



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term Four - 16th November 2023



Kindness

We have had a focus this month on our school value of KINDNESS. In busy times, with a lot going on we rightly can focus on what we need to achieve, however equally important is how we go about getting things done.

We have talked with students about kindness and how important it is to show a warm smile, say an encouraging word, and thank people that help us.

Interestingly, when we show kindness to others, it causes physical changes in our own self so... everybody benefits from sharing a bit of kindness.

KINDNESS IS GOOD FOR YOUR:

MIND

Studies show that the social connection promoted by engaging in acts of kindness is a key predictor of both well-being and recovery from anxiety and depressive disorders.



BODY

Another lesser-known neurotransmitter activated by acts of kindness is oxytocin. It can promote a sense of bonding and connectivity, but it's also considered "cardioprotective."



BCBSMICHIGAN

BRAIN

Kindness generates a chemical response in our brains by boosting neurotransmitters in our brains like dopamine and serotonin.



2024

We are getting excited about 2024 with four major projects I've been wrangling together with external funding now approved.

1. Continued MOE support for junior reading \$40k
2. Ngati Whakaue support for Te Reo and curriculum leadership \$20k
3. PLD funding for our maths curriculum and assessment focus starting in 2024 \$10k
4. Chinese language - tutor for seniors, art and language initiative for juniors \$3k

These initiatives will support our school to continue building quality teaching and learning.

Alongside this, we are planning our camps and trips into the local area and will need your support with funding to make this possible.

Goodbye thank you's and welcome backs!!

Whaea Lucelle will be a full time Year 1 & 2 teacher at Bethlehem College Chapman in Rotorua for the 2024 year. Congratulations on this appointment and we wish you all the best. Thank you for your support of Kaharoa School over the past three years.

Welcome back to Mrs Stephanie Keepa! Mrs Keepa taught Y4/5 at Kaharoa in 2022, and took some time in 2023 to relieve in various schools but she is back in 2024 as the Y4/5 teacher in Rimu. She will be the main Y4/5 teacher and our Deputy Principal Mrs Tania Yorke will pick up the junior reading support programme (Reading Recovery and Early Literacy Support) and continue teaching in Y4/5 but just for the maths programme in the mornings. Further information will be sent to this class in December outlining their roles in supporting our Y4/5 Rimu class.

Notices:

👉 Congratulations to Kenz

Kenz ran in the 16km Select Arms Trail Run under 20's achieving second place for Female Junior U20 at a super-speedie time of 1:49:51. This was the result of her training and perseverance. She ran 16km with a strong finish and gave it her all. Well done Kenz!



The Ray White Rotorua Colour Fun Run is this Saturday - have you got your tickets?

7 colour stations, spot prizes galore, and the fantastic [Ngongotaha Volunteer Fire Brigade](#) will be there with their water tanker ready to wet you at the start line... all the better to get the colour to stick to your shirt!

Tickets are available until Thursday night via [Eventbrite](#). You can get tickets on the day but they will be an extra \$5 per ticket. Get all the details at Eventbrite or the Hamurana Flyer Facebook page. See you there!

The PTA Christmas Letterbox Challenge is back!

Here is a fun opportunity to get in the Christmas spirit and support our PTA... The Christmas Letterbox Challenge is back! Entries are open until 30 November. Follow this link <https://gforms.app/MNPhQzl> to register, then send your letterbox photo to ruthpta@kaharoa.school.nz by 4 December at the latest.

Sports Team Photos

Thank you to Kylie Day for taking our sports team photos this week. We can't wait to see the finished products! Ordering information and pricing will be sent out soon.

👉 Group Day

Well done to all our students who competed at Group Day this year and a **huge congratulations** to our placegetters - some fantastic results! See the details attached to the email copy of this newsletter.

Thursday school lunches are now available

Starting this Thursday we have Pita Pit as a Thursday-only lunch option for all our students. Ordering is very simple and can be done online. Please click on this [link](#), create an account and start your order. Cut off for a Thursday delivery is at 8.30am the same day. For further details, please see our website.

Online Safety Talk for Parents 7pm, 23 November

Bethlehem College Chapman has organised Filmmaker and Author Rob Cope, to give a talk on the topic of 'Keeping our kids safe online'. The meeting will be held in the Living Well Church Auditorium at 47 Biak Street, Mangakakahi, and is free of charge. Rob is an excellent presenter and comes highly recommended by a number of other schools across Aotearoa.

What's on?

17 November

School Assembly - Stepping Up, and 1st Place Athletics Certificates, 9am
Parents & Caregivers welcome!

18 November

Hamurana Flyer - Colour run 11am!!!

24 November

House Water Sports Day

Sports Day with a water theme. Dress in House colours, bring togs, a couple towels and a change of clothes!

27 November

Board Meeting

5 December - **Date Change!**

CBOP Athletics

Qualifying students will attend the CBOP competition at Rotorua International Stadium

7 December

Student Led Conferences, 3-7pm

Recent Whole School Emails

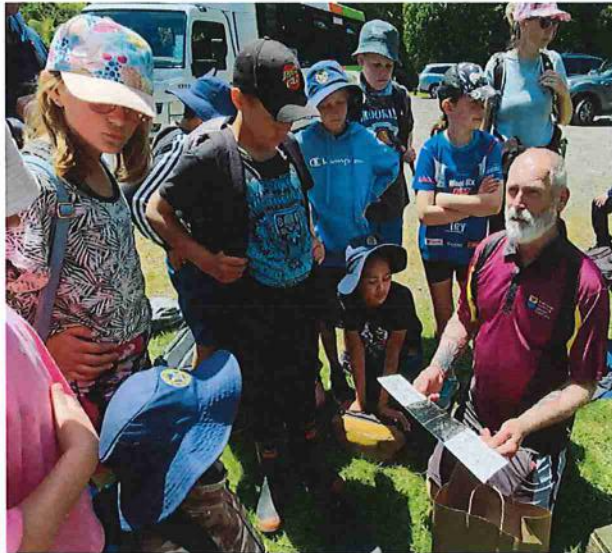
- **Christmas Letterbox Challenge is back!** (sent 14 Nov)
- **Lunches online - starting on Thursday 16 November** (sent 14 Nov)
- **Kaharoa Snapshot** (sent 8 Nov)

Tuckshop is open every Friday until the end of the Term

You can purchase on Kindo via [this link](#), by printing off the order form (sent with the 1 November Snapshot), or by completing an order form from the office and including cash payment. Please note hot food orders need to be in by 12pm on Thursday, all other food can be purchased up until Friday 8.50am.

Team Tōtara Kōkako Bush Walk

Team Tōtara had a fabulous trip down into the Kōkako Bush on Friday 10th November as part of our Kaitiakitanga - Manu Māori Tatou unit. We had 3 rotations each run by members of the Kaharoa Kōkako Trust. A huge thank you to Carmel, Graeme, Skye and Adrienne. We learnt about local birds, their habitats, plants, and pest control measures. In the future we hope to be able to help maintain one of the tracks we explored as part of the 'adopt a track' initiative. Thank you also to the parents (Sam, Charlotte and Lorrin) who supported the tamariki on this trip, and thank you to the children for showcasing Kaharoa School in such a positive way with your excellent behaviour, manners, and curiosity about the bush.



Community Notices:

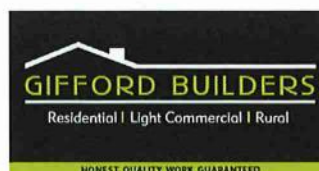
Keep an eye on our website for community opportunities being offered. These will be shared on the main homepage of our website and/or the "Community News" page.

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2024 Kaharoa School Dates

Please find below the 2024 school dates. Easter is within Term 1 including holidays on Friday, Monday, and Tuesday as mandated by the MOE. The MOE has also provided schools with 2 additional teacher only days in 2024 for teachers to work through changes to the NZ curriculum in addition to our regular teacher only days. Teacher-only days are non-school days for students and teachers meet for professional development, but these days are made up at the start or end of the year so that no learning time is lost. Each school will have a similar but different term and year outline within the MOE guidelines.

Goal Setting + Whānau Picnic 2024

More information will be sent home in December. We are planning an opportunity to come in with your child to meet their teacher and share with them one goal you and your child have for Term 1. Year 8's this will be your first day of school with a focus on leadership development and planning activities you will lead with the Y6/7 and whole school later in the week (such as tabloids, and a house event).

Service To Community

With Waitangi on Tuesday 6th of February - we anticipate a number of families will take a long long weekend and may not be at school on Monday 5th of February. We will use this opportunity to keep the school open, and get students together in groups to engage in community service projects which is in line with our school mission 'Learning, Values, Community'. We will need parent volunteers to support this. Examples include gardening around the school, a trip down to the lake front to pick up litter, caring for our Kokako Trust 'adopt-a-track', and local jobs sent to us via community members.

Term 1 (11 weeks)

START:

Y8 Wednesday 31 January

Y1-7 Thursday 1 February

LAST DAY:

Thursday 11th April

TERM HOLIDAYS:

Friday 12th April until

Sunday 28th April

Note Anzac day 25th April in holidays

Monday 29th January - Auckland Anniversary Holiday

Tuesday 30th January - Office open, school closed

Wed 31st Jan- School open - **Goal Setting + Whānau Picnic + Year 8's first day**

Thurs 1st Feb - School open - Y1-8 students attend school (**Year 1-7 first day**)

Friday 2nd February - School open - Year 1-8 students attend school

Monday 5th of February - School open - **Service to Community Day**

Tuesday 6th February - Waitangi Day Holiday

Friday 29th March - Tuesday 2nd April - Easter Holidays

Initial report home Tuesday 9th April

Thursday 11 April - Last day of Term 1

Friday 12th April - Teacher only day

Term 2 (10 weeks)

START:

Monday 29th April

LAST DAY:

Friday 5th July

TERM HOLIDAYS:

Saturday 6th July until

Sunday 21st July

Monday 29th April - First day of Term 2

Parent Interviews 8th-9th of May

Friday 31st of May - Teacher only day

Monday 3rd June - King's Birthday Holiday

Friday 28th June - Matariki Holiday

Mid year report home Wednesday 3rd of July

Friday 5th July - Last day of Term 2

Term 3 (10 weeks)

START:

Monday 22 July

LAST DAY:

Friday 27 September

TERM HOLIDAYS:

Saturday 28 September until

Sunday 13 October

Monday 22 July - First day of Term 3

Parent Interviews 31st July-1st August

19th, 23rd, or 26th August Teacher Only Day TBC

Friday 27 September - Last day of Term 3

Term 4 (10 weeks)

START:

Monday 14 October

LAST DAY:

Wednesday 18 December

Monday 14 October - First day of Term 4

Monday 28 October - Labour Day Holiday

Monday 18th of November - Teacher Only Day

End of year report home Monday 16th December

Wednesday 18th December - Last day of Term 4