

NEWSLETTER NO. 1 - 5th February 2019

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa, Greetings to you all,

Welcome

Welcome back to all our existing families. We hope that everyone had a restful break, and like the staff, are ready for another busy and exciting year ahead.

Our Whakamarama School learning community is excited to extend a VERY warm and friendly welcome to our newest members Jacob, MacKenzie, Meera, Jasmine, Luke, Ethan, Tiana, Hunter, Isla, Jayden and Mika. Thank you to students and parents who have shown the families a welcoming and inclusive school atmosphere.



The school would like to congratulate Miss Johnstone (Theresa) on her successful appointment to Whakamarama School. Theresa was with no doubt an asset to the team across 2018 and the Board of Trustees was thrilled to offer her a permanent position. How lucky is Room 1!

Parent Consultation

Consultation is considered to be very important to the Board of Trustees and staff as it provides the opportunity to use the information gathered to plan school improvement initiatives and work in partnership. Thank you to the families that took the time to respond to the survey put out by the Board of Trustees at the end of 2018. Your responses were used to support the development of our action plan in the 2019 - 2021 school charter.

As valued partners of our school, the findings from the 2018 consultation will be shared to your family email. If for some reason you do not receive these or would prefer a printed copy of the findings; please do not hesitate in contacting the school office.

School Charter 2019

The School Charter is submitted to the Ministry by the 1st of March. The Board of Trustees welcomes your feedback on the 2019 - 2021 charter. You will receive a PDF copy of the school charter via your email to read over and make comment on. Any feedback should be email to office@whakamarama.school.nz by Friday 22nd February. If you would prefer a printed copy of the draft charter please do not hesitate in contacting the school office.

Hats

During Terms 1 and 4 the school models "sun safe" practices and ensures that staff and students take appropriate steps to protect themselves from the sun. Students are required to wear a hat which protect the face, neck, and ears, whenever they are outside and involved in school activities. Students at school without a hat must remain in an allocated shaded area. Hats must be broad-brimmed or legionnaire/bucket hats. We encourage you to also protect your child / children with broad spectrum

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sunscreen (provision of of at least SPF30. If you need to purchase a hat for your child, KMart has wide brim hats for \$6 and bucket hats for \$5. Please ensure your hat is named.

School Pool

With the successful grant application to NZTC our pool has had a big face-lift over the school holidays. It has been resurfaced with a fibreglass laminate and also received a coat of paint on the outside - it looks amazing!

Swimming

We are aiming for swimming to start on Thursday 7th February. Please ensure that you send your child / children along with their togs each day. The mornings may look like the day will not eventuate to much but we are finding that by 1:30 pm we are all feeling a little sticky and hot from the humidity. Togs and towel MUST be in a plastic bag or swim bag (not in your child's school bag). We encourage students to wear a swim cap.

The role of teachers and swimming at Whakamarama School is to provide lessons that promote and develop 'Water Skills for Life'. Water Skills for Life is aimed at teaching 5 – 13-year-old students the skills they need to help keep themselves safe in, on and around water. The skills are the building blocks for the safe enjoyment of the many aquatic pursuits our country has to offer and are also the essential basis for participating in all aquatic sports. Water Skills for Life teaches our children the knowledge they need to assess risk and make smart decisions around water.

Our wardrobes are quite often kitted out with new togs or swimming suits for the upcoming summer. If you have children's togs or swimming suits that have made their way down to the bottom of the draw and are no longer used; we would appreciate these being donated to the school so that we are able to have spare items available for the swimming season. Old towels that have made their way to the back of the linen cupboard are also welcomed.

Safer Internet Day: Tuesday 5th February

Safer Internet Day is celebrated globally in February each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people. Today, Tuesday 5 February 2019, is Safer Internet Day and the theme is 'Together for a Better Internet'. Today is an opportunity to unite together to raise awareness and start conversations about online safety. Attached to this newsletter are some ideas to help you and your family / whanau have some online safety conversations. Further information can also be found at www.netsafe.org.nz/ - definitely worth a look.



Student Hair

Hair is to be worn in a practical style appropriate for school. Long hair neatly tied back.

School Lunches

There will be a meeting on Friday 8th February at 2:30 pm in the staffroom for anyone interested in helping to organise and prepare school lunches. The efforts from our parents across 2018 can only be described as fantastic and we look forward to seeing the continued success of a wonderful fundraiser. Thank you Debbie for coordinating the team!



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School Camp

School camp is one of the most memorable parts of growing up. Heading out of school to experience new challenges - challenges that grow confidence, teamwork and relationships in ways that just aren't possible inside the classroom. School camp has been booked for the whole school and we will be heading off to Totara Springs Camp for 2 nights and 3 days on Wednesday 6th November.

The cost per night will be \$85 for all those attending, this includes all food, cabin accommodation, programmed activities and a venue. A total of \$170 for both nights. Knowing about camp in Term 1 offers parents & Whānau sufficient warning to plan for this expense. The school is happy to support families in setting up an automatic payment to spread the cost of camp. If you spread the cost for one child over 35 weeks this is \$4.85 a week, two children \$9.70 a week and 3 children \$14.55 per week.



Abseiling, foam slide, flying kiwi, crate climb, rock climbing, kayaking, rafting, archery, paintball, initiatives, go-karts, outdoor cooking, burma trail and MORE. We are in for a treat!

School Donation

Thank you to those parents who have already made a donation to help subsidise our children having access to high quality curriculum resources and equipment, and additional teaching programmes, such as reading assistance or an additional teacher.

All families who have paid by **March 31st** are entered in a draw for a \$50.00 grocery voucher.

Congratulations to the following students who received certificates at assembly
We are proud of the way you are living and learning with our school values and virtues

SCHOOL NOTICEBOARD

Please keep yourself up-to-date with the school newsboard that comes out fortnightly in the newsletter or the calendar on the homepage of the school website

Wednesday 6th February	WAITANGI DAY - No School
Thursday 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th February	Go4It Sports Sessions with all classes: Sport Bay of Plenty
Friday 8th February	Year 8 Vaccine Student Meeting @ 10.30am
Friday 15th February	Whole School Assembly - 2.20pm - Come join us!
Tuesday 19th February	Meet and Greet Picnic 5.30pm
Friday 22nd February	Cool Bananas 1.30pm
Wednesday 27th February	Whole School Assembly - 2.20pm - Come join us!
Friday 1st March	Small Schools Swim Sports: Year 4-6 P
4 - 8 March	Seaweek
Friday 8th & 22nd March	Cool Bananas 1.30pm
13 & 14 March	Life Education

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Wednesday 13th, 20th & 27th March	Technology - Year 7 & 8 - wear your school shirt!
Thursday 14th	Go4It Sports Sessions with all classes
Friday 15th March	Whole School Assembly - 2.20pm - Join us!
Wednesday 20th March	North Cluster Swim Sports: Year 4-6 P
Friday 22nd March	Year 8 HPV
Tuesday 26th March	Whole School Assembly - 2.20pm - Come Join Us!
Wednesday 27th March	Enviro Energiser - Paengaroa (10 students: Year 5-8) P
Thursday 28th March	Go4It Sports Sessions with all classes: Sport Bay of Plenty
Friday 29th March	Tall Poppies Swim Sports: Year 7-8 P
Wednesday 3rd April	Technology - Year 7 & 8 - wear your school shirt!
Thursday 4th April	Go4It Sports Sessions with all classes
Friday 5th April	Cool Bananas 1.30pm
Wednesday 10th April	WBoP Swim Sports
Friday 12th April	Whole School Assembly - 2.20pm - Come Join Us!
Friday 12th April	LAST DAY OF TERM 1
Monday 29th April	First day of TERM 2!

* **P = Parent support required for transport & supervision - mark your calendar**

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

After School Childcare available Mon-Fri in a family environment in Whakamarama. Will do pickups from school. Police-checked and references available. Casual care ok. To enquire, phone Dianne on 07 5525604 or email damott1234@gmail.com

School Holiday Childcare available in a home environment in Whakamarama. Great for if your kid doesn't do well in busy holiday programmes. Police-checked and references available. To enquire, phone Dianne on 07 5525604 or email damott1234@gmail.com



SWIMMING LESSONS
for kids

Dave Hume Swimming Pool
Katikati

EVO
Evolution Aquatics
Tauranga

- ✓ All Abilities 4 yrs +
- ✓ From 3.30pm Weekdays
- ✓ Low Ratio - Beginners
- ✓ Heated Pool
- ✓ Trained Instructors
- ✓ Successful Programme

ONLY \$135/Term

For more information contact
Phone: 07 985 6311
Email: evo4swim@gmail.com

www.evolutionaquatics.co.nz



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