

National Park School Newsletter

5 February 2020
Week 1
Term 1
Edition 1 of 4



Principal's News

On Monday we expressed a warm welcome to Hunter and his mum Lydene; Arabella and her mum Mrs Priestley; Ishan and his whānau Dhruv, Nalini and Lilly; Abby and her mum Andrea, dad Zeus and teacher Angel; Shavon and his mum Dilka, dad Gihan and teacher Whaea Linda and finally Zain and his mum Afreen and dad Saif.

I shared the moment on my way to work that morning - that the clouds had parted just over Ruapehu and its peaks that give our classrooms their names. This reminded me about the journey children take here in their learning, as learners and the gift of responsibility we have been given to guide that.



It was a vibrant morning full of firsts - first days at school, first day of 2020, first year in a new class or with a new teacher. There was hope and decisiveness about getting started on goals set and anticipated success. There was excitement for everything new. There was aroha for being with friends and school whānau again and also some good nerves mixed in around the unknown. I wish I could have bottled it, school was fizzing!

Looking ahead I believe it's important to remember to use that fizz when we come across challenges and the fear associated with them - to stand strong, be brave and work on things together - harness that fear so we can all conquer whatever it is we want to achieve. I'll certainly be bringing out that first day fizz again to energise what may be part of my pathway this year.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with any of us if you need questions answering or need more information about our 2020 tweaks and changes.

Miss Jane Welburn
principal@nationalpark.school.nz

Uniform – Top to Toe

Our uniform can be purchased new or second hand from Whaea Jo in the office, there are also good options at Postie or the Warehouse. Any uniform sold by school is cost price – we do not take any profit!

Hat Options

- School logo sunhat in Summer (Labour Weekend to Easter).
- Optional navy beanie in Winter.

Top Options

- School logo yellow skivvy or polo-shirt (short or long sleeved).
- School logo royal blue polar fleece or vest.
- School hoodie – new design ready winter 2020.

Bottom Options

- Royal blue or navy shorts.
- Plain navy blue track pants/trousers (no non-school labelling).
- Royal blue skirt.
- School checked tunic dress.
- School checked skirt – long and short.

Footwear Options

- Plain white, navy, royal blue or black socks, tights or thermal leggings.
- Plain Black shoes or trainers.
- Black sandals.
- No jandals.
- Gumboots (Easter to Labour Weekend, children must have black shoes to change into inside, or go bare footed).

Other

- Discrete functional hair accessories, preferably in navy, black, brown, yellow, royal blue or white.
- No jewellery, taonga are acceptable.
- Sleepers or discrete studs only in ears.



School Office

The office is open 9am-3pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. It is closed on Wednesdays.

Our answer phone is checked during the day – please leave us a message, we will pick it up.



Ruapehu District Council Library

Fiona and Libby will be visiting on 2 April at 10am and 6 March at 9.45am this term for those children who like to borrow books this way. For any new families wanting to take advantage of this service then please see Whaea Jo in the office, or feel free to pop in and meet Fiona and Libby yourselves.



Communication

Our NEWSLETTER goes out 4 times each term and is a celebration of what's happening in school and the big picture of what's happening each term. It provides general reminders and information.

We use PAPER NOTICES where a specific event requires organisational details for the whole school or information is going to just a group of children. They often have a reply slip attached. As a staff we make a commitment to naming letters (for children who are absent) so they can collect on their return.

In between newsletters we update our NPS LEARNERS FACEBOOK on a day-to-day basis, we recommend you check this daily to keep updated with other news and information. It's also a place to celebrate and share what is happening at school on the spot to create relevance. We aim to load every notice sent home onto NPS LEARNERS FACEBOOK.

We have a 'NEWS YOU CAN USE' board in the corridor. General notices we are asked to share and a master copy of any notes sent home is kept here.

Attendance of 90% (equates to 5 days off a term) or over is deemed as attending school regularly. Our aim is to work alongside whanau so that every child attends NPS regularly.

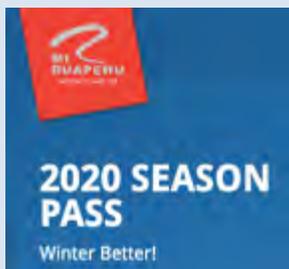
- If your child is absent it is your responsibility to contact us (by face to face, phone, text message, email).
- If no explanation for an absence has been received by the school within a week of a child's return to school, then the class teacher will record them as having been truant.
- When an absence is 'unjustified' the class teacher will contact the parents/caregivers within 24 hours, either by phone or by sending a note home. The aim of this contact is to alert to the fact that the absence is 'unjustified' and repetition of this will require further action.
- If a child has six days of 'unjustified' absence in a term, the class teacher will counsel the child about this, advising of the likely consequences if this continues.
- If a child has a seventh day of 'unjustified' absence in a term, the class teacher will refer the matter to the Principal, who will talk to them and then contact the parents/caregivers in order to arrange a meeting.
- If a student is referred to the Principal for 'unjustified' absences in two consecutive school terms, the Principal will then refer the matter to the Truancy Service.
- Work can be provided in advance for children absent for 5 days or more.

Our full procedures are available in the school office, along with a list of what is 'justified' and 'unjustified' absence.



NPS Student Season Passes

- \$79
- Plus \$5 if you need a new snow card.
- **These can be purchased directly from RAL now!**
- **The offer is only valid until 30 April 2020.**
- Purchase in person from Whakapapa Customer Services 9am-5.30pm; Ohakune Snow Depot 9am-5pm; Taupo Snow HQ 8am-5pm, calling Customer Relations 07 892 4000 during operational hours (all transactions over the phone incur a credit card fee of 1.75%).
- When purchasing the parent/guardian needs to mention our school name, and the first and last name of the student.
- **These are only available to students enrolled at or intending to enrol at NPS all year round.**



30 Day Ski or Snowboard Programme – Learn to compete

\$1599

Full day training
3 days each week

20 Day Ski or Snowboard Programme – Learn to compete

\$1099

Full day training
1 day week 1&2, 2 days week 3&4, 3 days week 5-7, 2 days week 8-9, 1 day week 10

The 20 Day Programme aims to bridge children out of our 10 day and into the 30 day programme – like a stepping stone. It's an upgrade from the 10 day, not a downgrade from the 30 day. The transition this programme offers is not specifically related to skill – choosing this programme may also involve other factors such as independence, strength, stamina or building competition skills for younger children early on.

All our 20 and 30 Day Programmes need a minimum of 7 students to run.
Ski / Board levels of students will be assessed as 'fit' for programme in week 2 by coaches – at this point transfers between programmes is possible.

10 Day Ski or Snowboard Programme – Learn to Ski / Board

\$430

2 x 1hr 50 minute lessons each week
9am- 11am, 12pm-2pm
1 day each week

Adaptive Package

\$110

1 x 1hr 50 minute lesson
Equipment & Lift Pass

Transport and uniform prices and any further costs for external students will be finalised soon.

Skiing and boarding at National Park School is an optional extra. We strongly suggest that families wanting to take up these activities, start to save now as payment is upfront in a lump sum before the season starts.

Upcoming Events

- 6 Feb Waitangi Day School Closed
- 11 Feb Little Learners 9am
- 14 Feb Assembly 9am
- 17-19 Feb Dental Caravan at NPS
- 17 Feb Team Morning
- 23 Feb Powhiri for Kristin School Afternoon
- 25 Feb Little Learners 9am
- 27 Feb BOT Meeting 4.30pm
- 28 Feb Assembly 9am
- 6 Mar Ruapehu Library Visit - 9.45am
- 6 Mar School Team Swim Sports - 11am ish
- 11 Mar Waimarino Inter-School Swimming Sports - Waiouru
- 20 Mar School Team Sports Day
- 24 Mar Little Learners 9am
- 26 & 27 Mar School Closed for Professional Learning
- 26 Mar BOT Meeting 4.30pm
- 2 Apr Ruapehu Library Visit
- 9 Apr Assembly 9am
- 9 Apr Principal's Morning Tea 10.30am
- 9 Apr End of Term 1
- 28 Apr Start of Term 2
- 3 Jul End of Term 2
- 20 Jul Start of Term 3
- 25 Sep End of Term 3
- 12 Oct Start of Term 4
- 16 Dec End of Term 4

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BITS AND BOBS

Powhiri

On 23 February, around 4pm we welcome Kristin School to Tongariro National Park for the week. This is a Sunday. As a school we support local kaumatua with waiata, kai and organization – the more hands and voices makes this afternoon much more fun and less daunting! It's also an opportunity to hear the rich history, stories and korero from our local area.

Stationery

You will have noticed in the last newsletters deadline dates to make a choice re purchasing stationery. Now that has passed we have ordered and set up classrooms with books, pencils and pens and other equipment so we were ready day one, term one 2020. Stationery costs of \$40 per child will be added to your school accounts now. We buy in bulk throughout the year and use a government purchase scheme in order to get the best prices.

Milk

We take part in the Fonterra Milk in Schools programme. If your child is unable to or chooses not to drink the milk offered, that is absolutely fine. You are welcome to provide an alternative in a drink bottle that they can manage independently e.g. by them storing it in our milk fridge in the hall daily. Otherwise, we always have lots of lovely mountain water available through the fountain at school.

Buses

Please confirm the days your child will be travelling on the bus with Whaea Jo in the office. If your plans change during the day just get in touch and let her know by 2.45pm, she is able to get a message very quickly to children in classes. If your child is not on the bus please ensure they are signed out of the bus book (kept in the office) or you let Miss Welburn know by the bus stop. We aim to send the bus at 3.05pm. Our procedure for a missing child is to hold the bus, look for them and contact families before sending the bus on its way... so please help us to help everyone by keeping us in the loop.