



NEWSLETTER - Term 4, Week 6

19 November 2019

Kia Kotahi - Working Together For A Brighter Future

Being away with the Senior Class on camp this year was a brilliant experience. We were treated to some excellent weather while away and the Tongariro National Park was at its finest with the snowy mountain tops gleaming in the sunshine. On our first day, we headed down and walked around Rotopounamu, a beautiful green-coloured lake that was created by volcanic activity during the eruption of the Taupo caldera. Interestingly, the lake is fed by seven streams, but has no visible surface outflow. Scientists believe that the water must drain away by soaking into the soil and sand below the lake. We also went for a swim at the Turtle Pools in Turangi. The pupils were bitterly disappointed to learn that there were, in fact, no turtles here.

Day 2 was an arduous day. We started off by visiting the National Trout Centre where we learned about the introduction of trout and salmon to New Zealand waters in the 19th century. Our guide and on-site teacher allowed us to suit up in waders and we searched for different creatures that live underneath rocks in the Tongariro River. The abundance of life here suggests that the river is very healthy. This was pleasing to see. The pupils also categorised the creatures that they found and were able to learn about some of the living things that one can find in New Zealand's rivers.

After our visit here, we then headed to the lower slopes of Ruapehu where we completed the Taranaki Falls loop track. This was a beautiful walk that took us over desert-like landscape and down into sub-alpine beech rainforest. The loop took us two hours, but on the way we were able to stop at the Taranaki Falls, an impressive waterfall cascading over the clifftops, running off from the snowcaps above us. The waterfall also provided us the opportunity to walk in and behind the waterfall, a sight not often seen. The pupils completed the walk in excellent time and were able to rest up in the Tokaanu mineral pools that evening.

On the final day, we completed a mountain biking course that took us along the Tongariro River. We saw some beautiful views, crossed some wobbly bridges, and all felt challenged by a variety of hills to cycle (or walk) up and down. I would like to thank the parents who attended the camp. Without this support, we would not be able to take the pupils away on this memorable experience.

Last week, the pupils represented the school well at the Rural Schools Athletics meet. Kiwitahi performed very well in these events and the behaviour from our pupils on the day was exceptional. Congratulations to the pupils listed on the right who placed first in their age groups.

This week, we received feedback from the Ministry of Education on our decile review. It was a lot of work for Mrs Labao to collect the very important information about our community. The result is that our school, from January 2020, will be funded as a decile 5 school. This means that the funding we receive for each pupil will be greater and will give us more opportunity to support the pupils' learning in the future. Thank you to our families for completing this - it will really help the school. More information about this will be available soon.

Finally, we have had a lot of inquiries about the swimming pool. We are currently awaiting P&M Painters to complete the paint job on the pool. Once this has been completed, we will let it dry properly, fill it and test the water, then make the pool available to pupils. Over the summer holidays, keys will be available for families in the area at a very reasonable cost. Again, more about this once the pool is ready.

Mr Jensen

Remember to update your Skool Loop app! If it needs updating you may not receive notifications.

IMPORTANT DATES

MIS Orientation - Thu 5 Dec

Te Aroha Christmas Show and Swim - Fri 13 Dec

Last Day of School - Thu 19 Dec

Thank You Morning Tea - Thu 12 Dec

Final Assembly - Wed 18 Dec

AWARDS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Toby Littlejohn, Patu Thompson, Ryan Littlejohn

MERIT CERTIFICATES

For knowing all the sight words and reaching Star Club - Keilyn Apanui

For working towards and achieving his reading goals - Coen Wayne

For improving in the times tables, especially x3 and x7 - Baylee Murphy

VALUE AWARDS (Perseverance)

Mason Murphy, Bentley Murphy, Tyler Murphy



Athletics Day First Place:

Evonne - ball throw and sprint

Lucy - long run

Toby - long jump and sprint

Cooper M - high jump, ball throw and long jump

Mason - high jump

Lennox - ball throw

Coen - long jump, high jump, ball throw, long run and sprint

Te Wai - long jump

James - sprint

Capree - long run

Sam - long run and sprint

Lexus - ball throw

Roy - sprint

Tyler - long run



JUNIOR THEATRE FUNDRAISER



Jordan, Rachael and Hinemaia are going to America to further their performing arts experience. Come along to a night of performances from talented locals to help get them there! Dancing, singing, comedy and more - bring your friends and family!

WHEN: 7:30PM Friday 13/12/2019

WHERE: Morrinsville Theatre | COST: Under 18 \$10 / Over 18 \$15

**Wanted
DOWN COWS for
pet food, \$50
Phone 021 213 3518**

Relief Milker

Available some weekends before Xmas -
Friday afternoon to Sunday.
Experienced and reliable.
Phone/text Scott 027 415 7799