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Newsletter No 7 – 11 May 2023



THE ADVENTURE WAY

Our children will discover who they can be





Welcome to our new students. It's great to have you join our Adventure whānau!

Room 10: Loretta Tausilia

Room 13: Sourya Perugu



Kia ora, Nameste, Talofa, Guten Tag, Gidday, Vannakkam, ni Hao, Bula, Malo e lelei, Kia orana, Mālo ni, Hola, Goeie Dag, Bonjour, Καλημέρα, Greetings everyone!

Cyber-Safety Parent Evening Thursday 18 May – 6:30-8:30pm

Are you aware of what your kids are up to online?...

Every year we hear from concerned parents about shocking cyber activity they have discovered their child has naïvely become caught up in. This is not isolated to Adventure School – it is shared by every school throughout New Zealand. It's worldwide problem that's gathering momentum.

What we can do is make sure we are fully aware of all that is lurking out there to tempt our kids and know what to do to keep them safe.

The countdown is on, and we are looking forward to this much needed whānau event.

Our aim is to have at least one caregiver in every family attending.

If you haven't already registered, I encourage you to do so as soon as possible to help us with organisation. (See details on the next page)

We feel so strongly about the messages Rob will be sharing that the school will be covering expenses for the evening.

(There will be the opportunity for whānau to offer a koha if they wish.)

We need to work together to keep our kids safe...

Parents Cyber Safety Evening

NEXT WEEK No matter how young or old your kids are, this is a message every parent needs to hear.

> Thursday 18 May 6.30 - 8.30pm in the school hall

PLEASE NOTE

- The session is not suitable for children or teenagers to attend.
- We are offering child-minding for families unable to make their own arrangements.

PLEASE RSVP by emailing office@adventure.school.nz to indicate

- the number of adults attending
- the number of children (include age) needing child-minding



Rob Cope - Author, Parent & Filmmaker (2020 Documentary "Kids Online".)

WHAT WILL BE COVERED:

- Cyberbullying How cyberbullies can reach our kids 24/7
- Social media The pressure for kids to build an online brand that is often far removed from their authentic selves. FOMO, Highlight Reels
- Gaming and the developing brain An oversupply of dopamine leading to dopamine deficiency, synaptic pruning, and the underdevelopment of social skills and empathy
- Naked Selfies The pressure to send nudes from intermediate up through high school
- Online predators The methods they use, how to spot them, and how to get out from under their control if your child has been trapped
- Online porn vs healthy sexuality How consuming online pornography as a child or teen can create a sexual template where violence, aggression, and dominance are seen as normal, and consent can become very blurry
- Solutions
 - Filters Which filters are best and how to install them
 - **Smartphones** How to lock down a smartphone to make it a safe phone
 - **Boundaries** How to put good boundaries in place around device use
 - **3 golden rules** The 3 golden rules that will keep your kids safe
 - **Talking to your kids** How to have difficult conversations with your kids
 - Challenging our own phone and device usage Reconnecting as a family.

Parent video: Our Kids Online Parent Evening

Our Student Leaders at Work

We were very proud of our student leaders when they presented ideas, they had gathered from students across the school, for a new senior playground at a recent Board of Trustees meeting.

Their research, collaboration, and confidence were exceptional and epitomised exactly the traits we are aiming to grow in all our young Adventurers.



From Left: Indie Spalding, Rose Bonar, Kaylee Burrows

From Right: Alexandra Griffiths, Angus McIntosh, Justin Wang

A Plea...

Emergency Food Supplies

Thank you to the families who have already sent along emergency food supplies with their children.



The aim is to have enough food to feed our children for up to three days in the rare event of a major Civil Defence emergency.

Currently, we have only filled 3 of our 5 wheelie bins. If you have not yet sent in food with your child, please help us to achieve our goal.

WHAT: 2 cans of food per child (any sweet or savoury) (Please don't send not non-perishable or food with an expiry under 2 years.)

For Special Dietary Requirements only

Please write child's name on canned food and send in a separate bag, clearly named, with dietary requirement or condition stated.

WHERE: to your child's classroom ready for collection

Staffing Changes

Sadly, we farewell Skye Kim at the end of the term. Skye has been a fabulous, committed Year 3&4 teacher at Adventure for the past 2 ¹/₂ years and is leaving Adventure to pursue other opportunities. We wish Skye all the very best for her new adventures.

We are in the process of advertising for a suitable replacement teacher for Room 3 to start in Term 3.

Our First Chip Butty Lunch

I enjoyed spending time with these super kids at our first "Chip Butty Lunch" after their name was drawn from a number of children who had received a Term 1 Principal's Awhi award.

It was great getting to know them better as they each created their own interesting version of a chip butty!



Learning Conversations

If you'd like to touch base or even just say hello, I will be in my office during Learning Conversations tonight. You would be most welcome!

Ngā mihi nui Tania Cox *Principal – Tumuaki*

BoT News

We are pleased to announce that the Board of Trustees vacancies have now been filled. After careful consideration and an extensive review of the applications, we are delighted to welcome Ainsley Thomson and Pasanka Wickremasinghe as the newest members of our Board.

It was great to receive a good number of applications, and we would like to extend our sincere thanks to those who submitted an application.

We are confident that both Ainsley and Pasanka will bring valuable experience, insight, and expertise to the Board, and we look forward to working with them in the coming months. Together, we will continue to drive our mission forward and ensure that our school is positioned for long-term success.

Sincerely

Andrew Myers (on behalf of the BoT)

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Good Luck!

Extreme Dancers!

Isabella Frew along with her Extreme Dance friends (including many of our Adventure tamariki) regularly compete across the Wellington Region and at times across New Zealand in solo, duo, trio and troupe dances.

It's awesome to see the confidence being on stage gives the dancers as well as the opportunity to meet people from across the country.

Several dancers, including Isabella, will be competing at Nationals in Christchurch in July and the troupe and individuals are fundraising to support their travel and accommodation. As part of this the troupe are running a Movie Fundraiser showing, The (new) Little Mermaid Wednesday 31 May @ 6pm. (See further information in Community notices)



Troupe - includes Isabella Frew, Siobhan Bexley, Scarlett Boyd and Madison Hadfield

THE SPOTLIGHT Congratulations!

Gold & Bronze Medals for the Adventure Cubs

The Adventure Cubs year 5/6 touch team won the annual Kāpiti Schools Tournament in late March, which included teams from Paraparaumu, Waikanae and Ōtaki.

The Cubs were undefeated in pool A round robin, progressing to the final against the other undefeated team from Ōtaki in pool B, with the Cubs ultimately prevailing to win gold in a high-quality final.

Throughout the day the Cubs more than held their own, mixing individual skill with teamwork, but it was their defence which was the days' standout quality. The standard of touch was high from all teams.

The try they scored "on the hooter" to draw their second game was a crowd favourite. Every player touched the ball leading up to the try, which was scored on full-time by a beautiful draw and pass move in the corner.

The Cubs had a great day, and friends and whānau showed them a lot of support.

Two days later the Cubs won Bronze in the Total Touch Wellington Monday night module (after five weeks of round-robin competition). This was an incredible accomplishment considering all the other teams begun their season in October. The Cubs, on the other hand, only begun their season in February. It took them one or two games to get into a groove, but once they did, they didn't look back.

The Cubs look forward to term 4 where they will once again play in the Total Touch Wellington Monday night module, along with the annual Touch JAM.

Ka pai to mahi

Steve Allerby



COMING UP

NEXT WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

WHEN: Friday 12 May - 2pmHOSTED BY: Head Boy & Head GirlBUDDY CLASS ITEM: Rooms 16 & 13

WHEN: Friday 26 May - 2pmHOSTED BY: Head Boy & Head GirlBUDDY CLASS ITEM: Rooms 21 & 15







School Cross-Country Friday 19 May

Starting at 11am Finishing by 1pm

This will be held on and around the school grounds, as well as around the lakes for older children.

You are welcome to come along to support your children. (A coffee cart will be onsite!)

PINK SHIRT DAY



Pink Shirt Day is about more than just wearing a pink t-shirt, it's a time to show your aroha and commitment to creating a kinder, more inclusive Aotearoa where everyone feels safe, valued, and respected regardless of gender identity, sexual orientation, age, ability, religion or cultural background.

Friday 19 May

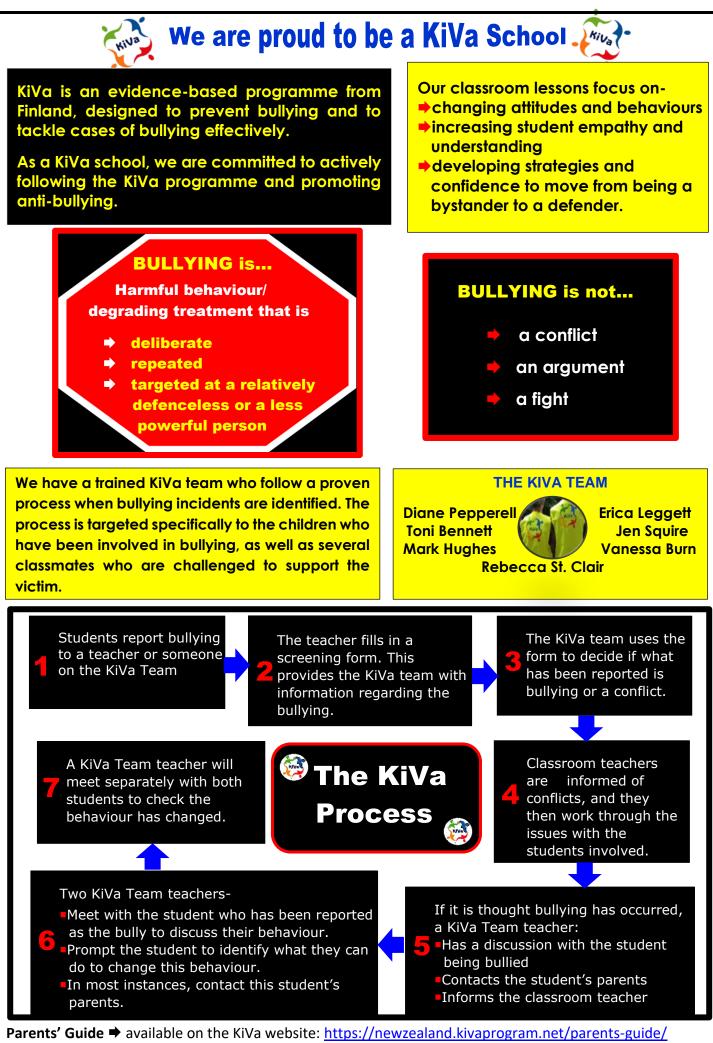
We would love you to help your child turn our school into a sea of pink to show our support for Pink Shirt Day!

Children are invited to wear something **PINK** to school and, because it is cross-country day, a small item to represent their **HOUSE COLOUR**.

Voluntary gold coin donations will be collected for the Mental Health Foundation.

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

Kōrero Mai, Kōrero Atu, Mauri Tū, Mauri Ora! Speak Up, Stand Together, Stop Bullying!



Please do come and talk to us if you think your child is being a bullied.



Kōwhai Learning Through Play – Term 1

As cohorts come and go through Kōwhai, it is the teachers who get to witness the strong interests and urges that groups of children possess. Without a doubt, role play is strong in our 2023 Year One cohort.

Our Term 1 Adventure Way focus areas were both Self-Awareness and being Self-Directed.

Being Self-Aware involves learning to manage feelings of disappointment and frustration and taking risks. Self-Directed in Year 0 and 1 means being organised for learning, exploring possibilities in play, and showing independence and initiative. Early Term 1 was all about setting up systems and routines and introducing the Adventure Way. This involved daily conversations about what Self-Directed looks like, and how to be Self-Aware.

EMERGENCY EMERGENCY – GET TO YOUR BATTLE STATIONS!

For anyone walking past, Year 1 may have seemed like a



battlefield this past term as the children had a keen interest in exploring the concept of what they described as: "soldiers".

You can see in the photos below, the children's' strong imaginations as they set up forts, bases and battle stations to prepare for battle against their enemies – ones that they had to work as a team to defeat! Children were supported to grow their vocabulary and content knowledge which supported the extension of play.











The Room 8, 9 and 12 children are generally very Self-Directed. Most of the time, the children independently leave the mat having an idea in their head of what they want to do. The children also remain engaged in activities for sustained periods and are beginning to explore creative possibilities within the play. This has taken weeks of coaching and conversations to get to this point, and it is truly a celebration for Kōwhai that we have such a wonderful group of Self-Directed children. We aim for all children to be engaged in 'rich' play, and we have no doubt that the Self-Directed trait will come up in conversation regularly in the coming months.



An exciting noticing from last term, was the keen interest in literacy and mathematics that we have across Room 8, 9 and 12. The tamariki are engaging daily in foundational literacy and mathematics activities, and this is something we are keen to expand on in Term 2.

We are fully launching into our teacher Professional Development with Helen Walls (Literacy facilitator extraordinaire) this term, and continuing with support from our Play mentor, Bevan Holloway. We are excited to grow literacy and mathematics even further in Learning Through Play and provide the children with authentic contexts in which to apply the skills developed during their explicit teaching sessions.

The Kōwhai teachers feel incredibly lucky to be able to witness growth of the Adventure Way, and the general day to day really cool things that the children get up to. Here are a few of our favourite highlights from Term 1:



This older Year One student demonstrates to the new Year Ones how to tip the trolley. The younger students were gobsmacked!





After days (and weeks!) of exploration, it was an absolute privilege to witness these children work through the process of planning, problem solving, constructing and collaborating to construct swings.





Both boys wanted the vehicle, but there was only one. The teacher coached them through their options and questioned "What are you going to do?". After A LOT of debate, they decided they would share it.



What is the teacher's role in all of this?

As teachers in the play, some of our roles include being:

The Vocabulary Gift Giver: Gifting vocabulary about a specific topic to strengthen a child's content knowledge.

The Social – Emotional Coach: Supporting a child/children to work their way through a



Poster children for the Adventure Way trait, Collaboration!



problem. Not by telling the child how to solve the problem, but by supporting them to come up with the solution themselves. Coaching conversations usually revolve around the Adventure Way language.

The Door Opener: Helping the child/children to explore a new curriculum subject through media, books, making connections and talk.

The Observer: Possibly a teacher's favourite part – we get to witness first-hand the daily growth that children make within the Adventure Way and the NZ Curriculum. Where applicable, we use what we see to further student's learning.

The Play Mate: Playing alongside children to help grow the Adventure Way and NZ Curriculum learning areas.

After years of growth, our Kōwhai teachers are highly skilled at what we do. The evidence of this is that the word is spreading - for the past three terms, we have been approached by other Wellington schools to come and see our Learning Through Play collaboration in action. Every year we continue to see our own and each other's development and we feel very lucky to be working in this collaboration. We are incredibly excited about 'where to next' for us in Kōwhai. We absolutely love what we do!







Kōwhai & Mānuka teachers are now accepting donations of old toys from now, up until Thursday May 25

All proceeds go towards Kōwhai and Mānuka curriculum resources.

Thanks so much for your support!



Important Dates for Your Calendar

Please be aware some details may change.



TERM TWO		
Week 3	Thursday 11 May	Learning Conversations
	Friday 12 May	2pm: Assembly Lucky Book Club Issue 3 orders close
Week 4	Monday 15 May	Mānuku to Big Air gym
	Thursday 18 May	6.30-8.30pm: Parent Cyber evening
	Friday 19 May	11am-1pm: Cross Country (pp 22 May) Pink Shirt Day
	Sunday 21 May	9.30am-12.30pm: PTNi working bee
Week 5	Tuesday 23 May	3.30 & 7pm: Literacy Foundation skills workshops
	Wednesday 24 May	Tough Guy and Gal challenge
	Friday 26 May	Kōwhai and Mānuka Toy Sale 2pm: Assembly
Week 6		
Week 7	Monday 5 June	Kings Birthday – SCHOOL CLOSED
	Tuesday 6 June	Parumoana Cross Country (pp 8 & 13 June) 6.30pm: New Parent Information Session
	Friday 9 June	Sausage sizzle 2pm: Assembly
Week 8	Friday 16 June	Disco – Years 7-8
Week 9	Monday 19 May	5.30pm: BoT meeting
	Friday 23 June	2pm: Assembly (Matariki launch) Disco – Years 1-6
Week 10	Friday 30 June	2pm: Matariki celebration End of Term 2

2023 Term Dates

Term One:	Thursday 2 February – Thursday 6 April
Term Two:	Wednesday 26 April – Friday 30 June
Term Three:	Monday 17 July – Friday 22 September
Term Four:	Monday 9 October – Tuesday 19 December tbc

School will be closed on the following days:

Waitangi Day –Monday 6 February Easter – Friday 7 April – Tuesday 11 April (during the holidays) Anzac Day – Tuesday 25 April (during holidays) Teacher Only Day – Friday 2 June - cancelled King's Birthday – Monday 5 June Matariki – Friday 14 July (during the holidays) Labour Day – Monday 23 October

Community Notices



Goodtime Music Academy

Goodtime Music Academy wants to say a big welcome back to all of the whanau at Adventure School. GTMA is now taking enrolments for 2023 in-school music lessons now. If you want your child to be a part of these award winning music lessons, and want to be a part of their new curriculum and performing opportunities, then in-school lessons may be the solution for you. Learn in a group setting, and choose between Drums, Guitar, Keyboard, Ukulele. Or try their 'Intro to Music' course. Please visit <u>www.goodtimemusicacademy.co.nz/learn-at-school</u> to enrol and enquire. You can also call them on 04 568 2237. Spaces are limited so get in quick!

ARTY FARTY KIDS - Term 2 Sessions work like this:

- 'Cactus Artwork' Monday @ 5.00pm 6.30pm
- 'Whimsical Artwork' Wednesday @ 5.00pm 6.30pm
- 'Art Journaling' Saturday @ 9.30am 10.45am (ages 5 10 years)
- 'Art Journaling' Saturday @ 11.00am 12.15pm (ages 10 15 years)

Please contact: office.artyfartykids@gmail.com

Youth Week

Porirua City is proud to share these opportunities happening during Youth Week, 15th to 21st May 2023. Youth Week is a nationwide festival of events organised to celebrate the talents, passion and success of local young people.

For more details abouts what's going on in Porirua next week please visit: https://poriruacity.govt.nz/discover-porirua/things-do/youth-week-in-porirua-2023/

Host families wanted

Aotea College is looking for host families for a short stay group of male students visiting from Japan, July 22nd-July 30th.

We also have a second co-ed group from Wednesday 11th October and Sunday 22nd October.

Why host?

Hosting a student is an enriching experience for both yourselves and the student. You'll experience a true cultural exchange, sharing knowledge of your culture whilst learning about the many different cultures represented by our students. Often host families build lasting relationships with their students

What is expected from host families?

- Involve their student in their life, spend time talking with their students to give them confidence speaking in English and treat them as a member of the family.
- Be caring and understanding, patient but able to set boundaries
- Show their students how to get to and from school (e.g. where the bus stop is, how to access the bus schedule, how to walk to school).
- Provide three meals a day and snacks (including a packed lunch during the school week).
- Provide a furnished bedroom
- Provide bed linen (sheets, pillow, and blankets) and towels
- Provide wifi

What we provide

Aotea College has a well-resourced International Department, with a Homestay Co-ordinator who is able to provide you with advice and support.

Homestay families are paid a weekly fee of \$300.

For more information about hosting a student please check

out: international.aotea.school.nz/homestay or email cox@aotea.school.nz

CHILDREN'S ASTHMA STUDY

We are looking for children with asthma to take part in a study comparing two different asthma inhalers To take part in this study you must:

- \checkmark Have been diagnosed with asthma by a doctor
- \checkmark Be aged between 5 and 15 years
- \checkmark Only use a reliever inhaler

What does it involve?

- 1 year
- 3 visits + 2 phone calls
- Inhalers provided free of charge
- Asthma education
- Reimbursement for travel expenses

Can you help? Contact us:

 \checkmark Study site at Maraeroa Marae Clinic, Waitangirua

√ 027 327 1191

√ <u>care@mrinz.ac.nz</u>

Brainwave at Porirua Women's Centre – Free seminars

- <u>What does your child really need?</u> Aims to educate parents about how to give their children the best start to life. Thursday 18 May, 6pm
- <u>Unravelling the adolescent mind</u> aims to help parents to understand their children while they navigate adolescence. Thursday 25 May, 6pm

Porirua Women's Centre, Lydney Place (opposite Laughalot Playland) Please RSVP to: <u>womenscentre@wharemanaaki.org.nz</u> For more information please visit: <u>www.brainwave.org.nz</u>