



Whareama School

www.whareama.school.nz

Newsletter No. 1
3rd February, 2021
Term 1, Week 1

WELCOME BACK

Hi everyone and welcome back to the 2021 school year. We hope you have all had a great break, have managed to recharge the batteries over the holidays, and are set for another big year that has come upon us so quickly.....hopefully more settled than 2020! Our starting roll this year is 50, the same starting roll as 2020, and with around 6 enrolments to come in over the year it is going to be a very large roll for us in 2021. A huge



welcome to Tui, Natalie, Hunter, Pippa who have all started with us at Whareama. We are excited to be in three learning spaces this year and this is due to our increasing roll, ministry funding and from your Board of Trustees future planning and support of our school programmes. Leading the learning in Timatanga will be Heather Stevens and 13 Year 0-2 students, in Whanake will be Jane Tiley with 15 Year 3 – 4 students and in Whakatutuki will be Sandy Taylor and myself with our 22 amazing Year 5-8 learners. We pride ourselves on allowing plenty of one on one support for students and also for students to be involved in a wide range of opportunities that everyone can take part in. In many larger schools the numbers dictate the need to select certain students for activities, but it is great that we seem to still be able to take everyone to everything. We have a wide range of new initiatives this year and we will attempt to give you a heads-up and brief description of the upcoming events over the next couple of weeks.

SCHOOL CHARTER

We have updated our strategic aims from our school charter and it is a direct reflection of our and your ambitions and goals for our students. We have confirmed our new and exciting 2021 – 2022 Strategic Plan and our annual plan is all ready to go, our localised targets will be available soon. The strategic and annual plans will be on the school website from the start of next week. The staff will meet and look over our beginning year data and decide on the focus for our students so we can continue to strive towards achieving the 3 strategic aims. The Board of Trustees have also been involved in the design of our strategic and annual plan and have provided feedback and direction for our strategic direction.

Strategic Goal 1: Highly Effective Teaching: *All students will leave Whareama School at or above their respective curriculum levels in reading, writing and mathematics.*

Strategic Goal 2: Student Agency: *All students at Whareama School will be self-managing, independent learners through emphasis on the Key Competencies and values.*

Strategic Goal 3: Whanaungatanga: All stakeholders will be actively engaged, knowledgeable and active participants in our school initiatives, student learning and student progress.

CURRICULUM

This year we have decided to continue to run with our theme called ‘Wai, Wai, Wai.’ In 2020 we did just not get through everything we wanted to and the importance of water in our world and the science focus has become even more important for our students to have a better understanding. We have a huge variety of science based tasks that we will be working on with the kids and there will be a major focus on water, systems around water and why water is such an important commodity to planet earth. We have joined the House of Science and will be receiving science kits each fortnight to support this important area of work. We are planning a wide range of fun, project based activities that will allow the students to develop their own questions and then seek answers to questions, problem solve, explain findings and evaluate their learning. We are studying numeracy, measurement and time in our mathematics unit and our literacy focus this term is guided reading and individualised writing skills. We are doing aquatics and we are excited to be part of the Kia Hakinakina programme for 2021, this is to develop the fundamental skills and physical literacy skills in our students and our art focus will be doing classroom displays and personal portrait art. Our second language programme will focus on Maori history, greetings and classroom instruction. The beginning of Ngahere Ako (forest school) will be another exciting development with an initial trial period with 10 students who we feel will benefit greatly from this programme. In 2021 all students will be taking part in a wide range of activities that will involve activities at school and also many activities out of school.....super exciting times ahead!

WHANAU DAY

On Thursday the 11th of March we will be having a whanau day that will include a HERO information korero, intro to Ngahere Ako and a chance for parents to come along and support this as well as a chance to catch up with your teachers and staff. The BBQ will be available if you want to bring a picnic and have a catch up with each other. The triathlon starts at 3pm and then the classrooms will be open for the afternoon and at 6pm Jane will be presenting in Whakatutuki.

HOMEWORK

All classrooms will be starting homework in Week 3 and this will consist of reading, spelling, mathematics through Maths Buddy or Mathletics and any work that requires completion from unfinished class work. You will also receive a class newsletter from your classrooms next Monday, to outline some of the other bits and pieces of news you may need starting the school year.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

This year the Year 7 and 8 students will be going to Design Technology at Makoura College on Fridays from Week 7 this term. There is a separate letter coming home for each of these students next week to remind you about this programme. The school van leaves school at 10am each Friday and returns in the afternoon for all students. There is no cost for Design Tech this year as our school is part of the Ministry’s new school donations scheme.



STATIONERY

Most of the junior room students have all of their stationery at school however at the end of the year the senior students took home most of their books and stationery. Any books that the children are missing will be supplied from our stationery cupboard this week and added to your school account. We foresee most students only needing the odd book here and there and this will be a minimal cost. We would like all children to bring their own felts, colouring pencils and scissors as these are a couple of things that we do not sell through our stationery cupboard at school, so if you could get these for your children that would be greatly appreciated.



SWIMMING – IN SCHOOL AND LESSONS

As you are aware we have had our school pool emptied to help fight the fire and effectively save the school in the holidays. We are working with the Fire Service to replace the water in the pool. We have had some donations and are hoping to have the pool full and ready to be used by Week 3. Please bear with us as it has been a long process to get the pool sorted but we are doing our absolute best to make this happen sooner, rather than later. Once the pool is up and running Ms Tiley will be offering lessons for students using the school pool. These are private lessons and will be payable and are on top of the regular classroom lessons that each child will be receiving as part of their swimming programme.

KI-O-RAHI COASTAL CLASSIC

On Friday the 5th of March our school is hosting the third annual Ki-o-rahi sports tournament. This will be at Riversdale Beach and will be run with Whaiora from Masterton. We have around 200 students from schools in the Wairarapa coming to this and we will be entering a Year 5/6 and a Year 7/8 team into this event.

2021 SCHOOL TERM DATES

Term 1: Wednesday 3rd February – Friday 16th April (Friday 5th and Thursday 1st April are Teacher Only Days)

Term 2: Monday 3rd May – Friday 9th July

Term 3: Monday 26th July – Friday 1st October

Term 4: Monday 18th October – Wednesday 15th December



ALSO IMPORTANT

The weather is hopefully going to continue to be better so please sunscreen your children in the morning and ensure they all have their hats at school.....this is a compulsory requirement. We have sunscreen at school as well however if your child has sensitive skin and requires a different lotion please send some to school with them. Ensure lunchboxes are filled with the appropriate foods, no junk food and lollies please and we will only use the microwave in the winter to heat food. Water bottles are essential as well so we can keep the kids hydrated throughout the day.....we are a water only school and the bus rides can be hot in the afternoons so a drink bottle that comes from home and to home would be essential.



SCHOOL BUSES

As a friendly reminder please remember if there are any changes to what bus you would like your child on please give us at least 24 hours' notice. There are minimal spaces available on buses at certain times but please ask and we will help where we possibly can. The town bus now has two pick up and drop off points in town and these are Henley Lake and the Colombo Road Alleyway. The phone number contacts for the bus drivers are Kathryn 021440287 for the town bus, Deb 0274448077 for the Homewood bus and 0224247013 for Matthew driving the ICA/Blairlogie bus. If your child is not on their bus for any reason please let your bus driver know as soon as possible.

SPORTS

Options for sports will be out tomorrow and once again we will need some parent support to help run these after school opportunities. Please complete the forms and return to school by Wednesday next week. Thanks to Mrs Tiley who is overseeing the sports at Whareama School this year.



MUSIC

Hemi will be starting lessons again in Week 3 (guitar, ukulele, keyboard, singing). If your child took lessons last year they will automatically continue. If you don't want them to participate or would like any new students added, please ring the office. The price is \$12 for a half hour lesson. Hemi will also be taking our kapa haka group lessons for the whole school in 2021.

FORMS

Here is a quick checklist of the forms that have come home today so you can fill in the appropriate form, return them to school by Wednesday, so we can tidy up the administrative side of beginning the year:

- School Trip Consent Form
- Term 1 Sports Form (coming tomorrow)

REMINDER – Friday 5th FEBRUARY – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR TEACHER ONLY DAY

Monday 8th FEBRUARY – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR WAITANGI DAY

Thursday 1st APRIL – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR TEACHER ONLY DAY

Regards

The Team at Whareama School.

Upcoming Events:

TERM 1:

Fri 5 th February	TEACHER ONLY DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
Mon 7 th February	WAITANGI DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
Thurs 1 st February	TEACHER ONLY DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
Mon 22 nd February	BOT Meeting – 5.30pm staffroom
Fri 26 th February	Wings Over Wairarapa Day
Thurs 4 th March	Enviroschools Silver Reflection Day
Fri 5 th March	Ki-o-rahi Coastal Classic
Mon 8 th March	Rural Cluster Swimming Sports
Thurs 11 th March	Whanau Evening
Fri 19 th March	Design Tech Starts – Y7/8
Thurs/Fri 7 th /8 th April	Parent/Child Learning Discussions
Fri 16 th April	Term 1 Ends