



Kia Ora!

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From the Desk of the Principal:

Our second term is well underway and we have been looking at ways to report the new curriculum changes in maths and literacy. This will mean some changes to our reports and we hope to have a reporting to parents evening early in term 3. We will let you know more about these changes when the Ministry of Education provides guidelines and it may be that we have an interim report this year before deciding on a final format.

If you have any questions or queries about your child's learning please feel free to discuss them with your child's teacher. I have included some information about the new Parent Portal in this newsletter that outlines some of the curriculum changes.

New Parent Portal - The Minister of Education has launched a new and informative webspace for parents and whānau, designed to help them support children's learning at home and strengthen the relationship between families, schools and kura.



The Parent Portal is an online platform that provides parents and whānau with easy-to-use resources and tools to support their child's education at home. It allows them to work in partnership with their school or kura and to keep informed about what their child is learning, by including:

- Year-by-year Curriculum Learning Guides: parent-friendly versions of both The New Zealand Curriculum and Te Marautanga o Aotearoa, detailing what children are learning, why it's important, and when they'll be learning it.
- Practice activities: activities that parents and whānau can use to support their child's learning at home, such as phonics cards with audio files to model correct sounds.
- Informative videos and resources: videos explaining new assessments like the Phonics Checks and Hihira Weteoro, which help identify additional support a child might need, and resources to help parents prepare for the first day of school and parent-teacher interviews.

The Parent Portal can be accessed here: <https://www.education.govt.nz/your-childs-learning>

Colder weather - As we are entering the winter season I would stress the need for all children to dress warmly. Please ensure polar fleeces and other clothing items are named as students often discard them when playing. Lost property is at the office.



New enrolments - We have space for new enrolments and if you have a child or family member turning 5 soon they can enrol early and arrange visits before their 5th birthday. Planning beforehand always makes the first day at school so much easier!

Late to School. - the Ministry of Education is concerned with the number of children late to school in NZ. They are collecting data and contacting schools when there are too many lates. Children are marked late if they arrive to school from 9.00am onwards. We would like to improve our statistics by having children arriving before 8.55 and would appreciate your help in getting your children to school well before start time.



Absentees - A big thank you to all those of you that have been contacting us with the reason why your child is away – we have had a lot less unexplained absences since our last newsletter. This will lessen the number of truants showing up on our data.

Strep Throat – We have had a couple of cases of strep throat recently – If anyone your family has a sore throat, it is a good idea to get them tested as strep throat can lead to heart problems (Rheumatic Fever). Some pharmacies can do free testing (Unichem and Chemist Warehouse do them).

From the Desk of Mr Pickett:



HOW TO PLAY



My Apples Sticker Sports Gear Promo -

We are underway! All students should have brought home their information sheet and collection sheets last week. If



NEW WORLD

you need a new one or extra sheets, please ask at the office. This promotion runs until early October, with all sticker/cut-out sheets needing to be returned to school by Friday, the 10th of October. ***Our first monthly check-in (send your collection sheets to school) is on Tuesday, 27th May.*** The class with the most points at this check-in will win a free mufti day. All sheets will be returned the same day, so you can keep collecting. Yummy apples can be purchased from Pak'nSave, New World, and select Four Squares.

To help encourage families to collect the stickers, we will be offering 3 x LEGO prize packs for the Top 3 students who have the most points.

Inter-School Rippa Rugby Tournament -



Tuesday, 20th May, we are taking 6 teams (3 boys and 3 girls) to the inter-school rippa rugby tournament. This is for Year 4 - 6 students. We will be leaving by bus at 9am and returning around 2.30pm. All players will receive a sports uniform for the day. All games are played in bare feet. Mouthguards are optional and can be purchased from the office for \$6 if you wish your child to wear one. We are looking forward to a fun day of Rippa Rugby! ☺

PINK SHIRT DAY 2025

Anti - Bullying Fundraiser

This Friday 16th May



GOLD COIN DONATION

Wear something pink (preferably a pink shirt) to help support the New Zealand Mental Health Foundation.

By taking part you will be helping to stamp out bullying by celebrating diversity and promoting kindness and inclusion.

Coming Events:

Friday 16 th May	Pink Shirt Day – Gold Coin Donation
Tuesday 20 th May	Yr4-6 Inter-school Rippa Rugby
Wednesday 21 st May	Board Meeting 6.30 (Changed from 14 May)
Wednesday 28 th May	Duffy Theatre at school 11.00am
Monday 2nd June	Kings Birthday – No School
Monday 16 th June	Inter-school Rugby Yr 5/6
Friday 20 th June	Matariki – No School
Friday 27 th June	Last Day of Term 2
Monday 14 th July	Term 3 Starts

Children Away From School? - If your child needs to be away from school, please contact the school office before 9.30am to let us know each day. You can phone on **827 2187**, email at admin@kelstonprimary.school.nz text us on **0211647819** - or log an absentee on our website or Skool Loop App. Please give us your child's first and last name, room number and reason for absence.