

# FOXTON BEACH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

WEDNESDAY 7TH JULY 2021

Dear Parents

Welcome to Week 10 of Term 2

As we move towards the end of term 2, I can look back on what has been a challenging term at times. There have been a number of wet days where our children have been stuck inside and haven't been able to get out into the playground. I have also seen another term with two of our hubs working in spaces that are not their own. The novelty has definitely started to wear off and we are hoping that everyone will be back in their teaching spaces once the building work is completed.

When we were able to get out and about the school leaders organised a great soccer competition for the school houses which Kiwi took out. This was for the Year 4, 5 and 6 students in Tarānui Hub and they all seemed to love playing each other. Next term we'll look at running a competition for the younger students.

Last Wednesday we took two teams to Foxton Primary to compete against teams from all our local schools in a Kī o Rahi tournament. We took a Yr 5,6 and a Year 7,8 team. The teams had some coaching prior to the competition from Yr 9 students from Manawatu College. It is a really quick game that is a lot of fun. Our Year 5 and 6 team were the winners on the day and the Year 7 and 8 team made it into the semi-finals.



*Year 5 & 6 Winning Team*

Our Year 7 and 8 basketball team played in the Horowhenua Schools final this week. They were undefeated this season, up until losing the final against Levin Intermediate.

As the hockey season draws to a close the Year 7 and 8 team are undefeated in their competition so we might get a good result in this competition as well by the end of the season. I know the other grades have struggled a bit but it shows that if you stick at it by the time you hit Year 7 and 8 you start to see the hard work pay off. Some of our seniors have played hockey since they were five.

**Building Update:** As we are now getting close to the completion of stage one of our junior block I can confirm some dates. We are going to have a dawn service to bless the new space on Friday the 30th of July and then all staff will be on hand to move everything into the new space and move the senior hub back into Kuaka Hub. To be able to do this we are going to have to take two **Teacher Only Days, one on the Friday 30th of July and one on Monday the 2nd of August**. I know that this is inconvenient but we need time to be able to set these spaces up as well. The builders have tried to meet a deadline in the holidays but there have been a number of delays with materials and inspections etc.

We will give parents more information on the blessing etc as we get it organised.

I hope families get to spend a bit of time together over the break and do a few things that don't cost any money. We live in a spectacular environment where you can go for a walk along the beach, ride through the forest or sit out at the river mouth and do a spot of fishing.

We'll see everyone back on the first Monday of the term, the 26th of July.

Hamish Stuart  
Principal



## Team Kotare

This term seems to have just flown by in Team Kotare! We had a great time investigating our communities and what we can do to help make them better. We had visits from Water Safe NZ and St Johns came to talk to us about identifying dangers and keeping safe. Fingers crossed we will start Term 3 in our new hub which I know we are all really excited about! Have a safe holiday and we look forward to seeing you all next term!

## Team Tarānui

Last Monday, our class took part in the Census in Schools survey, which will form part of our statistics learning next term. This was a great, hands on learning experience for our tamariki. There were several measurement tasks, and lots of tasks that required team work. We were so impressed with how the class got stuck in and completed this.

Our children have been writing texts after learning the Ngāti Raukawa story about Turongo and Māhinaarangi. Thank you Whaea Ani for sharing your story for this. There have been such a range of unique responses. Here is a snippet from Loni's writing:

*The sea is blue, I have a poem for you. It is so good you will love it too. It's the love of my life that brought me here. For now it's been two or more years. As time fasts forward my Puku begins to stretch. The wee kicks get harder and faster. As time gets closer the pain begins to sway. With a HIP HIP HOORAY! We now have a baby. We have so much love we can't forget the first time we met. It was so much fun that we will never forget.*



This week we have our homework treat celebration. For every week that children complete all aspects of their homework, and return it on Friday, they get one point/treat. If they have completed it all 9 weeks, we give them a bonus - so the most that can be earned is 10. These are then cashed in for our celebration. The class voted on having movies this term (last term it was ice-cream sundaes). It will cost 2 'treats' to get in - just like you have to pay to get into the movies! Then other treats can be used to spend on popcorn and other goodies. There will be 2 movie options to choose from. Whilst we do like our children to want to complete their homework for intrinsic reasons, this is just a little something to reward them for their mahi and give them a bit more motivation.

## Kuaka Hub

This term Kuaka Hub has created some amazing presentations that summarise the learning they have engaged in. We have had a major focus on Kiwiana, in which we covered learning on New Zealand geography (major cities, regions, and landmarks), and Aotearoa myths and legends. In pairs, the students have developed websites based on this learning which will be Seesawed home this week!

Kuaka Hub will also be sharing home their recent narrative writing stories. We aimed to include narrative features like describing our settings, including direct and indirect speech, and experimenting with the 'show not tell' concept. Another focus the Kuaka Hub has engaged in has been a mini-unit on environmentalism supported by Ben Knight from Sustainable Coastlines. Ben delivered his Love your Coast presentation on the impact of plastic pollution in our oceans and then supported the class leaders with a litter survey just north of the Surf Club. The leaders categorised, weighed, and inputted the results into the Litter Intelligence app. Next term we will survey litter collected from Waitare and analyse it looking for trends or similarities and differences with the data collected at Foxton Beach.



Awesome effort and engagement all term Kuaka Hub!

