



From the Desk of the Principal:

The term has started well and it was good to see so many parents and whānau attend our parent teacher evening last week. The feedback you provide to the teachers is important in making decisions that improve your child's learning. We are optimistic that we will see further improvement for the majority of our students between now and the end of year report.

Attendance - 50% of our students attended school for 90% of the time or more in term 2 this year. This is an improvement as only 34% attended for 90% of the time in term 2, 2023. We still have 10% of our students who are at risk as they are absent for 15 days or more across the term. Sometimes this is due to illness, however, there are others who have patterns of absence such as Mondays or Fridays off. Please consider the importance of education when planning family events or travel. Every day at school is precious.

Lateness - Please note our school day begins at **8.55am**. Students arriving after this time have to report to the office for a late pass. There are an increasing number of students presenting late by 5-10mins and this is causing problems for teachers marking the rolls and getting underway with the day's learning.

Bike Track up and Running - I am pleased to announce that the new signs for our Bike Track are now installed and it is looking fantastic. We also have a large selection of bikes for all sizes in our sports shed. These bikes have all been serviced and are safe to use and enjoy.



From the Desk of the Mr Pickett:

Math-a-thon 2024 - The Math-a-thon has begun! All students should have received their maths questions and sponsorship booklet. They have just under 4 weeks to learn the questions and collect as many sponsors as possible. All sponsorship booklets (not the money) need to come back to school on Friday 6th September, this is test day. Then the teacher will sign the sponsorship booklet and record how many questions were answered correctly. The students will then bring it back home so they can return to their sponsors to collect the money. All money needs to be at school by Thursday 26th September so prize winners can be found before the prize assembly on Friday 27th September.

Some amazing prizes can be won! **Every student who brings \$50 or more goes into the draw to win a BMX bike, portable projector, smartwatch, mini drone, a box of Lego and Bluetooth Speaker package worth over \$600!!!!** There are two prize packages to be won. The three students who raise the most money in the school will win a Prezzy Card - 1st - \$200, 2nd- \$150 and 3rd - \$100. The student who raises the most money in each class will receive a prize (a choice from a smartwatch, Bluetooth speaker, mini drone etc). The class that raises the highest average amount wins a pizza party and mufti day. We have more prizes to announce soon. So... keep getting those sponsors and you never know what you could win!

If you have any questions about the math-a-thon please email me spickett@kelstonprimary.school.nz

Read on for further exciting news:

A Huge Shout Out - A big "thank you!" to Ryan - Denver, Neeve, and Peyton's dad - who organised a group of volunteers from Fulton Hogan to sand down and repaint all the bench seats in the juniors. It took a few hours, but the orange seats look beautiful once again. Thank you, Fulton Hogan, for supporting Kelston Primary School!. Some of our students wrote thank you letters – here are a few:

Dear Fulton Hogan, We love the new painted seats. My favourite colour is orange. I love the new signs for the bike track. I have a salmon coloured bike and it has big wheels.
 From Beauden

Dear Fulton Hogan. We love the new painted seats. Thank you for painting the seats bright orange. It makes the school look bright and happy.
 From Faith

Dear Fulton Hogan. We love the new painted seats. I like to eat my lunch on the orange seat. It makes me happy.
From Princess

Dear Fulton Hogan. We love the new painted seats. I like reading books on the orange seat.
From Shawn

Dear Fulton Hogan. We love the new painted seats. I love the new signs for the bike track. I have a purple bike.
From Kala

Bike Professor - After the excitement of Wheels Day last term, René van Rijn, the Bike Professor, visited the school to service our new bike fleet. He fitted quick-release levers to all the bike seats so that children can adjust their bikes to suit their needs. Rene has also provided us with a wealth of knowledge and help videos teaching children how to maintain and return their bikes to the bike shed. You may have seen him working for Auckland Transport over the last couple of months outside the St. Leonards shops on Tuesdays.



Fulton Hogan also donated some awesome signs for our bike track.



Year 5/6 Parent Evening - Yesterday evening at 6 p.m., the senior school held their biannual Positive Puberty Parent Information Evening on Zoom. We had a great turnout! Molly, the course instructor, gave parents a run-through of all the information that will be covered in the upcoming course, including age-related issues such as self-esteem, individuality, and media awareness.

We would like to thank the twenty-eight parents who took the time to support the event.

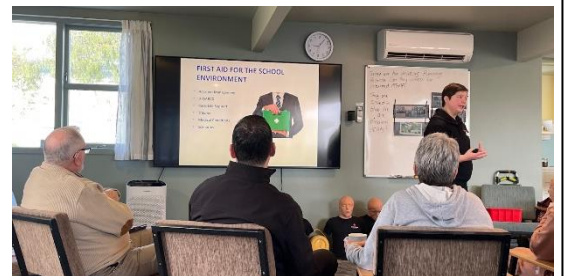
Knowing what is happening at school empowers parents to feel confident and well-informed to continue the discussions at home and helps children navigate change.

Congratulations to our first recipients of Room 14, of certificates and Duffy Books for Term 3, 2024 - great job!



First Aid Course - On Thursday, July 18, Kelston Primary School staff came together and had a great day updating our first aid qualifications. The training by "first training" covered a wide range of basic first aid skills, with specific responses for schoolchildren.

It is important to us that our staff have current first aid certificates and can act should the need arise.



Coming Events:

Thursday 8 th August	Interschool Hockey
Wednesday 14 August	Board Meeting 6.00pm
Friday 23 rd August	Principal's Assembly
Monday 9 th Sept	Class and Individual Photos
Friday 27 th September	Term 3 Ends

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.