



**KIA ORA GREETINGS**



**From the Desk of the Principal**

I would like to wish everyone a happy new year and a warm welcome back to another school year. We have many new families who have joined us this year and I am pleased to extend a special welcome to them.

The newsletter is sent home every fortnight and posted on our website and published on the "Skool Loop" app. We also have a Facebook page which reports regular events and activities at school.



**Staff News** - I would like to welcome the following staff to our school for 2020. Pam Manning is our new teacher in Room 7 and joins us from Prospect School, Claudia Harper is teaching in Room 18 having previously taught in South Africa and Keren Simon is teaching in Room 17. Keren taught here several years ago and took time out to be a mother.

Wendy Miller is sharing Room 12 with Roopa Gujral. Wendy has decided to work part-time this year and Roopa is still our Reading Recovery teacher.

Ken Pemberton has returned as a part-time teacher.

**Family Fun Night** - We will be having our annual Family Fun Night on Wednesday 26th Feb between 5pm & 7.30pm. There will be food, bouncy castles, activities and a chance to meet your child's teacher. All children receive a free sausage and the activities are free.

The library will be open during the first hour of Family Fun Night. You are welcome to visit the library and Mrs. Hewgill will show you around.



**School Picnic - Cornwallis Beach** - Our whole school picnic is taking place at Cornwallis Beach on Friday 13th March. This is a free trip for all children. Families are welcome to join us on the day but will need to provide their own transport as the buses are for staff and students. More information to follow.

**Sun Safe Policy** - It is school policy that all students wear a sun hat when playing outside away from shaded areas. We prefer it if children wear our school bucket hat or cap (caps \$15 at school office). However we have made allowances for plain black caps or hats as an acceptable option too (no logos, other colours or multicoloured designs). Children who do not bring a sun hat will have to play in shaded areas.

**Old School Furniture - Gold Coin Donation** - After school next week we will have a selection of old school furniture such as desks, chairs and tables on display in the hall. If you wish to take any of this furniture you are most welcome. There is no charge but any donation will be gladly received. First come, first served. We will not be delivering or holding items.



**Coronavirus Information** - While we are still learning more about this new virus – We do know the risk of the virus spreading in New Zealand is very low

**How worried should I be?** - Your chances of catching the coronavirus in New Zealand are very low. It is highly unlikely you will catch the virus walking down the street. Coronavirus appears to be as infectious as the flu and the symptoms are similar - fever, cough and shortness of breath. You are only likely to catch it if you are near to someone with the virus. Most people catch the virus from

someone at home, a close workmate or someone they spend time with. People will not be moving around the community if they are suspected or confirmed of having the virus – they will be in isolation. Their family and anyone they may have infected will also be asked to stay at home.

**How serious is coronavirus?** - People are being infected, mainly in China, but only a small number of those with coronavirus have died. Most people have a mild to moderate illness with flu-like symptoms

People of all ages are being infected, but older people and those with medical conditions seem most likely to get seriously ill.

**How do I protect myself and my family?** - Everyone should protect themselves from the virus, as you would for the 'flu - Washing your hands regularly, or using hand sanitiser, is the best way to avoid this illness.

As with other illnesses, do not go to work or school, or see visitors if you are sick. Cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or clothing, and wash hands afterwards. Avoid being near to people who are sick. Washing your hands often and covering coughs and sneezes will do more to protect you from the virus than a mask. If you are sharing food, use utensils to serve the food and keep your personal spoon, fork, or chopsticks separate

**From the Desk of Steven Pickett:**



**Senior Camp** – Those that are going need to be at school by 8.30 with their gear – please meet in the hall. They will be returning to school on Wednesday at approx. 1.30pm and can be collected anytime after that. I hope this great weather continues for us next week.

**Other Info:**

**School Library** – Our school library is now open and all children Yr 3 upwards can borrow books to take home. Just some things that are important to remember:

Books must go home and back to school in their reading bag.

Pre-schoolers must not be allowed to touch the books, though you are welcome to read to them.

No drawing or writing in the books by anybody in the house.

If you notice that a book has been ripped, please do not attempt to repair the book, we have special repair tape for this job.



**Coming Events:**

Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> – Wed 19 Feb	School Camp
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Board of Trustees Meeting 6.30pm
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Family Fun Night
Tue 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Footsteps Dance Sessions begin
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Boys Interschool Buses
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Cornwallis Beach Day (Whole School)
Wed 18 March	Board of Trustees Meeting 6.30pm
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> March	School Cross Country
Tues 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Interschool Cross Country
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Footsteps Disco
Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup> April	End of Term 1
Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Anzac Day public holiday
Tues 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Term 2 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** or email at [admin@kelstonprimary.school.nz](mailto:admin@kelstonprimary.school.nz) or text us on **0211647819** - Please give us your child's first and last name, room number and reason for absence.

**Internet Banking** – We are happy to receive school payments by Internet Banking. Please remember to use your child's name and reason for payment as your reference. Account Number is ASB 123051 0387085 00. Feel free to email us that you have paid.