TAMAHERE

MODEL COUNTRY SCHOOL

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Nurturing Our Future - Growing Together Kia atawhai aa mua - Kia tipu ngatahi

Wiki/ Week 1 Happenings:

Haere mai, welcome back everyone. It is truly wonderful to be able to see so many of our parents, caregivers and whānau back on school grounds. We can see all those smiling faces, behind the masks!!!!



I hope you had a very happy holiday with your children and were able to enjoy some of the lovely sunny days outside.

It is always great to have the classrooms filled with smiling faces, curious questions and our playgrounds filled with childrens' shouts and laughter again. The students are revelling in being able to connect with their friends from all areas of the school and play freely within the school grounds. Everyone is looking so refreshed and ready for a busy Term Two. Please check out our 'Upcoming Dates' provided later in this Newsletter, to see all the wonderful events we have planned for this Term.

In readiness for our return to school, Waveney circulated a 'Welcome Back' email to the school community last Thursday, providing guidelines on how we would be operating and managing Covid 19. If you missed reading the email, the main guidelines you should be aware of are provided below:

From 2nd May - Term Two.

We are happy to let you join us on the school grounds following these guidelines -

- We ask that all parents please continue to **wear a mask at all times** on our campus, unless you are a coach taking a sports practice.
- We ask that parents please **remain outside classrooms** unless invited in by the teacher, if there are not many in that physical environment.
- All parents who enter our site will still need to **sign in** or use the special QR code.
- Any child who wishes to wear a mask at any time is encouraged/supported to do so to keep
 themselves and others healthy and safe. We want this to be a safe environment for this, so
 we can support all families. We don't know each family's story and who they are trying to keep
 safe and protected.
- Anyone who is showing any signs of being **unwell needs to stay home.**
- Students will be **sent home** if they show signs of illness.
- We are aware that we are heading into winter and there will be many bugs about. However, we
 have all learnt that by staying home when ill, everyone can have a longer, more productive
 time at school rather than dealing with constant rolling illnesses.
- **Signs & Symptoms include** tiredness, crying and feeling emotional, nausea, cold and flu-like symptoms.
- We ask parents to **show manaaki, and respect us** by leaving the grounds by **8:30am** so that children can settle in to work without distraction, and at the other end of the day, please do not assemble outside classrooms areas until **2:30pm.** If you want to catch up and mingle with fellow parents, please do so in the open spaces away from where the learning and teaching is happening.
- We ask that you keep away from the **playgrounds and sandpits** with pre-schooler's until after the bell has gone, so that students are not distracted from their learning time.
- We are happy if families wish to continue using the gate system as this has also alleviated some congestion in parking areas but please be aware that there will no longer be staff members on gate duty.
- We will continue to keep up our **hygiene** levels and sanitise in and hand wash out regime.
- All classes will be well ventilated with windows open so please be aware of this and make sure your children have many layers of warm clothes to wear each day. We suggest you also rename all items of clothing for the start of winter as many names have faded from uniform items making them hard to return.
- Children will be able to move freely and mix in the playgrounds.
- After School Care will resume normal operation, with all ages mixing together.

HOLIDAY PROJECTS:

Again we have achieved a number of property projects over these holidays, including the following:

- Exterior repainting of a third of the school achieved, with the remainder of the school to be staged over the next year.
- Installation of a wall and new door, between Horopito 20 and Horoeka 21, so that we now have the ability to choose to either open or separate these learning spaces.



• Concreting outside Manuka 16 & Mahoe 17, in readiness for the installation of the concrete table tennis, when it arrives.



• Concreting outside the new block connecting up to the pathway to Puriri Five.



 Brickwork has been installed outside Kowhai Four as well as the Gate Three entranceway, to make it feel more welcoming. Later this week we will also be adding wooden seats to both these areas, similar to the one you would have seen under our flagpole.







WINTER SPORTS:

Good luck to all our students starting winter sports this weekend - the weather forecast is looking great!!! The school has been working with coaches supporting them with ways they can ensure the winter sports season is a pleasant experience for all those involved. Mrs. Bradding, Ms. Copponi, Mrs. Hawthorn and Ms. Metcalfe have met with coaches and team managers, to provide useful tips on how to keep practices and games fun and rewarding. As a parent and supporter, could you please reiterate to your child the importance of being a team player, listening to their coach and being respectful of all those who assist with the organisation. Here is

a <u>link to the Sports Code</u> that every coach has received and will hand out to all players. This Code outlines important guidelines for players, parents and coaches. Each student, parent and coach is to read, discuss and sign this code document, which is then handed back to the coaches.

VISION TOKENS:

We have started a new initiative to encourage our school vision to be extended beyond the school gates. Some of the businesses in the Tamahere Village have received a packet of VISION TOKENS. If they spot Tamahere students showing respect, patience, empathy and a myriad of other virtues, your child may be given a token. This gets returned to school and added to the whānau points tally. We are excited to see how many come back to school, as a result of community members seeing our kids displaying amazing behaviour when they are out and about. Our next step is to extend this to our sports teams.



INTRODUCING OUR SCHOOL BUILDING QR CODES:

Further to Waveney's 'Welcome Back' message circulated to our school community last Thursday, as part of our guidelines to keep everyone safe, we ask that all visitors who enter any school building, either sign in on the paper based sheets located outside the room or use the special QR codes that have been created.

If you have been on school grounds already this week, you may have seen the QR codes displayed on our school buildings. When you, as a visitor, scan the QR code outside the room you are about to enter you will be taken to a Google Form, where all you need to do is add your name, as the form has been set up to gather the time, date and building name.

We ask that all visitors who enter any school building, ensure that they either enter their information on the sign-in sheet provided outside each room or via the QR Google Form link.



Just a reminder that we ask that all parents please continue to wear a mask at all times on our

school grounds, unless you are a coach taking a sports practice. We also ask that parents please remain outside classrooms, unless invited in by the teacher. As always, anyone who is showing any signs of being unwell needs to stay home.

Thank you for your help with this.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU:

As indicated in the last newsletter, there has been an increase in self management by the students and we would like to thank you for your continued support of this, through dropping your children off at the gate and allowing them to walk to their classroom independently. As a result children are taking greater responsibility for settling into learning quickly.

REMINDER TO USE THE SCHOOL CROSSING ON DEVINE ROAD OUTSIDE GATE 3:

You will have all noticed the new roundabout construction activity at the intersection of Birchwood and Devine Roads over the last couple of weeks. With the changes to the footpaths, it is our expectation that all children who walk to school on the Li'l Pumpkins side of Devine Road, will walk all the way down to the school crossing on the new footpath, to keep them safe.

Please talk to them about the changes and let them know that all children must use the school crossing.

Thank you for your help in keeping our tamariki safe!



ASC PICK UP PROCEDURES:

With parents now being able to collect children directly from the ASC building, we ask that you ensure that you sign them out, so that we are accurately invoicing you for the time your children attended.

Please note that you are still able to call ahead on 022 140 3689, if you would like our ASC staff to sign your child/ren out and send them to Gate 4 to meet you, rather than coming in.



DAFFODIL BULB PLANTING TRIP TO TAMAHERE PARK:

Last year, approximately 30 of our students contributed to the planting of daffodil bulbs in the adjoining Tamahere Reserve. It was exciting to see them flower in early Spring and know we had contributed to this beautiful display. We are excited to be offered this opportunity again by the Tamahere Community Committee on **Wednesday 18th May**. Due to the restriction on numbers and the digging involved, we are offering this opportunity to 30 children from across the Pirongia and Maungatautari Syndicates, as well as our Year Six Enviro Monitors. This year the community planting project will involve the planting of 3000 daffodil bulbs, kindly made possible by the Waikato District Council.



CAMP MEETING REMINDER FOR YEAR FOUR PARENT HELPERS:

A reminder about the meeting next Wednesday 11th May, in Kauri Two at 5.00pm, for all our Year Four Parent helpers.



FIRST CREDIT UNION IS BACK STARTING NEXT WEEK:

The First Credit Union school banking programme returns to our school next week. If you wish to open an account, please contact the office and we can send an application pack home with your child.



Upcoming Dates:

May / Haratua	
Rātū/Tuesday 10th	★ PTA MEETING at 7.00pm
Rāapa /Wednesday 11th	★ Year 4 Camp - Parent Helpers Meeting in Kauri 2 at 5.00pm
Rāapa /Wednesday 18th	★ Daffodil Planting on the Tamahere Reserve
Rāmere /Friday 20th	★ PINK SHIRT DAY
Rātū /Tuesday 24th	★ BOT MEETING
Rāapa /Wednesday 25th	★ PIRONGIA CAMP - Year 4's to RaglanYear 3's EOTC Day
Rāpare /Thursday 26th	★ PIRONGIA CAMP - Year 4's to RaglanYear 3's EOTC Day
Rāmere /Friday 27th	 ★ PIRONGIA CAMP - Year 4's to Raglan Year 3's EOTC Day - Extreme Edge Rock Climbing
June / Pipiri	
Rāhina /Monday 6th	★ QUEENS BIRTHDAY
Rātū /Tuesday 7th	★ PHOTO LIFE Class, Individual & Family Photographs
Rāapa /Wednesday 8th	★ TMCS Hosted Regional Chess Tournament
Rāpare /Thursday 16th	★ Year 3 & 4 Tabloids at Matangi
Rātū /Tuesday 21st June	★ PTA Meeting at 7.0pm★ BOT Meeting at 7.00pm
Rāmere / Friday 24th	★ MATARIKI
Rāhina/ Monday 27th	★ TEACHER ONLY DAY
July / Hōngongoi	
Rātū /Tuesday 5th	★ BOT Special Meeting Tiriti o Waitangi at 7.00pm
Rāmere /Friday 8th July	★ END OF TERM 2

PTA meeting this Tuesday 10th May at 7.00pm

The PTA are meeting this **Tuesday at 7.00pm**, in the After School Care Room, to discuss childrens activities for Term 2 and raising funds to improve the school experience.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME AND THERE WILL BE CAKE!



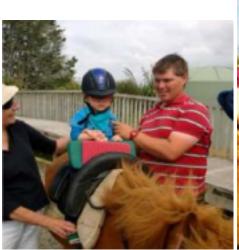


Waikato Equitherapy

One of our parents who has been volunteering at Waikato Equitherapy for the past 12 months, has asked that we let our community know about the wonderful facilities and services that are provided by this organisation, for both disabled and able bodied riders. Waikato Equitherapy is based in Newstead at 68 Vaile Road and you can find out more information by going to their Facebook page by clicking this link, or read the information below:.



What service does Waikato Equitherapy provide to the community? Waikato Equitherapy Incorporated provides a valuable service to Hamilton and the surrounding Waikato district. We have been operating since 1980 (as RDA Waikato) and provide horse riding programmes for therapy, education, sport and recreation to children and adults with special needs in a family friendly and supportive environment. Our holiday programmes are inclusive, and open to children of all abilities as we can offer additional support to children according to their individual need. We operate with two paid staff and a very dedicated team of 70 volunteers ranging in age from 14 to 80+ years of age. Our ten horses and ponies are specially trained and cared for by the staff, the volunteers and the children who attend the Centre. We also have four more ponies beginning their training. In addition, we provide work based training to people with disabilities, to students and other young people and to the long term unemployed; team work, the development of leadership skills and taking responsibility for one's own health and safety and the welfare and safety of others are strongly encouraged. Waikato Equitherapy is, I believe, a place where both riders and volunteers can gain confidence in their own abilities, and form strong friendships in an accepting environment.







Waikato Equitherapy has developed into a superb facility. We have a great community spirit in action on site - it is great to see teenagers, people on work programmes, people with disabilities, parents and volunteers working alongside each other to achieve common goals. It is great to see the progress our riders make each week and the confidence that develops in our volunteer team from working at the Centre. It is however dependent on being able to raise sufficient funds to meet our operating costs. This is only possible with the generosity and support of organisations such as yours and our wonderfully supportive community.

As an independent Group, we retain local control of our organisation and offer the programmes most needed in our community. This means, for example, we are also able to offer horse interaction programmes to people with disabilities who don't want to ride, but would benefit from spending time with horses to, for example, reduce their anxiety levels and depression or build work related skills. Some parents have also asked us to provide sibling riding, to help build a relationship between a disabled and non-disabled sibling, as they have so few activities that can be shared. We can offer more work experience opportunities to those with disabilities. Whilst our core purpose will always be to provide riding to children and adults with special needs in Hamilton and the Waikato region, being independent has given us the scope to partner with other community groups and better meet the needs of our local community.

What could you do to help? Waikato Equitherapy urgently needs help meeting operating costs. Whilst we try and keep our operating costs as low as possible, we still need to meet the costs of, for example, farrier visits, feed, worming, dental care, power, phone, ACC levies, insurance (including public liability), petrol to run the quad bike, volunteer expenses, and repairs and maintenance.

We would greatly appreciate it if you could assist us in meeting these items either by product or financial donations. <u>Please click here</u> to find out information on how you can help.







What are the long term aims of Waikato Equitherapy?

To provide a centre of excellence where children and adults with special needs can gain access to horse riding. Riding can help improve balance and proprioception, muscle tone and strength, head control and core strength. It can assist with gaining life skills, self-esteem and confidence. We also offer a horse interaction programme, as being around horses can help many people reduce their stress, anxiety and depression. We also work with other community groups and agencies, so that an increased number of people can gain valuable work experience, employment skills and benefit from time spent at the Centre.

I believe that Waikato Equitherapy is offering a valuable service to the community. With the help of our staff and our wonderful team of volunteers and horses, we are able to offer expanded programmes and a better service to our riders. We are fortunate to have a great deal of community support. Many of our members have worked hard to help us develop the site; it has been well worth it – our special needs children and adults deserve to have access to quality equestrian facilities and specialist equipment that will help them develop new skills, regain strength and fitness and inspire self-esteem and confidence. Our improved facilities have allowed us to expand our

volunteer, youth and work experience programmes.

Achieving funding is vital to our Group; I believe strongly that Waikato Equitherapy is a very worthwhile cause that contributes much to improve the lives of our riders, their families and caregivers. Our volunteers, students and those with disabilities on work experience also gain so much from being part of the team.

Your support is extremely important to us and always greatly appreciated.

Nickie Dove (Fundraising Coordinator) Waikato Equitherapy for life skills and development

GYMNASTICS ACADEMY



Wai Piiki Mindful Exercise Coaching



Tamahere Underpass - it's open!

21st April 2022

Kia ora koutou,

I hope you all enjoyed your Easter break.

Returning to work today I received the exciting news that the underpass was able to be opened in time for the long weekend.

On behalf of the team, I'd like to thank you all for your patience and understanding during the construction of the underpass and wish you safe journeys.

Regards,

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Bricks4Kidz in Term 2

