

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Dear Parents/Caregivers,



### Community Consultation: Goal Setting

It's that time of the year to look at the next step/goals for your child. Goal setting nights are on **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March.**



We have tried to give you the meeting time you wanted for you and your child to meet with their teacher as best we can and we are looking forward to seeing you all there. Please remember that on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>, **school will finish earlier at 1pm.**

### 2018 School Targets

Each year our Junior School sets targets to try and accelerate progress and achievement for our tamariki. This year we have a particular focus on maths throughout the Junior and Middle Schools. A sub group of that big school wide **Maths push is our Year 3 and 4** pupils. Selected pupils who need support will be given extra help to accelerate their learning. You can help too. Here are a few tips on how you can help your child's learning in maths.

- preparing and sharing out food – "two for me and two for you". Ask, "How many for each of us?"
- talking about time – "lunchtime", "storytime", "bedtime"
- using words in everyday play like "under", "over", "between", "around", "behind", "up", "down", "heavy", "light", "round", "circle", "yesterday", "tomorrow". You can get library books with these words and ideas in them too

- asking questions like "How many apples do we need for lunches? What do you think the weather is going to be like today/tomorrow? What are we going to do next?"
- find numbers around your home and neighbourhood – clocks, letterboxes, speed signs
- count forwards and backwards (clocks, fingers and toes, letterboxes, action rhymes, signs)
- make patterns when counting "clap 1, stamp 2, clap 3, stamp 4, clap 5..."
- do sums using objects such as stones or marbles eg 2 + 3, 4 + 1, 5 + 4
- make up number stories – "you have 2 brothers and 2 sisters. There are 4 of them"
- And for older pupils, basic addition and multiplication tables are still key building blocks that they need

Use lots of mathematics words as your child is playing to develop their understanding of early mathematics (e.g. "over", "under", "first, second, third", "round", "through", "before", "after"). Use the language that works best for you and your child.

Another of our big **targets this year is writing.** Writing is a complex task where pupils need to put the ideas in their head into order and express them on paper in a way for others to understand and enjoy. That's challenging and even harder if your first language isn't English. Many of our tamariki can do this really well but selected pupils in **Year 5 & 6** who need help will be given additional support in structuring and formulating their writing for success. You can



help with this too by getting your child into reading where they are exposed to books and stories and seeing examples of what they need to learn to write themselves. Read bed time stories to your child take them to the library, it all helps.

### Project WY Parent Presentation

Earlier this week letters were sent home with our Year 5 & 6 pupils who showed interest in this year's Project WY event. Project WY is a fitness challenge where Mums and Dads work with their child to get fit together and at the same time have great bonding experiences with their child. There is a meeting tonight for whanau looking at joining up for this in the Middle School at 6pm. Well worth attending.

### Cyclone Gita appeal

As you have seen on the news Cyclone Gita has caused serious damage in Tonga. Some areas are just totally destroyed. To help support our whanau in the islands the Collegiate will be holding a mufti day this Friday. So if you would like to support you can send your child in mufti this Friday for a gold coin donation. All donations will be going to the Red Cross appeal for Tonga.



### Sistema

My congratulations to all the parents who have their tamariki in this programme. The research shows that



not only do pupils grow in musical ability and knowledge through the programme but academic ability and confidence to succeed in life just generally flourishes. So keep you kid going to their Sistema sessions.

### Health and well-being: Touch

Well we got rained out of the cricket last week which was a bit disappointing for everyone but you cannot control the weather so we go forward to the next sport and its touch. On **Tuesday the 20 March** our teams will be in action at Pulman Park and as always you are all most warmly welcome to come and support your son or daughter. A letter with full details will be sent home shortly to those involved.



### NZEI Paid Union Meeting:

On 22nd March, Primary School teachers will be attending an NZEI meeting from 1.30pm, School will finish at 1pm. Reminder notices will be given out soon.

### Junior Award

The hardest working pupils this week are from Rm12 – Iharaia Cherrington-Wharewaka for being a great role model/tuakana for everyone in Te Waka Ora and also Cee-Jae Jackson for looking after your learning and helping others. Well done to these tamarikis.

Yours truly,  
**John Shearer**  
**Principal**

**Return Slip** (Return this slip and go in the draw for a book prize!)

I have received the newsletter & I have read it.

Signed.....