# NEWSLETTER NO. 9 - 17th May 2023

Nau mai haere mai, Greetings | Tena Koutou | Konnichiwa | Groete | Namaste | Talofa Lava | Malo e Lelei | Ni sa bula | Fakalofa lahi atu | Kia Orana | Asalam Alykum | Ni Hao |

Week 4 - we can't believe that we are already nearly half way through Term 2 - and what a busy start! But what a wonderful start with so many opportunities being made available to our learners.

#### **Storylines Tour**

It was great to welcome back the Storylines Tour on Monday 8th May. Storylines has run their Story Tours since 1993 with the aim of bringing together children's writers, illustrators, poets and storytellers with their readers and audiences, to enjoy books and reading, and to encourage literacy.

Our Year 4-6 learners thoroughly enjoyed a visit from Toby Morris. Toby is a New Zealand illustrator, cartoonist, comics artist and author. He talked our learners through the process of illustrating and creating a comic. The highlight of the session ended with Toby taking a variety of ideas from the audience and drawing a brand new character. The character designed especially for us is sitting proudly in the office.

Our Year 7-8s were thrilled to meet author Melinda Szymanik. After a read aloud of one of her own short stories, she talked to our budding authors about the key elements of story writing with a focus on character development and plot. Our tamariki asked some fabulous questions.

#### **Toitoi Publication**

The school uses the Toitoi publication to inspire our young writers to submit their own work for publication. We are excited to celebrate the efforts of Alexis. Alexis submitted a piece of writing and has received word that her writing is going to be published in the next published Toitoi magazine. Please enjoy reading 'The Fish Hunt' inserted into this newsletter. We look forward to sharing more writing with you from across our school.

#### Te Pura o Wairoa - Te Pura, The Guardian Taniwha of Wairoa

Tauranga Moana has many stories and all these stories belong to ALL of



Tauranga Moana. Through our learners experiencing storytelling from our place, we aim for our young, and the not so young, to have the opportunity to hear them as they grow up in our area.

Te Pura o Wairoa was introduced to all our learners, bringing our school Te Pura back to life (have you seen him in the garden?). Our learners' interpretation of what Te Pura looks like, and the legend, are on display outside the staffroom. Next time you're in the school, do take the time to check out the work of our tamariki.

#### The Amazing Race

Friday 12th May welcomed back the Inter-School Amazing Race at Te Puna Quarry. Before COVID, the race was a long standing annual event that has always been lots of fun and always popular with schools. This



year, we had a total of 30 students attend the event - 3 teams of Year 5 / 6 students and 2 teams of Year 7 / 8 students. Our students had a ball participating in this event and it was with no doubt a great team-building exercise. We look forward to continuing our attendance in years to come.

Thank you Fiona, Sharlene, Rupali, Breeanna, Melissa, Nick, Campbell, Debbie and Aaron for supporting this event (Tēnā rawa atu koutou) 💐. Our students are so lucky to have parents and whānau that willingly support events such as these.







#### School Cross Country - One More Sleep

Day: Thursday 18th of May 2023 Where: Whakamārama School Time: 11:00 am



The sun is due to shine and we are looking forward to celebrating and embracing the efforts of ALL our learners. We look forward to parents, caregivers and whanau uniting with us.

#### School Assembly 19th May @ 2:00 pm

We have a school assembly at 2:00 pm on Friday. We look forward to seeing you 😊



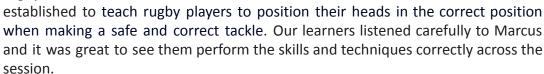
#### **Netball Grading Day**

Our 'Mighty Ferns' played their hearts out at the netball grading day on Saturday 13th May. It was a big afternoon for them, with 5 games being played. We look forward to sharing their journey with you across the season.



#### Rugby Tackle Clinic

A huge thank you to Marcus from BOP Rugby for running a rugby tackle clinic at our school. The 'Tackle Clinic' has been





On Friday 19th May, Whakamārama School will celebrate Pink Shirt Day and stand together to take action against bullying. Pink Shirt Day aims to create schools, workplaces and communities where all people feel safe, valued and respected, regardless of age, gender identity, ability, or cultural background.

Let's stand together to take action against bullying; Let's celebrate diversity and spread aroha. DIG OUT ANYTHING PINK TO WEAR



# "Kōrero Mai, Kōrero Atu, Mauri Tū, Mauri Ora – Speak Up, Stand Together, Stop Bullying!"

#### **Small Schools' Cross Country**

Next week, Tuesday 23rd May, our school will be hosting the Small Schools and Tall Poppies cross country events. Our school hosts this annual event for 14 schools across our cluster. The feedback that we receive from our visitors each year is always positive. We are so lucky to have a wonderful cross country course on our doorstep and the generosity gifted to us with its use - Thank you Kelly and Terry (Tēnā rawa atu korua).

Thank you parents / whānau that have offered their support for the day. Sharon will get back to those who have offered to be here on the day by the end of the week, letting you know of your role.

The day hosts a cafe and sausage sizzle for our guests. We are happy that your child brings along money if they wish to make a purchase at morning tea or lunchtime.

#### Student Pick Up

You're doing a great job parents / whānau; and Tuesday 9th May was indicative of this - The rain! With winter weather approaching, continue to be patient and keep our tamariki safe - continue with safe travels .



#### **Attendance**

I would like to celebrate the number of our learners attending regularly and the improved attendance of our learners . In the last week, we have seen students move from being chronically absent to being moderately absent. Together we are making a difference - thank you for fostering the importance of attendance and ensuring that every day counts .

#### Junior Tough Guy & Gal Challenge

For parents interested in an extra-curricular event, there are 3 possible events that you could choose to take part in this year. The decision to enter an event will be up to the parent. Arrangements for payment and transport will be up to any families that choose to attend.

Event information can be found here: <a href="https://eventpromotions.co.nz/junior-tough-guy-and-gal-challenge/">https://eventpromotions.co.nz/junior-tough-guy-and-gal-challenge/</a>

#### **Yummy Apple Stickers**

Our school is registered in the Yummy Fruit Company school sticker promotion. School families are encouraged to collect the YUMMY stickers off their fruit and collect the YUMMY cut out labels from bags of fruit (each label is worth 10 stickers). Children are encouraged to put their stickers on the charts that we have sent home. In Term 3 all collected stickers can be handed in to the school office and redeemed for sports equipment.

#### **SCHOOL NOTICEBOARD**

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

HARATUA / MAY	
Week of 15th - 19th	Road Safety Week
Thursday 18th	Whakamarama School Cross Country 11am
Friday 19th	Pink Shirt Day

Friday 19th	Assembly @ 2pm Come join us!
Tuesday 23rd	Small Schools/Tall Poppies Cross Country pp Thursday 25th
Tuesday 30th	North Cluster Cross Country pp Thursday 1st June
PIPIRI / JUNE	
Friday 2nd	Assembly 2.15pm
Monday 5th June	King's Birthday - School Closed
Wednesday 7th	Tackle Rugby Tournament
Tuesday 13th	WBoP Cross Country Championships
Tuesday 13th	Board of Trustees Meeting 6pm
Thursday 15th	Technology Yr 7 & 8 - Wear your school shirt and covered in shoes
Friday 16th	Assembly 2.15pm
Friday 16th	Community Disco @ Whakamarama Hall
Tuesday 20th	BoP Cross Country Championships
Thursday 22nd	Technology Yr 7 & 8 - Wear your school shirt and covered in shoes
28/29th	Fresh Moves
Thursday 29th	Technology Yr 7 & 8 - Wear your school shirt and covered in shoes
Friday 30th	Assembly 2.15pm
Friday 30th	Term 2 Ends
HŌNGONGOI / JULY	
Monday 17th	Term 3 starts

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To download the app: In Google Play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose Whakamarama School once installed.













