intermediate teachers will be taking strike action on Friday November 16<sup>th</sup>. This is our Orientation morning when the 2019 year 7 students visit us and our current year 8s spend a morning at the college.

We have started to build plan B.

Talking with the college I believe that they would like to continue with the year 8 event on this day, November 16th. The college will be in touch with all students who have enrolled and share the agenda for the morning. If your child is going to Newlands College and you have yet to enrol them please contact the college over the next few days so you do not miss out on this important information.

We have shifted our Orientation Morning in anticipation of the strike action, to Friday November 9<sup>th</sup>. How to manage nearly 700 students on the site, especially if it rains will be our biggest challenge!

### **International Food Fair**

We are going to have an international Food fair on November 29<sup>th</sup> as this term's celebration event. We held a food fair a few years ago and have been keen to repeat the experience. It is an opportunity to acknowledge, share and celebrate the diversity of our school – "Ko Wai Matou? – Who are we?"

We will talk to all of our students and identify working groups within the school to support this project. We will rely heavily on the help and motivation of our parents. Previously a couple of parents from each ethnic community volunteered to organise and assist the students and families to prepare and serve at the event. Please think about how you can be involved. An information sheet will come home next week.

### **Pasifika and Māori Hui**

In week 5 and week 6 we invite our Maori and Pasifika families to share an evening to celebrate the year. More information will be sent closer to the dates.

### **Staff Changes**

This term we welcome Ashley Wilson to our teaching team. Ashley is our new Materials teacher and comes to us from the Tech centre at Karori West Normal School. Julia Jones is back in the Foods room and leader of the tech team.

### **School Sport**

This is the term for Inter-intermediate Touch, Ki-o-Rahi and swimming. At school students are learning to play a multi-sport game that combines netball, rugby, football and touch.

### **The Construction Projects**

The school has been a busy place over recent weeks as we remove asbestos, replace the wooden windows and re-clad the tech area. The roof in the admin and tech blocks is also being replaced. We have put a new ceiling into the old tech courtyard to create a new teaching and learning space. New doors and carpet will be in there over the next couple of weeks. The garage and caretakers workshop is nearly complete.

We are investigating the possibility of building 2 temporary teaching spaces in the shared learning areas. This is a really difficult decision but with an ever growing roll and a considerable wait for new school buildings we have to be creative.

Angela Lowe

Principal

## Calendar of Events

<b>Labour Weekend and TOD</b>	<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>
<b>Tawa Sport and Cultural Exchange</b>	<b>Tuesday October 30<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>BOT</b>	<b>Thursday November 1<sup>st</sup></b>
<b>Inter-Intermediate Touch Bellyfull Opening</b>	<b>Wednesday November 7<sup>th</sup> Wednesday November 7<sup>th</sup> 7pm</b>
<b>Speech Evening Newlands School Cluster</b>	<b>Thursday November 8<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Orientation Morning for 2019 year 7s</b>	<b>Friday November 7<sup>th</sup> 9am to midday</b>
<b>Maori Whanau Hui Inter-Intermediate Swimming</b>	<b>Tuesday November 13<sup>th</sup> 6pm Tuesday November 13<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Orientation Morning for 2019 year 9s</b>	<b>Friday November 16<sup>th</sup> 9am to midday</b>
<b>Possible Strike Action</b>	<b>Friday November 16<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Pasifika Whanau Hui</b>	<b>Tuesday November 16<sup>th</sup> 6pm</b>
<b>PolyFest at Wainuiomata Intermediate School</b>	<b>Friday November 23<sup>rd</sup></b>
<b>International Food Fair</b>	<b>Thursday November 29<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>EOTC Week</b>	<b>December 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>BOT</b>	<b>Thursday December 6<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Music Centre Concert</b>	<b>Wednesday December 12<sup>th</sup> 6.30pm</b>
<b>Year 8 Leavers Dinner and Dance</b>	<b>Monday December 17<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Last day of school year</b>	<b>Tuesday December 18<sup>th</sup> 12.20pm</b>

