Newsletter 6 8 July 2022

Kahurangi school

Kia ora e te whānau o te kura Kahurangi.

Sadly this newsletter won't be up to its usual standard as I've been pulled in many directions these last few weeks and the demands of the job have not allowed me enough time.

I'm glad we've made it to the last day of the term because like many kura up and down the country we have been hit especially hard with the arrival of the winter flu along with Covid's presence and a few other nasty bugs.

You may or may not be aware that we've had large numbers of absences of our tamariki. Lots of staff have also been away which has made this term significantly more challenging than most. Compared with previous years we have nearly tripled the amount of sickness of staff who have been off for much longer periods than usual.

At the beginning of the year I shared how if we were hit hard with staff having Covid we would do everything we could to keep the school open. Both of these things have happened but to be really honest it has taken huge toll on the staff, with many sharing that they have symptoms of stress and burnout.

What's made it so hard is that when staff have been away we've not often been able to find cover for them meaning everyone left at school must cover their class and pick up their duties that still need to happen to make the school function. In fact, we have not had a single day this term when we've had our full team at school. Some days we've been down five teachers and two support staff.

I must say I'm hugely grateful for the staff and their continued mahi. They have never complained or refused to do extra but worked with dedication ensuring that good learning has continued to happen and school has continued to be an enjoyable and safe place to learn.

It has been hard on our children too! It's been quite a challenge for them to build momentum in their learning with all these challenges. We've been so proud though at how they've adapted and accepted the situation often going into another classroom at a moment's notice.

Whānau I want to acknowledge you too. I'm predicting at times you have also worried like us about lost learning and your child not having their regular teacher and being spread across the school. Thank you for trusting that we'll be doing our best to cope with an impossible situation.

You may wonder why I'm sharing this with you after the fact. The reason is that I need to warn you that if Term 3 is anything like Term 2 we will need to do things differently. There may be times we message you requesting you to keep your tamariki at home if you can. There may even be occasions when we ask certain classes of children not to come to school because we don't have a teacher. Please be assured if this were to happen we would aim to give you as much notice as possible.





Mon 25 July

First day back of Term 3

Tues 2 Aug

Progress and Achievement Conversations (Parent Interviews) School will finish early at 12:30pm on this day

Wed 3 Aug

Teacher Only Day No school for the children.

Wed 3 Aug

School Board Parent Election Nominations close at noon.















In saying all this, fortunately school holidays have arrived and we are all hoping that the break away from school gives everyone some well earned rest and time to recharge and become fully well.

I wish you a wonderful time with your children, and that you enjoy the break from busy school life routines.

Our Kahurangi team and I look forward to reconnecting with you again on Monday 25 July, the beginning of Term 3.

Ngā manaakitangi,



Kyran Smith | Principal

Welcome to our new student



A special welcome to a new student **Heaven** and her whānau. We're looking forward to getting to know her more and hope she and her whānau feel at home in our school community

School Board elections are happening soon

All but one of our Board members are standing down from the Board so we are looking for whanau who are keen to 'get on board'. Please consider whether you would like to stand or perhaps you could nominate someone you think would be great.

Cover letters, nomination forms, and information about eligibility were sent home with the children this week. If your child has been away all week due to illness, or they are on holiday, these forms will be posted to the home address we have on file for you.



Look out for your child's school report coming home today

School reports are being sent home today for all but one of our classes. Due to sickness there is one class who will get their reports on the first day back next term.

Our youngest 5 year olds also don't get one due to not having been at school long enough.

We're very proud of our three miniball/ basketball teams who won their league

















