

Wednesday the 22nd of August, 2018

Welcome to Week 5 of the third term

Last week was an important week in the history of teaching in New Zealand. It was the first time in 24 years that teachers have gone out on strike. I would like to thank parents for the support they have shown us leading up to Wednesday. It has been good to be able to have a few chats with parents about the times we face in education.

An important thing to remember is that we are responsible for developing the minds and values etc of the next generation, that will lead this country. We need to get this right. As I have shared with you over the last couple of years, we constantly have new hurdles put in front of us and there seems to be no help from the Ministry of Education. If you are having success as a school and you attract more students to the school, there is little if any support. The only advice they give you is that you have to manage your roll.

Over the years we have seen an increase in the number of children coming to school with quite specific learning needs and there is minimal support for these students. In most cases we use money from other areas to cover the cost of teacher aides to offer assistance for these students.

We are quite lucky at Foxton Beach School that we don't have the high numbers of students with severe behavioural needs. I have sat at meetings listening to Principals in the Horowhenua talking about children who are stealing cars, bringing knives to school, or who threaten students and teachers almost on a daily basis.

Until some of these issues are addressed we will continue to lose high quality teachers and as we have seen on the news, they are not being replaced with new graduates fast enough. Basically, no one wants to be a teacher at the moment. This has to change.

Please feel free to talk to your child's teachers about their workload and the time they spend working and some of the things they do to ensure all our students get the very best.

Curriculum Review

We are currently looking at what and how we are teaching science within Foxton Beach School. Staff have met and looked at how we are managing a good coverage of science ideas across the correct curriculum levels.

Shortly I will be sending home some information and I would also like to hear the views of parents too. What we would like to know from parents is what are some of the science concepts that they believe need to have more emphasis placed on them by our teachers. Where possible if it can link these concepts back to our local environment

then it would be even more meaningful for the students.

Please keep an eye out for this information and send it back to school as soon as you can.

Hamish Stuart
Principal



SPORTS!

Hockey Results

Year 3/4 - 2-1 win over Poroutawhao Huia
Year 7/8 - 0-2 loss to Poroutawhao



Home & School Gala

We need a hand with stalls, cooking, entertainment, setting up and more.

Pop into the Hall, Friday
24th August 2.30 - 3 pm
(or txt 021 1675698)

and put your name down if
you can help or know
someone who can.



Friday 31st August

Help us raise funds for the Cancer Society by bringing along a gold coin for our coin trail.

Upcoming Events

31st Aug
29th Aug
14th Sept
28th Sept

Daffodil Day Coin Trail
Kapa Haka Festival
Cross Country
End of Term 3

Kotare Hub

Team Kotare have had a busy four weeks back at school! We are well underway with our artist study looking at artists **Hundertwasser**, **Van Gogh** and **Piet Mondrian** within our hub.



Our learners are busy getting their hands busy with mini science experiments looking at density, evaporation, magnetism and floating and sinking.

Kapa Haka has been another key focus with practises being held on a Tuesday and Wednesday in preparation for the Kapa Haka festival in Week 6 - 29th of September.

Room 2 and 3 had a recent visit to the Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom where we went and showed our support to local schools who performed the legend of Okatia the atua and how he created the Manawatu river.

Awards

Jackson for showing perseverance when learning something new.

Jahkaia for thinking ahead of time.

Tarānui Hub

We are continuing to learn loads about renewable energy with a real integrated approach. All groups are reading different texts about forms of energy and becoming experts. We are impressed with how well they can summarise the main ideas from their texts. We have also spent some time creating wind wheels in small groups. This was a great chance to apply the Key Competencies and see our children 'debugging' when their wind wheels didn't work, or could be improved. Some excellent writing has been produced connecting to our energy topic. Imagining a day (or longer) without power invoked some creative responses and had everyone thinking about just how many things in our daily lives require power!

At the end of Term 2, our children took action in regards to their Zero Waste learning. Some wrote letters, proposed ideas for change and made posters. Rhyleigh wrote a letter to McDonalds and KFC in regards to their plastic use. She posted these to the Levin stores, and one was handed to the Manawatu Operations Manager. She has now received two replies to her letter! One from a Customer Services Representative, and one from the Manawatu Operations Manager who was very impressed with her action.

'Thank for your letter regarding rubbish and the environmental impact it has. It's great to see young

people caring about the environment' - McDonalds Customer Services.

'Thank you so much for taking the time to provide us with your suggestions of how we can be more environmentally responsible in our industry' - Manawatu Operations Manager.

Awards

Locky - Relating to Others

Tautahi and Clive - Managing Self

Hokowhitu - Participating and Contributing

Amaia - Thinking

Rhyleigh - Using Language, Symbols and Text

R.I.C.E. - Ross

Kuaka Hub

There has been some interesting learning going on in the Kuaka Hub recently. We have been aiming to encourage collaboration in our hub this term. We have worked on learning new skills with different classmates - learning the Japanese language and origami. We have also had the chance to work with different hub members on our recent writing focus - information reports. Pairs of students worked together to complete research and assemble facts about Japan. A range of headings were covered including - geography, diet, sports, flora and fauna, society and culture. It was great seeing the students working together and helping each other to achieve a common goal. Well done Kuaka Hub!

Awards

Felicity, Ariana, Ryan.W, Keelyn

RICE award - Enya, Taine, Josh, and Sienna - Yr 7/8 Mathex team.



Recently we have had volunteers offer to help out in our classrooms but have not left their contact details.

If you wish to volunteer, please contact the school office and leave your contact details.



\$4

**Call into Room 1
for ticket
purchases**