



Forest Lake School Newsletter

Number 7: November 2021

From the Principal

Kia ora koutou,

Leading up to Christmas is a busy time of the year under normal circumstances and this year it has been made more challenging for everyone no matter what your situation. It is great to be back to school, to hear voices and laughter in the playground and see lots of happy faces.

We have started our school organisation for 2022. Whaea Bailey has been appointed to the Junior School for a further year. Whaea Te Aroha has been appointed for the term into Rumaki Teina to fill the vacancy from Term 3.

Due to the circumstances of these last two terms for the Waikato region we have changed the format of this years end of year reports. These instead will be a 'learning update'. It will be an overall teacher judgement based on work completed in Term 3 at school and online student engagement while in lockdown. These will be sent home with the tamariki on Friday, 3rd December. Teachers will be available for a Zoom hui should parents want to talk about their child's report. Send a message on Seesaw should you wish to set up a Zoom hui with the class teacher once the reports are out.

Just a quick reminder about the school hours currently. School is open for students to come on site between 8.30am and 9.00am via the top asphalt stairs, or the Hinton Ave entry only. Students are released in House groups at the end of the day (2.30pm is Hikurangi House and all walkers and bikers, 2.40pm is Manaia House, 2.50pm is Taranaki House, and 3.00pm is Aorangi House). All students must be picked up shortly after 3.00pm to allow cleaners on site at 3.15pm to do a deep clean each night. While the Aorangi House is the last group released, parents with children in this group can start arriving around 2.50 to collect them as traffic flow is working nicely at the moment with staggered pickup times.

Last year our kura was chosen as the Graeme Dingle Foundation KiwiCan School of the Year. This year we once again were named a finalist for this award. Our tamairiki really love this programme due to the great KiwiCan team we have, and always enjoy their weekly lessons. We are honored once again to have been named a finalist for this award.

Planning is underway as to how we can celebrate our award winners and leavers. This organisation is restricted by 'gathering rules' but it is important that these students are recognised. Our community will be updated with further details shortly.

We will **NOT** be holding our previously planned Teacher Only Day on 6th December. Our final day for the Year is Wednesday, 15th December at 1.00pm.

Ngaa mihi

Whaea Chris

Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is implementing the Covid-19 Public Health Response (vaccinations) Order 2021. This applies to all employees including relievers. Ongoing implications is that we are not always able to find relievers for staff on leave. The BOT would also like to acknowledge our whānau community in working with the school to implement the guidelines that are being asked of staff.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and hope that 2022 will be a more settled year for us all.

Paula Douglas
Board Chair

School News

School Organisation 2022

In 2022 Auraki Waenga and Auraki Tuakana will work more closely together in some areas of learning. This is because of MOE staffing allocation limitations and numbers of students in different year groups. The organization will be as follows:

One class of Year 5&6 (two teachers)

One class of Year 4&5 (two teachers)

One class of Year 3&4 (two teachers)

If your children are not currently a Year 6 in Auraki or Year 8 in Rumaki and will not be returning in 2022, can you please let the school office know as this will help us greatly with our planning for next year.

School Library Books

Could all parents / whānau have a check at home for any library books that belong to the kura? With the long time away from school there are a lot of books due back. Could these please be returned by the end the week (Friday, 26 November).

Thank you in advance.

Whaea Robyn, Librarian

Uniform Sales

As per the notice sent out when Level 2 was announced and students could return to school, there will be no sales of uniforms for the rest of the year to allow us to do a stocktake. If your child is requiring new uniform e.g. hats, they are welcome to wear a mufti item as a replacement for the needed item for the remainder of this term.

Year 7 and 8 HPV Vaccinations

Due to the Public Health Nurse sector currently supporting the Ministry of Health, the Year 7 and 8 students second HPV, and Year 7 students Boostrix vaccinations will not be taking place at school this term.

The Public Health Nurses are asking if you can take the children to your local GP for their free second HPV or vaccination.