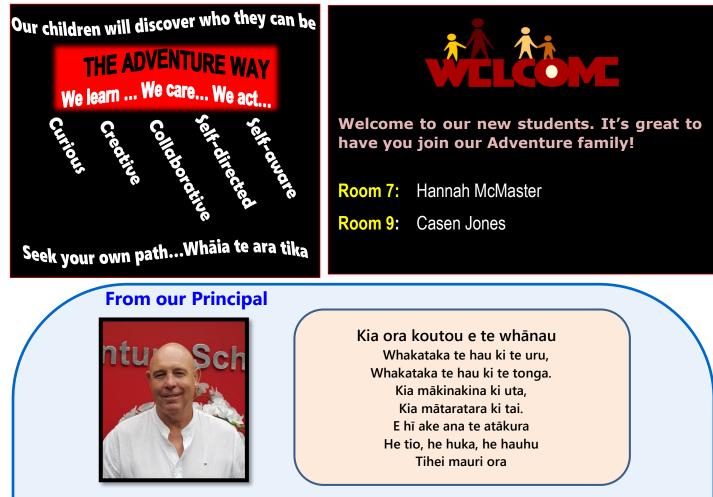


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Newsletter No 4 – 25 March 2021



This is the penultimate newsletter of the term, ahead of a couple of fractured weeks. Some of us will be at the Principals conference at Te Papa Thursday and Friday this week and the following week we have the Easter break preceded by Learning Conversations on the 30th and 31st March. We do end the term with a full week before breaking up for the holidays on 16th April.

This newsletter goes out, almost to the day that we went into lockdown one year ago. We met as a staff at lunchtime the day before we went to Level Four. It was a day I won't forget, as emotions were laid bare and we prepared ourselves to head into unchartered territory. Early predictions of huge mortality were dire but what a wonderful job our government has done for us. To be in the position we are in now - in relation to most of the rest of the globe - is something we should be eternally cognizant of and grateful for. Let us also doff our caps to medical science, with a vaccine rolled out within a year.

Junior Athletics

What an outstanding event the junior athletics day was last Friday. Firstly, it was one of those one in every hundred-year weather events. Cloudless sky, not too hot, not too cold and utterly windless. The programme was expertly organised by Mrs Bennett and Mr McQueen. The events ran like clockwork and the behaviour of all the groups was exemplary.

Other Musings

I took a stroll down the Wellington waterfront mid-afternoon last Saturday, wondering what all the noise and crowds were about. Somehow, "Home-grown," had not registered with me. I found myself among hundreds of young people most of whom looked like they had imbibed intemperately and many of whom were dressed immodestly. Are young people impervious to cold? I expected there would be carnage by midnight but it didn't happen. Either teenage behaviour must be improving or the combination of clothing or lack thereof, plus the cold, may have induced a state of torpidity.

I watched a lot of sport last weekend; Cricket, Super Rugby and some Five Nations Rugby. I was amused by the fact that the Five Nations teams were strictly social distanced for the national anthems, then they bashed each other at close quarters for eighty minutes - rucks, scrums, mauls etc not lending themselves effectively to social distancing - before hastily donning face masks at full time. Just saying!

Traffic Reminders

A reminder about traffic behaviour before and after school. I have had a couple of meetings with Police and PCC traffic authorities and they have committed to being more of a presence, monitoring illegal parking. Parking on Discovery Drive and walking up the hill to school will help keep our children safe and it has many health benefits.

- There are no good legally defensible reasons to park across private driveways, on the bus stop or on the grass / concrete verge at the top of the loop
- Please observe the rules around drop off and pick up at the two-minute parks
- Please do not drive into the school car park. The school car park is for staff and for contractors who have to be on site
- The disability car park must not be used for general drop of and pick up during the school day as that park has to be available for our families that legitimately need to use it
- The school car park is closed for all traffic between 3pm and 3.15pm

Children Crossing Longitude Place

- We ask that parents do not let children cross to the angle parks and then to the other side of Longitude Place
- We encourage children and parents to walk around the loop rather than crossing the road.
- This will embed good practice, provide good modelling for our children and keep them safe
- If children are turning right on to Discovery Drive, they should be walking around the culde-sac then down the right-hand side, not crossing by way of the angle parks.
- If children are turning left on to Discovery, they walk down to Mainsail where the crossing is monitored
- Parents should not be crossing Longitude Place with their children, please walk around

Nō reira,tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa. John Wootton (Principal)



Learning Conversations

To make a 15 min online booking:

- www.schoolinterviews.co.nz School Code: **bupuv**
- Or
- https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code?code=bupuv use this link:

Please note:

WRITER'S

CORNER

- Bookings will close 24 hours beforehand. •
- Bookings are tight for some of our larger classes so we will be strictly adhering to the 15-minute time slot. Please note, if a family is late we will not be able to extend the time beyond the allocated time slot as this impacts on subsequent bookings. This also means we can only offer one interview per child in the case of separated families.

Tuesday 30 March

Wednesday 31 March

The now wrinkled man, Joseph, or Joe for short, shuffled down the sidewalk with only his faithful Kashmir willow walking stick for balance.

Joe Is Old

Joe's grey hair, tweed jacket, and ancient flip phone were just a few ways to know he had had a long life. Almost deaf, he was unaware of the fact that when he bent over, his rusty knees creaked like a bridge with too many people on it. He sighed, thinking of his comfy bed, that hearty stew at the kitchen in the retirement home, and his loving grandchildren. He was looking forward to resting his tired knees that night.



Lantern Making

The students in Nikau took part in the National Childrens Lantern Competition as part of the Wellington Lantern Festival. This will be held on Wellington's waterfront in October (due to Covid it was moved from April). This year's theme was New Zealand endangered animals and the lantern designs depict nine different endangered animals from the Māui dolphin to the Powelliphanta snail. The students have then gone on to learn more about these animals, and their habitats.



IIKAU SPOT







My lantern has endangered animals on it. Resene gave the whole Nikau Syndicate proper house paint for our lanterns. There were three different animals on each lantern. The animals on my lantern were two lizards and a frog. The lizards were my favourites. I am proud of my lantern.

Riley Johnco

A few examples of the Lanterns from Ruma Toru











Futsal Tournament



Lots of girls in Nikau were lucky enough to go to Te Rauraphaha Arena and play Futsal. We had to kick the ball into the other team's goal. There were four players on the court at once. We had to try and steal the ball off the other team. It was lots of fun and we won quite a few of our games. I would like to go again next year. Thank you to the parents who came along and helped out. *Kennedy Wylie*

Team Nikau 2021

We would like to welcome Skye Kim and Tania Bourke to our team. Skye is teaching in Ruma Tahi and Tania will be in Ruma Rua every Wednesday and may also be seen in other classes throughout the syndicate as a day to day reliever. What a fantastic team!



Julian Keller (R3), Skye Kim (R1), Toni-Marie Bennett (R2), Richard McQueen (R4), Amy Churchill (R5) & Tania Bourke



Weet-Bix Kids Tryathlon 2021

Our wonderful Adventure team competed in the annual Weet-Bix Tryathlon last week. These enthusiastic students completed a course that included swimming, cycling and running alongside many competitors of all abilities. They all crossed the line as champions and were awarded a Weet-bix medal for their hard work.

Our Adventure kids all did their usual best, showing outstanding enthusiasm and superb sportsmanship.













Sports Spot



Years 2-4 Athletics Day

What a fantastic fun day our Junior Athletics down at Adventure Park turned out to be last week. The sun shone and so did our enthusiastic young participants! A huge thank you to our Year 7 & 8 students for their superb leadership in helping to run the events along teachers. Thanks also to Toni Bennett and Richard McQueen for their fabulous organisation of this event.





REMINDER We would love your unwanted toys for our Toy Sale. Please take them to a Kowhai teacher before 1 April.

Do you have toys that no-one

plays with anymore?

Kowhai 2nd Hand Toy Sale

Kowhai wants them!!

Kowhai is having a Second Hand Toy Sale Please start gathering up unwanted toys that you would like to donate for a worthy cause.

Any toys you would like to donate can be given to a Kowhai teacher between the 22nd March and 1st April

> When: Friday 9th April Where: The School Hall



Important Dates for Your Calendar Please be aware some details may change



TERM ONE		
Week 8	Friday 26 March	Nikau Syndicate Wheels Day
Week 9	Monday 29 March	Yr 1 Athletics – 11am on the top field
	Tuesday 30 March	Learning Conversations
week 9	Wednesday 31 March	Learning Conversations
	Friday 2 April	Good Friday (School closed)
Week 10	Monday 5	Easter Break (school closed)
	Tuesday 6 April	
	Friday 9 April	Kowhai Toy Sale Fundraiser
Week 11	Monday 12 April	6.30: BOT meeting
	Friday 16 April	Sausage Sizzle Last day of Term One

2021 Term Dates			
Term One:	Friday 5 February - Friday 16 April		
Term Two:	Monday 3 May - Friday 9 July		
Term Three:	Monday 26 July - Friday 1 October		
Term Four:	Monday 18 October to Thursday 16 December		
School will be closed on the following days:			
Waitangi Day: Easter: Queen's Birthday: Teacher Only Day: Labour Day:	Monday 8 February Friday 2, Monday 5 & Tuesday 6 April Monday 7 June Tuesday 8 June Monday 25 October		

Community Notices

GKR Karate Self defence classes

Local karate club GKR Karate will be running 2 free self defence classes for kids 5 years up to adults for everyone in Porirua. Details are: Friday 16th April, 5.30 - 6.30pm in Paremata & Sunday 18th April 10.00 - 11.00am in Whitby.

Call or text Sensei Anthony on 027 765 3935 to book your spots.

Junior Rock n' Roll Nationals

Over Easter (Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th April) the Kapi Mana Rock 'n' Roll Club is hosting the 2021 Junior Rock 'n' Roll Nationals at Te Rauparaha Arena, Porirua. The theme is "Alice in Wonderland" and **entry for all children 14 years and under is FREE when accompanied by an adult** (no limit on the number of children per adult). Adult Public Gallery tickets are \$15 available via Ticketek or door sales.

For programme details go to www.rocknroll.org.nz or www.sporty.co.nz/kapimanarnr

Montessori Akonga Porirua, based in Cannons Creek offers tutoring for children in years 1-8 in a warm home atmosphere with hands on materials. Cost is \$45 per hour. Contact Lisa at <u>poriruamontessori@gmail.com</u>

School Holiday Activities

Holiday Programme @ Adventure School

Autumn Holiday Programme @ Adventure School, 19 - 30 Apr 2021

BOOKINGS OPEN from Monday, **22 March!** 2 weeks of popular and exciting activities await your child (e.g. Trip to Southward Car Museum, Awesome Bounce, Laserforce, NZ Police Museum, Roller Skating Rink, Movies @ Lighthouse Cinema and much more).

BOOK ONLINE: <u>www.asfc.co.nz</u> or for more information email <u>holprog@asfc.co.nz</u> or call 027-454-6975. Our opening times are 7.30 am - 5.00 / 5.30pm. Children from all schools are welcome ⁽³⁾

Fergs Adventure Club

AFTER SCHOOL

FUN CLUB

Our Holiday Programme has options for Climbing on our indoor rock walls and SUPing, Kayaking, or Sea Kayaking. The Programme is designed for 8-17 year olds. We run our programme from Monday-Friday, with both weeks of the school holidays available. From 10am to 12pm,

8-11 year olds will join us for our Kayaking session and the 12-17 year olds will Stand up Paddleboard through Wellington Harbour. At 12:30pm our Rock Climbing session begins and kids get the chance to learn on our big Top Rope walls and our bouldering area until the end of our session at 2:15pm. Learn from our qualified, experienced instructors in a fun environment filled with adventure! If you have any questions or would like to register for our programme, please contact Hope at Saleswn@fergskayaks.co.nz

Big Air Gym

FROM MON 29TH MARCH: BOOKINGS OPEN FOR TERM 2 CLASSES & THE APRIL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME AT BIGAIR GYM! Classes fill up fast, so don't miss out!

Children LOVE learning how to Cartwheel, Round-off, Handspring and Flip at BIGAIR GYMs Classes! Children develop strength, flexibility, balance, proprioception, plus determination and selfconfidence as they achieve new skills! BIGAIR's GYMNASTICS, TUMBLING, FREE RUNNING & TRAMPOLINE classes are excellent for fun and fitness! We focus on safety, technique, fundamental skills, right through to more advanced skills, such as summersaults and twisting! Our experienced coaches run structured & fun gym classes.

To Book online: <u>www.bigairgym.co.nz</u> **Contact:** Bigair Owhiro Bay - phone 383 8779 or email <u>wgtn@bigairgym.co.nz</u> or Bigair Tawa - phone 232 3508 or email <u>office@bigairgym.co.nz</u>