

# NEWSLETTER NO. 1 - 1st FEBRUARY 2017

**Kia ora tatou, hello everyone,**

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

We welcome a new face to the staff of Whakamarama School. Mrs Emily Withrington will be teaching in Room 1. A teacher who provides a flexible and safe environment for all types of learners; a teacher who encourages students to value and have ownership over their education.



“Creative thinking and teaching is my passion. To be a creative teacher is to inspire learners to approach life with creative and critical thought; fueling a curiosity of asking questions and actively finding answers and solutions. In seeing each child as an individual learner with unique learning styles and needs; I strive to facilitate the identification and development of each student’s strengths”

“It is what teachers know, do and care about which is very powerful in the learning equation” *John Hattie*

## **Meet & Greet Family Night**

All families are invited to join the staff for a ‘Meet the Teacher’ and social evening on Wednesday 8th February from 5 - 7 pm. Parents, whānau & caregivers will receive a brief overview of what will be happening in their child’s classroom over the term and the children will have opportunity to have a refreshing splash in the pool. The evening will finish off with a picnic dinner, with parents, whānau & caregivers bringing their own food along to nibble on. The BBQ will be available for anyone wishing to cook something. With a new staff member and five new families, we look forward to a warm welcome being offered with 100% attendance.

## **Stationary**

Your child will have received their stationery list for the year. Please note that the school does not make money on these stationery items but wishes to bring to you quality stationery products that are discounted at the beginning of each year. It is important that your child has the correct books as items on the list are suited to the developmental needs of the individual.

Teachers will be using the first week of school to establish expectations of bookwork and presentation. Students will start in their books from the beginning of Week 2.

## **Our Virtue**



Each fortnight, we launch a new value (virtue). The virtue of FRIENDLINESS was introduced on Wednesday 1st February. We look forward in seeing the value of friendliness shining throughout the school.

*“The world is like a mirror  
Reflecting what you do  
And if your face is smiling  
It smiles right back at you”*

### School Shirt

Whilst the school does not have a compulsory school uniform, we ask that parents purchase a school shirt for their child. Students are required to wear a school shirt for sports events, special occasions, school trips and photos. Orders can be placed with Caroline at the school office.

AMNESTY: We are still missing several of the school's sports shirts. If you have one of these shirts at home could you please return this to the school office.

### Carpark Safety

With the increase in vehicles driving up to school in the mornings and afternoons, I would like to ask that you take extra care entering and exiting the carpark and bus bay area. If you park in the school carpark, please ensure that you supervise your child / children at all times. Children will not be allowed to enter the carpark area unless supervised fully by an adult.

### Swimming

Pool maintenance projects are still to be undertaken by the board however we have prepared the pool in order for the students to be able to swim across Term 1. Please ensure that you send your child / children along with their togs each day. Togs and towel **MUST** be in a plastic bag or swim bag. We encourage students to wear a swim cap.



### SCHOOL NOTICEBOARD



<b>Tuesday 7th, 14th, 21st &amp; 28th February</b>	Go4It Programme Year 1 / 2: Sport Bay of Plenty
<b>Friday 10th, 17th &amp; 24th February</b>	Go4It Programme Year's 3-4 & 5-8: Sport Bay of Plenty
<b>Wednesday 8th February 2017</b>	<b>Meet &amp; Greet the Teacher &amp; Picnic 5-7 pm Look forward to seeing everyone!</b>
<b>Friday 10th February</b>	Wild About NZ: Environmental Group
<b>Monday 13th February</b>	HPV Education Session: Year 8
<b>Tuesday 7th, 14th, 21st &amp; 28th March</b>	Go4It Programme Year 1 / 2: Sport Bay of Plenty
<b>Friday 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th &amp; 31st March</b>	Go4It Programme Year's 3-4 & 5-8: Sport Bay of Plenty
<b>Wednesday 15th, 22nd &amp; 29th March</b>	Technology Classes: Year 7 / 8
<b>Friday 24th March</b>	Wild About NZ: Environmental Group
<b>Monday 3rd April</b>	HPV 1st Dose: Year 8
<b>Tuesday 4th &amp; Wednesday 5th April</b>	Life Education
<b>Wednesday 5th April</b>	Technology Classes: Year 7 / 8
<b>Friday 7th April</b>	Wild About NZ: Environmental Group
<b>Thursday 13th April 2017</b>	<b>LAST DAY OF TERM 1</b>
<b>Monday 1st May 2017</b>	<b>TERM 2 COMMENCES</b>

**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 .**

### COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD



### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

DRUMMING: Seeking students who are interested in learning the drums in our school setting. Lessons will cost \$25 per ½ hour lesson. If your child is keen to commit to a term of drumming lessons; please express your interest to the school office.