

# Whenuakite School Newsletter

## No 7 Term 1



13th March 2017

Greetings and Kia Ora to everyone,

Every flood is different. State Highway 25 was cut off on both sides of Whenuakite on Wednesday morning but Hot Water Beach Road was high and dry.

By 11am HWB road was well under water with two enormous lakes on either side. The road was clear by Friday morning and it was a relief to be able to get back to school despite the uncertainty about more rain to come later on.

The Phone tree did not work well on Wednesday because the Vodophone network had issues. It worked better on Thursday but it is obvious that Facebook is a convenient way for many people to access information so we will look to set that up before the next flood.

**Waterwise** is on again this week. Sailors will be contacted if the weather is not suitable.

Teachers will contact you about changes to **Camp Meetings, trips , snorkelling and other postponements.**

**BOT Meeting** - This Wednesday at 7pm, in the staffroom. All welcome.

**Thames Valley Swimmers**—congratulations to these swimmers who have been selected to swim as part of the Peninsula Central Team, at Thames Valley Swimming, on Wednesday.

- **Stella-Rose Bahr**
- **Brynn George**
- **Jack Fiddler**
- **Alexandra Litherland**
- **Georgia Litherland**
- **Poppy Richmond**
- **James Smith**

Children have all the information they need for the day. Enjoy the competition.

**REMINDER: soccer** muster at 3pm Tuesday (tomorrow) at school fields.



Photo by Steph McEwen

**Year 5-8 Pinnacles Trip**– we are having a training tramp on Monday 20th March.

We will travel by bus to the top Ferry Landing car park then walk the tracks from Ferry Landing-Flaxmill Bay, Shakespeare Cliff and Sailor's grave.

A note will come home with children today giving more information about the tramp.

**The Dental Caravan** is now at school. All the children will be screened and if consent is obtained, dental work will be done.

- **Contact Christine or Leigh if you have any queries.**
- Phone: 021 356 292 or 0800 825 583

**Thank you to Wayne Olsen (Ruby's granddad)** for fixing the broken pool cover. The steel shaft sheared off and Wayne removed the broken parts, re-welded the shaft and refitted the mechanism. Much appreciated. Thank you from everyone who likes the warm pool!

**Welcome to Valo and Farai Gray.** Valo and Farai live at Hahei and they are joining us from today. Valo is in Room 3 and Farai is in Room 1. Welcome boys. We look forward to getting to know you.

### Interviews

The interviews and discussions that took place early in the Term are probably the most important event in your child's school life, each year. The relationship between parent/caregivers, teacher and child is the key factor that enables us all to work together, through good times and difficult times, to give your child the best opportunity to become a confident, connected, actively involved life-long-learner.

We call this **Whanaungatanga**.

Establishing supportive relationships with children and families who in turn support and assist the school.

I have read all of the 'reports' that have been sent home during the last few weeks. I get a precious insight and glimpse of all the learning that is happening throughout the school. Children, teachers and parents are working very hard.



Most schools have at least two formal interview sessions per year so from Year 1 to Year 13, that is about 26 parent-teacher-child interviews for their school life.



Each one reinforces the message that the child/young person is the focus and that the parents/caregivers are committed and supportive to everything to do with their school life.

Each interview allows teacher and parent / caregiver to get to know each other a little bit more. The more we know, understand and respect each other, the better we can all work to enable your child to get the most out of their school experience.

Never miss an opportunity for an interview. If you have to postpone, make sure you make an alternative time and always make sure your child is there too. As soon as a child is ready, we encourage them to 'run the interview' and be responsible for what is covered.

I have sat in on interviews or heard recounts from teachers of the powerful learning that comes from them. I have heard of parents who have told their child how proud and impressed they are. I have heard of children thanking the adults in their life for sacrifice, inspiration and continual help and encouragement. I have listened to children play the recorder to parents, recite a poem, present a treasured piece of art, proudly demonstrate an achieved goal, determinedly set a goal for the future or share an experience or insight that has been important to them.

In most interviews there is always humour, challenge, surprise and sometimes tears of joy, struggle or emotion.

Interviews are the ultimate self-reflection and children know how to be starkly honest about themselves and life. We all learn new things about ourselves during the interview process and it is this continual growing and learning that enables us to work with families and children to the best of our ability.

Thank you for being part of the interview process during Term 1.

