



National Park School Newsletter

Term 2, Week 4, Thursday 22nd May

Kia ora e te whānau,

Panui from the Principal:

Wow! Where has the term gone?

Next week, we will be halfway through Term 2.

Over the past few weeks, the government has announced that they are making it compulsory for all schools to implement "Structured Literacy".

At National Park kura, I can reassure our whanau that our kaiako (teachers) are already delivering this to all our tamariki from Year 1-8. National Park kura began the journey 3 years ago now, and as a kaiako it is great to see the progress that tamariki are making in reading and writing due to this implementation.

It was lovely to officially welcome Riah, and her whanau to National Park kura on Tuesday 14th May with a whakatau.

Being a small kura, our tamariki play an integral part in welcoming new tamariki to our kura.

At National Park kura, this takes form through our tamariki taking on the role of kaikaranga (ceremonial caller), sharing their pepeha on behalf of the tangata whenua (home speakers) and manuhiri (visitors) to supporting the speakers with waiata. We were supported this time by Te Korowai o Wainuiārua Trust members, and I was especially proud of the way the tamariki welcomed Riah.

his term the tamariki have been busy learning through the lens of Te Whare Tapa Whā. Te Whare Tapu Whā is a health and physical activity model that focuses on 4 aspects in order to maintain a healthy and happy wellbeing.

In Nga Tohu, they are looking at the skeletal system in Science.

In Paretetaitonga, they exploring the role of growth mindset, leadership and are taking on the role of leaders of their own sports team.

Later this term, the school will be exploring the Kia Kaha program enables students to develop strategies for respectful relationships where bullying behaviours are not tolerated. Senior Constable Peter Marks, will also be supporting this.

Work is currently underway to upgrade the school fire alarms, and school bell. This upgrade will take a couple of weeks, but in a few weeks time we hope to have our fire alarm connected to the fire brigade, with a school bell on a timer, and an intercom system.

Attendance Matters

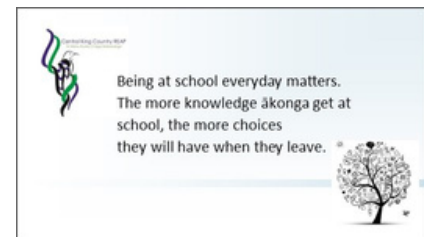
Attendance matters! Maintaining regular attendance is important for a child's whole development. Regular attendance allows tamariki to build relationships with others, it allows them build knowledge and make connections with the learning.

The school and the government have a goal this year that 70% of our tamariki attend school regularly.

Last term, I shared with whanau our Term 1 attendance data. As of Friday 24th May, the school currently has 63% of tamariki attending regular so far this year.

This means Term 2 has so far seen an improvement with tamariki coming to school regularly. Currently, in Term 2 73% of tamariki are attending school regularly.

Next year, attendance data will be sent to the Ministry of Education daily.



Winter Illnesses:

With winter approaching, and the weather getting cooler, winter illnesses creep in.

Currently, there is a nation wide shortage of relief teachers, and the situation is worse in the regions. The wellbeing of teachers is important, and as a school we will do our best to find staff to keep the school open.

However, if we are unable to find staff to cover the school will need to take the following steps:

- A class may be asked to stay home.
- The school be open for supervision only. This means that we are unable to provide the level of staffing for instruction, and tamariki will be supervised. If you are able to, please keep your child at home.
- In the event that no teaching staff are available we will have to close.

Should we need to take these steps on the odd occasion, we will not need to make up these days at the end of the year.

Year 7 and 8 Young Leaders Day - Palmerston North:

Last week, our Year 7 and 8 tamariki attended the Palmerston North Young Leaders day, alongside other schools around the region. There was a key focus on having a growth mindset, and overcoming challenges. Over the course of the day, they listened to some very inspiring speakers such as William Pike, Brooke Neal, Nate Wilbourne, Te Kahukura Boynton, and Yahyah. There were some children challenges, and teacher challenges, with Lisa Jaggi taking part in the teacher challenge and winning a little prize on behalf of the school.

Thanks to Lisa Jaggi and Kerri Anderson who accompanied the children.



National Park Business Association: Classic Car Show.

This event is taking place at National Park School on King's Birthday weekend on Saturday 1st of June. This will also be another fundraising opportunity where we will be looking for whanau volunteers to help out for. If you think you might be able to help could you please contact Melissa, Ange Messenger, Ryan Leong or Nalini Dewan.



Whanau Reporting:

At National Park School, we use Seesaw to report to whanau. This term Kaiako will be posting work onto Seesaw evidence of work in reading, writing and maths that your child can do. This will be followed up with a comment about what your child can do and what is their next learning step. This evidence, and comment will be tagged with reporting so whanau know that this is a reporting comment. Please take the time to read this comment, and make a comment yourself. At the end of this term in Week 9, kaiako will post an academic snapshot which is a judgement about where your child is working against the New Zealand Curriculum. In week 10, we will once again have whanau goal setting hui's, where whanau meet with kaiako to discuss their child's learning and set you academic and social goals.



School Trips and Permission Forms:

The school uses google forms to seek electronic permission for school trips that are outside of National Park. The trips require organisation at our end in advance of the actual trip day. For Taumuranui Inter school events, we have to send information off to them days in advance so they can organise the event at their end. Also, last minute changes are not ideal. Staff are finding themselves using extra time chasing up whanau who have not filled forms out.

With this in mind, the following procedures around trips will now take place:

- A Google form will be shared via Seesaw and to your email. A date this form needs to be filled out by will be attached.
- A reminder will be posted on seesaw the day before the form is due to be filled out.
- A reminder that you have not filled out the form will be sent via email or text message.

If you have not filled out the form after these reminders, no more follow up will happen. Please do not be offended, if at this point your child may not be able to participate.

Snow Program Update:

A big thank you to those whanau who have filled out the information over the Term 2 holidays to help shape the 2024 snow program.

The curriculum snow program will take place over 6 weeks from Thursday 25th July to Thursday 29th August. With another 4 possible extra curricular weeks, where the school will support supervision and transport. There will be 6 ski instructors and 1 snowboard instructor, with group sizes ranging from 4 - 8.

Most ski groups, will be groups of 7 with a smaller beginner ski group and snow boarding group.

There will also be a 2nd day offered for those tamariki who are interested in developing their skiing further, and wish to participate in NIPS. Please note, this is offered through the school to keep costs down, whanau will need to ensure they can transport their tamariki up to lessons, and will need to make the call on bad weather days. School on these days will be on as normal. These sessions will take place from Tuesday 30th July, and will run up until the week before NIPS on Tuesday 20th August.

Rental Gear:

Ruapehu Alpine Lifts are able to still offer us free rental on snow equipment, however this year it will not be issued for the entire season, and will be issued only upon arrival and will be returned at the end of the day's lesson. This is due to the success of the under 10 season campaign, and the likelihood of increasing rentals. Should the situation change then we will let you know.

Winter Reminders:

The temperature has dropped and the winter season is not too far away. A reminder that your child should have their fleece and a jacket at school every day. As you know, the weather can change rapidly and it is important for the children to be prepared. Gumboots can be worn to school in Term 2 and Term 3, but taken off when going into class. Tamariki are encouraged to be outside as much as possible, so please ensure your child dresses appropriately.



Yummy Stickers in School Sport Promotion

A reminder to keep collecting Yummy stickers and tags from the bags. This is a great way for us to raise money for sports equipment for our school.



Teacher Only Day - Tuesday 4th June

A reminder that Tuesday 4th June is Teacher Only Day. This is to allow our staff to further develop their knowledge of new curriculum developments.

Term 2 - 2024 Important Dates:

Friday 24th May

- Interschool Orienteering, Manunui Domain

Wednesday 29th May

Nga Tohu Assembly @ 2pm

Saturday 1st June:

- National Park Vintage Car Show

Monday 3rd June

- King's Birthday - no school

Tuesday 4th June

- Teacher Only Day - School Closed

Thursday 13th June

- Year 2 - 4 Taumuranui Interschool Soccer
- Year 5 -6 Bush Skills Day

Friday 14th June

- Year 5 - 8 Taumuranui Interschool Soccer

Tuesday 25th June

- King Country Rugby Session

Friday 21st June:

Nga Tohu Trip to YHA Rock Climbing

Wednesday 26th June:

Academic Snapshots posted on Seesaw

Thursday 27th June:

NPS BOT meeting @ 4:30pm

Friday 28th June

- Matariki - School Closed

Tuesday 2nd July:

Whanau Goal Setting Interviews 3pm - 6pm

Thursday 4th July:

Whanau Goal Setting Interviews 3pm - 6pm

Snow Parent Meeting at 6:30pm

Friday 5th July:

- Last Day of School for Term 2

Monday 22nd July:

1st Day of Term 3

Thursday 25th July:

Curriculum Snow program begins