

Kahurangi SCHOOL

KIA ORA FROM KYRAN

### Naumai e te whānau o te kura Kahurangi

### Tena koutou katoa.

The term is off to another good start and it's always pleasing to see our ākonga engaged and motivated in their learning.

Our kaiako are continuing to work tirelessly to create a stimulating learning environment that encourages curiosity and growth which is no easy feat. It does become a lot more challenging as the year goes on and our tamariki grow older and become familiar with with their teacher's learning methods and 'tricks and games' to hold their engagement. Despite this though, our kaiako keep working hard looking for varied ways to 'change-it-up' so the children remain interested. All our teachers report seeing tamariki progessing and the vast majority of tamariki are continuing to work hard to achieve their learning goals and reach their learning milestones.

As the term unfolds, as expected illness amongst our tamariki and staff has increased a lot. With this has come the ongoing challenge of finding relievers to cover sick teachers. This year we've been determined not to split classes like we had to do so often last year. We know this wasn't good for children and classes and this approach was unsustainable as it added to the burnout that many of our kaiako felt last year so it was essential that we came up with a new plan. We also have the added challenge of our bigger classes this year which makes them even tricker to split.

To tackle this problem we've supported two of our very experienced and super skilled Teacher Aides (Sam Renner and Angela Keane) to gain a level of registration from the Teaching Council that allows them to cover entire classes of children rather than the smaller groups or individuals they would usually support. I'm pleased to report our planning has served us well. Along with our Deputy Principal and myself covering occasional days and the good will of our part-time teachers to do extra days we've only had to split classes less than a handfull of times versus the fifty plus times we did last year.





Players from the Phoents football team visited our kura recently. After a Q&A tamiriki got to participate in some drills and get the players' signatures which they were pretty chuffed about.



# noticeboard



# Tues 22 Aug

**Whānau Consultation Evening** 6:30pm

A letter has been sent home about this to the whānau who have been randomly selected to participate.

# Wed 30 Aug

**School Photos** 

Look out for information aboutt school photos next

For further dates and events please check 'What's coming up' on the back page of this newsletter.















It is especially exciting turning 5 and starting school. I wonder how many of you still remember your first day of school? Ryan, Jack and Sandra have started in our New Entrant class with Natalie.

We have had some new older children start with us too. An extra special welcome to the following children who have recently moved to New Zealand.

Welcome to siblings Keiler and Jary

who are Colombian. Asher has moved here from Australia. Jaslyn comes to us from Samoa and joins her brother

Arani has returned and rejoins her sister Humarie.

A warm welcome to the new whānau too. We hope you are finding our school community welcoming and friendly.

# We have a new teacher and a new class opening soon

We have fortunately secured **Christine McNaughton** an experienced and highly skilled teacher to open up another class for our growing junior school. With an impressive 30 years of teaching experience,

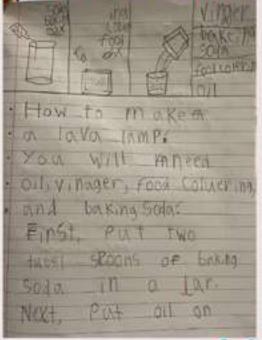
Christine possesses the expertise to provide a nurturing and enriching learning environment for the tamariki. Christine also happens to be the grandparent of Annie and Faye who learn with us. Christine already knows our tamariki a little as she has spent four weeks with us covering for Julia who has been away overseas getting married.

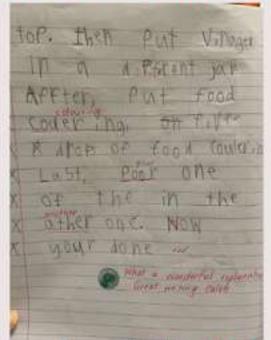
### School newsletters

The newsletter you are reading usually comes out every three weeks on a Friday. It is sent out by paper (with your child), email, via our school app and you'll also find it on our school website. We use all of these different methods as we want to make sure it reaches everyone. We also continue with the paper copies as we know tamariki very much enjoying reading it and this ensures they get to see it

If you didn't receive this newsletter via email it's probably because we don't have your correct email. If this is you please email the office (office@kahurangi.school.nz). On some occasions whānau have found the newsletter has gone to their junkmail because it's sent to a large number of recipients.

# Have you ever wondered how to make a lava lamp?









Ask our tamariki in Waka Rimu Whā!













# **Update from the Board**

Kia ora e te whānau Kahurangi,

We (Kahurangi School Board) have a couple of important things we'd like to update you on.

#### Strategic Planning for 2024

The Kahurangi School Board has begun the consultation process for our next Strategic Plan. This started with a Strategic Planning day with Kahurangi Staff on Wednesday 26 July (the Teacher Only Day last month). This was a full day workshop where the Board heard from staff on how they think we are going at Kahurangi School, and what our aspirations need to be, across a range of topics.

We were impressed and heartened by the comments, commitment, expertise, and energy coming from staff. It was a great opportunity for us to hear more about their evolving teaching practice, and how they were applying it to our tamariki to support their achievement and belonging.

Our next step in the consultation process is to hear from whānau. For this whānau consultation, we are trialling a new approach to make sure our entire community is heard. Our approach is based on current practice in public consultation (you may have read about it recently being used by local government) to ensure we are best able to hear diverse views.

Instead of sending out a broad invitation to whānau to participate, we have carefully selected a group of whānau to ensure representation from all our cultural groups as well as 'new' and 'older' whānau. We know all whānau come with valuable perspectives and wisdom and for this reason we've chosen a smaller group to ensure a diverse range of voices are heard.

#### Managing behaviour in Term 2

At our Board meetings, we receive regular data on incidents involving the booking book, stand-downs, and the types of behaviour leading to these. We don't see the names of students involved - their privacy is always carefully protected.

At our last meeting, we saw the data for Term 2 of this year. Anecdotally, we were aware that incidents in the playground had increased and how this was being managed, but this was a chance for us to discuss the numbers. Term 2 saw an increase in incidents, which is of course concerning.

While we see this data from the Board point of view, we also get to see the hard mahi that is put into preventing, responding to, managing, and following up on these incidents. We feel assured that during this period of challenge, Kyran and her team have worked diligently to address issues proactively and have implemented a range of strategies and interventions to ensure a positive and supportive learning environment for all our ākonga.

One of these strategies is ensuring close collaboration with whanau through regular communication and keeping them updated of their children's progress and concerns that may arise. This approach extends beyond discussing only the difficulties, and focuses on positives, celebrating their achievements, and working hard so each child can maintain their mana and sense of community and belonging. We think Kahurangi has now successfully navigated through this particularly challenging phase, but we know the leadership team continues to be vigilant in their monitoring to ensure this is maintained.

#### Our government funding

Kahurangi School is, and has always been, a 'free' school, which means that all tamariki have equal access to the same resources and opportunities without any cost to whānau. Unlike most other schools, we don't ask families for fees or donations. We do welcome and appreciate any donations where whanau are able to provide support and decide to do so.

The funding system for schools changed on 1 January 2023, moving away from the Decile system to using an Equity Index to better target equity issues. This has resulted in Kahurangi School being entitled to less equity-based funding. The Ministry of Education is providing full transition funding for this year so we are not worse off, however, over the next 3 years this transitional funding reduces each year until we're down to the new level of funding in 2026.

Our school's main fundraising activity is our biennial Spellathon (coming up on Friday 8 September!). This is a really important source of income for us and it helps us to pay for things such as Education Outside The Classroom (EOTC) for our tamariki. We welcome parent and community support to remain a free school, which has many benefits to our tamariki and our community.

### **Board meetings**

Please also remember that you are welcome to attend our Board meetings - meetings are open to the public, except for discrete parts of the meeting related to confidential matters where the Board would ask you to step out briefly. Just please let us know in advance that you are coming.

If ever you would like to reach out to us on the Board, you are very welcome to email us at presidingmember@kahurangi.school.nz which is an email address that only the Presiding member has access to.

Kia pai te mutunga wiki,

Jane Pierard

Jane Pierard (on behalf of Kahurangi School's Board of Trustees)















## Fun ways to get your tamariki practicing their Spellathon words at home

I thought you might apprecite some recommendations of helpful ideas to keep your tamaiki engaged in learning their Spellathon words. Below are some goodies I came across on the internet.

### **Online spelling games**

Spelling training - a website where you can insert the words to practice and it creates games to learn the words. www.spellingtraining.com

**Hands-on ways of learning words** If you're like most parents, you spend a lot of time helping your child learn how to spell the words. While many of us do so by having the child spell the word aloud, that only goes so far in helping the child master the ones they are really struggling with. This website offers some non verbal ways of supporting them.

www.verywellfamily.com

### 10 fun ways to teach skids

A few videos of teachers sharing good ideas for supporting spelling at home.

> https://youtu.be/onkSaruq7HI https://youtu.be/pZhkKlmvI4g

Thank you in advance for all you do behind the scenes to help your children collect sponsors! If your child hasn't brought home their Spellathon notice and list please let us know as soon as you can.

## Magnet magic!

Waka Rimu Tahi have been exploring the properties of magnets and learning which materials are attracted to magnets. They have tested things like paper clips, plastic beads, sponges, compasses, push pins, buttons and more!





### Covid is back!

We are hearing from whānau that some tamariki have been testing positive with Covid. This is a good reminder to us all to be vigilent and proactive in our efforts to minimise the spread of the virus.

We ask that you monitor your children (and family members) for any symptoms associated with Covid. These can include sneezing and a runny nose, sore throat, body aches, fever, cough, feeling tired, headache, nausea and vomiting. If anyone in your household displays symptoms, we urge you to test promptly.

We do have plenty of testing kits at school if you need some.

If you need health advice remember you can call Healthline 0800 611 116 anytime.

### **Skateboarding lessons at Golden Time!**













Golden Time happens every Friday after lunch. Tamariki earn their Golden Time by following class and school expectations. The activities they get to do are especially special and beyond what would usually happen during the course of a normal school day.







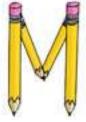












SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING

**MATHEMATICS** 

# "Let's revise our plan and work again." Zahra

"Well if it were too tall then it might make it too wobbly and it will break." Yousuf

"We are working on our structure." - Teddy

"We have to make it sturdy!!" - Caleb R







The Junior School has been working hard to understand the different aspects of the design process as a part of their STEM rotation this term. In Waka Pahī Tahi tamariki were building structures which they wanted to be both strong and tall using unifix cubes, tape and paper. After creating plan A and plan B tamariki were able to test out their designs. Ka rawe e hoa!

## Do you want to know the secret to stop your child losing their clothing at school?

The simple answer is....NAMING IT. 🚱

Our lost property box is already full with unnamed clothing. Over the next few fine days it will be hung at the front of our school on the fence so whānau have the opportunity to go through it and find lost items. We'll also make sure tamariki have a chance to look through it before we send the unclaimed clothing to the local opportunity shop.

## **Year 7 Vision Screening**

Te Whatu Ora, Health New Zealand provides a vision screening programme for all our Year 7 students.

- Vision pupils will be advised of results at the time of screening. If further assessment is recommended you will be notified by mail.
- Children who wear glasses and/or are under professional care and have regular checks will not require a vision check.
- Non-consent please notify us if you do not want your child being screened.
- This screening is not a full assessment of your child's vision. If you have any concerns, please see an optometrist.

### Artwork in response to our trip to the movies...

















### Hell Pizza Reading Challenge



Senior School tamariki are participating in the Hell Pizza Reading Challenge as an incentive to read more at home. Parents if you have a child in the Senior School I wonder if they have told you about what's involved?

### What's coming up

### **Tuesday 15 August Bonobo Gym Trip**

Students who learn with Merryl

### Wednesday 16 August Step Out Dance Trip

Students who learn with Chad, Emma and Maddi.P.

### **Thursday 17 August Step Out Dance Trip**

Students who learn with Claire, James and Merryl.

#### **Bonobo Gym Trip**

For a range of senior students.

### **Tuesday 22 August Otari Bush Trip**

Students who learn with Chad and Maddi P.

### **Whānau Consultation Evening**

6:30pm at school A letter has been sent home about this to the whanau who have been randomly selected.

### Wednesday 23 August Otari Bush Trip

Students who learn with Merryl and Emma.

### Thursday 24 August **Otari Bush Trip**

Students who learn with Claire and James.

### **Friday 25 August** Concert

"Play Me A Story," featuring the Wellington Orchestra's Principal Trombone and Principal Harp musicians.

### School Assembly

Hosted by the children who learn with Brynne. 2:10pm

Whānau welcome

### **Tuesday 29 August** BLAKE NZ-VR Experience

For year 6-8 students.

#### Wednesday 30 August School Photo Day

Info will be sent home about school photos next week.



## News from the Community







Interested? See our website: www.primeresearch.co.nz Or email Steph: stephanie@primeresearch.co.nz



St Catherine's College seeks applications for the position of Finance Administrator

As part of the administration team, you will be responsible for accounting and assisting with reception and back up payroll (EdPay) support within the College. Predominantly accounts payable, accounts receivable and daily banking. Knowledge of Xero, and GST would be preferable.

This is a permanent position.

You will have: strong attention to detail, with accurate numeracy skills being paramount: computer literacy; excellent communication and time management skills; a positive attitude with a commitment to teamwork and sharing tasks.

Hours are: 10.30 am to 3.30 pm Monday to Friday (22.5 hours) in the school term time. Some hours will be required to be worked in the school holidays. These are negotiable.

Written application including CV and the names of two referees should be directed to Katrina Kerr-Bell, Principal, St Catherine's College, P. O. Box 14076 Kilbirnie, Wellington 6241 or emailed to chris.perry@scc.school. nz. To obtain a copy of the job description or if you have any queries please contact Chris Perry, PA on (04) 939-8988. Closing date is Friday 18 August 2023 at 3.00pm













