

FOXTON BEACH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

9TH DECEMBER 2022

Welcome to our last newsletter for 2022

I would like to start off by thanking all the parents who have taken the opportunity to get into school and re-engage with school activities. We have had restrictions in place for close to two years and the flow on effect of this is that we have seen the number of parents coming in reduce. We have tried a number of activities to get parents involved in their children's learning and one of the big events we had was around the Matariki celebrations.

For this day we had an amazing turn out of children and parents coming in to learn about the cluster of stars and learn about the planets that are visible to the naked eye. We were lucky enough to have experts here from the Horowhenua Astronomical Society share their knowledge with us. It was amazing to see the planets, literally all line up for us that morning. We celebrated with breakfast and a really nice hangi lunch. Thank you to John Hatsell and his team who cooked hangi for everyone.

Our school production this year was a real hit and I would like to thank the children, teachers and parents who made it all work.

This year we have managed to get some of our sports teams up and running again. Numbers have taken a bit of a hit with children not committing to sports and parents finding the cost of sports really prohibitive. We hope that in the new school year we will have a lot more children committing to taking on a school sport. It is really good to develop team connections which has a flow on effect in our classes as well. Connections are also apparent in our combined kapa haka group, who have worked so hard to put together a performance and perform to a large group of parents. You could see the pride they had in the group and themselves.

At the end of this year Terasa Standish is leaving us and taking up a new position at Ross Intermediate. This will be great for her and her family as working at Foxton Beach and then having to organise children in Palmerston North is difficult. Terasa has been amazing in the time that she has been with us. She has become a fully registered teacher and was one of the directors for this year's school production. We will keep you all posted on a new teacher to replace her.

I want to take this time to send out a huge thank you to everyone who has helped with school events, school trips, production, coaching or managing sports teams and helping get children to games. There have also been trips to the beach and estuary and of course our senior hub had their Year 7 and 8 camp this term as well. Without the ongoing support from so many of our parents a lot of these activities would not have been possible.

I would lastly like to thank all my staff for the work they have put in this year. It has been one of those years where everyone has had to pitch in and help. I have an amazing staff and a hugely supportive Board that I work with. I wish everyone a safe and relaxing summer holiday!

Nga mihi nui
Hamish Stuart
Tumuaki

Upcoming Events

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|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| 12th December | Year 8 Leavers Dinner 5.30pm |
| 14th December | Prizegiving 12.30pm |
| 15th December | Last Day of School 12.30pm finish |

Sports Uniforms

Please return all sports uniforms before the end of term. Thank you!

Uniform Sale

Thursday 26th January 2023. Keep an eye on our facebook page in January for more information!

Prizegiving

Parents and supports are welcome to join us for this year's prizegiving on Wednesday 14th December, 12.30 pm in the school hall.

Pool Keys

Pool keys are available. Keys cost \$100 for the season which includes a bond for the key. Please contact the office before the 13th December.

Team Kotare

Highlights for this term... we had our Athletics, Junior Tabloid session in Shannon, and a large Focus on Science and Living World. Team Kotare students and staff had a trip to Foxton Wildlife Trust. We would like to thank Vai and Luke for being such knowledgeable and passionate hosts.

Here are a few pictures of our Wildlife trip.



Team Tarānui

"My highlight was doing the Matariki stars with Mrs Harrison and Mrs McDonald. I learned heaps! Also the school Matariki celebration, when we came to school at 6am to look at the stars." - Isaac

"I'm really proud of coming to school more. I get to hang out with my friends but also learn lots. I am getting better at reading." - Bradley

"My bee knowledge going from zero to one hundred this term as we learned all about bees." - Kobie

"I enjoyed waking up at 5.30 in the morning, then walking up to school to look at the stars for Matariki." - Cruz

"I liked having the year 4s in our class as I could be a good leader to them and help them." - Loni

This year we were lucky enough to have these experiences (and many more, but here's a few to mention...)

- ★ Footsteps programme, using technology with physical activity.
- ★ Activities Week at the start of Term 2
- ★ Matariki celebration
- ★ House meetings
- ★ New assemblies with challenges
- ★ Lots of sports opportunities and interschool competitions
- ★ Amazing art learning, including winning a local art competition with our class entry
- ★ Interesting inquiry topics
- ★ Production
- ★ PBS ad filming
- ★ 4 awesome teachers throughout the year!



Thank you to everyone who has made everything possible. It's been a crazy year like no other before it, but we made it! Have a fantastic break everyone and see you in 2023 ready for more fun and challenges.

Kuaka Hub



This year has flown by! Kuaka Hub has engaged in a range of learning experiences that have helped to upskill our students and provided them a vibrant education. Some of the highlights from the year have been the various interschool sporting events that our students have attended and achieved great results at, including swimming sports, rugby and ki o rahi tournaments, and the recent

interschool athletics competition. Other highlights have been the digital fluency initiative that has run in our hub all year. This focus has meant our students are more confident working in online spaces and are more efficient with their workflow. Our students can now blog about their weekly learning and comment on blogs by other students across New Zealand.

Another recent highlight has been the year 7-8 camp. Our senior students had a great time at Horowhenua Gravity Balls and bouncing on the tramps at Cloud 9. It was great to see them challenged at the Adrenaline Forest high ropes course and push through to face their fears as well.

It has been a full-on year with lots of success. We wish our year 8 cohort all the best with the next steps in their educational journey. Safe holidays everyone!

Thanks very much, Nick and Carly