

Wednesday 18th October 2017



**Dear Parents/Caregivers
Welcome back to Term 4**

I hope you all had some fun time with your child during the holidays and your child is refreshed and full of energy for the new term. To help them with their learning they need to **be at school every day**. This is so important to build a strong learning foundation in Reading, Writing and Maths. You don't get NCEA in secondary school by magic, the work starts now. Please help your child get to school every day.

Community Consultation Health & Well-being: Puberty (Yr6 students only)

It amazes me how time races by. One of the most obvious ways it shows is in seeing your child grow. It can seem like they are little one day, but when you look again they are up to your shoulder and growing taller! This is particularly so as your child turns around ten years old. To help them get ready for the changes that getting older brings, this Term our Senior Syndicate will be running a series of lessons on, Hygiene, Exercise and body changes associated with puberty. A letter with full details was sent home yesterday and there will be a parents' information session (**Yr6 students only**) on **Friday 27 October** at 3pm in the Yellow Pod for those who would like to hear about the programme.



**Niue celebrations!
Fakaalofa lahi atu ki a
mutolu oti!**



This week we celebrate Niue's Constitution day. Niue is one of the largest coral islands in

the world and it is also nicknamed 'The Rock.' The people of Niue have a rich history and a close association with New Zealand. Over the years many have come to settle here, hence we have more than a few families and teaching staff that claim the rich heritage of this land. **On Thursday 19th October at 9.30am** we will be raising the Niuean flag and celebrating their day. Please feel free to join us.

APPA Choir Festival

On **Friday 20th October** our Junior School choir is taking part in another massed choir practice as we get closer to the APPA Festival which is being held on **Tuesday 7th**



November. I always look forward to seeing our pupils on stage in the Auckland Town Hall. Its hard work to learn the music off by heart and then be brave and sing in front of hundreds of people but our pupils are brave and have confidence in themselves that they can do it. A letter with full details has already been sent home.

Sistema

Our tamariki are about to start their Term 4 programme which is a combination of in-school lessons and after school sessions at OMAC. The Year 2 group are about to begin their after-school sessions starting next **Wednesday 25th October**. Lessons are every Wednesday from 3:00-4:30 pm. More information about these sessions



will go home shortly. We will transport your child by minivan to the Centre but please remember to pick your child up from Otaru Music and Arts Centre promptly at 4:30pm. Our Yr3 pupils will continue their programme starting next Tuesday and again we will transport them there and we need your help picking them up from OMAC at the end of their practices. I would encourage you to support your son or daughter with this. It is just such a fantastic opportunity. I'm looking forward too, to the end of year concert which is being held on **Wednesday 22nd November at the Vodafone Events Centre. Hope to see you there**

Conservation Week

This week is Conservation week and the theme is 'Love My Backyard' Below we have some of the famous artists from Room 15 working on their competition poster.



Looks great! Keep NZ beautiful.

Health and Safety

Recently I tried to ring a family about a sick child and none of the three numbers I had worked, so the little one had to stay at school feeling miserable which is not what we want. So a reminder please whanau, that if you have changed your cellphone number or address you need to let us know. The best

person to contact is our fabulous school secretary Miss Wilson (**PH 2745782 ext 104**) who will keep the information totally confidential.

Desk and table offer

At the moment we are upgrading the furniture in the yellow pod and we have a few tables and chairs going free for whanau to use at home as work/study tables. If you are interested in this please pop down to yellow pod and see Mrs Elise. This is on a first come, first serve basis.



Ambury Farm

Next week our Junior Syndicate is going to Ambury Farm to experience life on the farm and check out all the animals. Permission slips and full details have already been sent home but do check the weather. If the cold snap continues next week please put a thick coat/jacket on your child to keep them warm. Should be a great learning experience for our tamariki.

Raffle: to support the Ambury Farm trip we are running a \$1-\$2 raffle, some great prizes, and a great cause. You need to be in to win. Tickets are available from Mrs Pulini in Rm 3. Drawn Friday 20 October at 1pm

Labour Day

A reminder that **Monday 23rd October is Labour Day** and a public holiday so there is **no school**. School will recommence on **Tuesday 24th October at 8.45am**

Yours truly,

John Shearer, Principal