



MORRINSVILLE

Intermediate School

Kia U Ki Te Pai Whatever You Do, Let It Be Your Best



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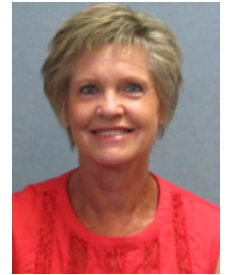
Empowering Learners to Succeed
Hei whakamana nga ākonga
i te whai ao

Newsletter

Term 1 Week 3 Newsletter 2024

Kia ora e te whānau and welcome to Week Three.

This is our first full week of school and in the past 10 days we've certainly packed a lot in. Our priority has been to connect with ākong (learners), and whānau (family), and to get to know everyone as we establish positive learning relationships for a productive year of learning ahead.



Thank you to everyone who was able to join us at our Whānau Picnic Evening last Wednesday; it was heartening to see so many of you in attendance. The information meetings we held (international travel, classroom, music and MI Mates) illustrated a high level of support that will contribute to setting our tamariki (children) up for success.

Our learning concept for this year is: Global Citizenship - Dare to Care. As part of that we look forward to continuing with our connection with Shibuya Makuhari Junior High School (MJHS) in Japan. We consider this connection to build empathy and understanding of diverse cultures and look forward to hosting our Japanese students, and visiting Tokyo annually. This partnership with MJHS is part of a Waikato Intermediate and Middle Schools (WIMS) initiative that has been ongoing for over 25 years (apart from the three year hiatus during the Covid-19 pandemic).

Our Japanese visitors will be joining us on Thursday 7th March for almost two weeks; a BIG thank you to everyone who offered to host a MJHS student. In the end we had an overwhelming response meaning some of your offers were no longer required. You should by now have received notification of whether you are hosting or not, along with important information pertaining to hosting requirements (notices given out on Monday). If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Carolyn Nicholson (liaison officer) or Mrs Cook (principal's secretary).

The seven students travelling to Japan in September this year were announced last Friday. Congratulations to:

- Emma Clark
- Campbell Murdock
- Tayla Rillstone
- Sam Gaddes
- Connie Bredenkamp
- Victor Chege-Romero
- Kaznah Herewini-Pirere

The ten students travelling to Vanuatu in August with Mrs Wilson have also been selected. Congratulations to:

- Olivia Ruston
- Alyssa Beharrell
- Zac Morris
- Ethan Wing
- Renae Nicholls
- Declan Keat
- Lucy Cryer
- Nathan Duncan
- Greer Page
- Rico HIRAMA-HUNUHUNU

Another great learning experience provided to all MIS students this year is our Swimming Sports Festival on Friday 23rd February. This year we have reviewed the format to enable all students to participate, either competitively or as part of team relays. The competitive events will be scheduled for the morning (9.30 am. - approx. 11.30 a.m.) followed by fun relays. Our festival (non-competitive section) will have all students walking to the pools at 10.00 a.m. and returning by bus. There will be no cost to families. We look forward to involving the whole school and invite you to pop along to join in the fun. All students were given a newsletter with details of the day this week.

Over the past two weeks, students aspiring to be selected as our 2024 Student Executives have been preparing their speeches/presentations. The finalists have now been identified and will be speaking to the school tomorrow, from 9.30 a.m. All students will vote to elect the six students they believe will best represent our school. I wish all candidates the best and welcome any whānau to attend. We hope to announce the six successful candidates by the end of tomorrow. Best wishes to all candidates and well done for being empowered to give it a go.

Kind regards,

Jenny Clark
(Principal)

Featuring in today's newsletter:

- Rangatiratanga Award (doing the best for yourself)
- Gold For Glory
- Out and About
- Attendance
- Phones Away for the Day (Gvt Policy)
- Reading, Writing and Maths in Schools (Gvt Policy)
- School swimming sports
- School Fees and Donations
- Policy Review
- Year 7 and 8 Immunisations
- Head Lice
- Measles
- Term Dates
- Term 1 Calendar (link)

Rangatiratanga Award (doing the best for yourself):

During Friday Assembly one student per class is acknowledged for demonstrating Rangatiratanga, specifically one of Key Competency indicators. The focus was Responsibility in Week 2.

Congratulations to the following students from Week 2: Anthony Rm 1, Jackson Rm 2, Ethan Rm 3, Stephanie Rm 4, Kellah Rm 5, Sophia Rm 6, Jackson Rm 7, Vihan Rm 8, Loui Rm 9, Olivia Rm 10, Jade Rm 11.

Hard Materials: Akeelah Rm 1, Art: Ava Rm 1, Ethan Rm 3.

Gold For Glory:

At each assembly students are recognised by the principal for showing initiative, or going the extra mile that demonstrates our school vision, motto and values.

The recipients in Week 1 were: Taama Rm 10 and Baker Rm 6 for helping others. Well done!

The recipients in Week 2 were: Jackson and Dawson from Rm 2 for working hard on their writing, well done!

Out and about:



Out & About

Attendance:

Regular attendance at school is critical to ensure your child has continuity in their learning and relationships with their peers. We monitor attendance closely at MIS as we strongly encourage every student to be at school at least 90% of the time. We have achieved 95% in the first two weeks of school ... the challenge will now be to sustain it.

Please find below important information below from the Ministry of Education:

If a student misses one day of school every two weeks, they miss a whole year of school by 16 years of age. As a parent or caregiver, you, alongside our school, play a key role in building strong habits of regular school attendance.

All students are legally required to attend school every day and it is a shared responsibility to make sure students attend and engage in learning from when they first start school. As we enter 2024, every day of school matters.

You must let the school know if your child is going to be absent for a day or intends to be absent for a portion of the school term for whatever reason, like a tangi or medical procedure. Family holidays or taking time off for extracurricular activities (not organised by school) are not acceptable reasons for being absent.

If you're struggling at home with getting your child to school, talk to us! Our school is committed to supporting your child to attend school and building a culture that fosters excellent attendance by having:

- School staff who have strong relationships with students and whānau.
- A school culture that recognises your child and your family for who they are, where they come from and who they want to be.
- A school community that does everything to make sure students are at school, and they are participating, and progressing in their education.

Parents and caregivers can find more information here:

<https://parents.education.govt.nz/preview/e26ab86c463bb7e5/015413d2f9bfa99a>

WHAT IS YOUR CHILD MISSING OUT ON?

JUST A LITTLE BIT LATE FOR SCHOOL DOESN'T SEEM MUCH BUT

If your child is missing	That equals	Which is	And over 13 years....
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Almost 1.5 weeks of the school year	Almost half a school year
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40 minutes per week	Over 2.5 weeks per year	Almost 1 school year
Half an hour per day	Half a day per school week	4 weeks per school year	Almost 1.5 school years
1 hour per day	1 day per school week	8 weeks per school year	Over 2.5 school years

DOES ATTENDANCE REALLY MATTER?

1 OR 2 DAYS A WEEK DOESN'T SEEM MUCH BUT...

If your child is missing	That equals	Which is	And over 13 years....
Half a day per week	20 days per year	1 month per school year	Almost 1.5 school years
1 day per week	40 days per year	2 months per school year	Almost 2.5 school years
2 days per week	80 days per year	4 months per school year	Almost 5 school years
3 days per week	120 days per school year	Over half a school year	Almost 8 school years

(acknowledgement of the tables above, retrieved from: Helen Jolly, Fendalton Open-Air School)

'EVERY DAY COUNTS AND EVERY MINUTE MATTERS' ... please support your child to be at school every day, and on time.

Phones Away for the Day (new Government Policy):

As most of you will be aware, the Government has implemented a new policy regarding phones in schools. The policy states:

The regulations require that schools must ensure students do not use or access a phone while they are attending school, including during lunch time and breaks. This includes students who are on a school course or visit outside the school grounds.

This must be in effect no later than the start of Term 2, 29 April 2024.

Reference:

<https://www.education.govt.nz/school/digital-technology/cellphones/#:~:text=The%20regulations%20require%20that%20schools,Term%202%2C%2029%20April%202024.>

MIS already has a policy in place that meets these requirements. Your child should by now have signed our policy about phones and smart watches at school. The key message is that anyone carrying a phone on them to/from school must hand this in to their classroom teacher to have it stored in the office for the day. The phone will be returned to the students after 2.50 p.m.

Reading, Writing and Maths in Schools (Govt Policy)

From the beginning of Term 1 2024, schools and kura with students in years 0-8 will spend an average of one hour a day teaching each reading, writing, and maths, pānui, tuhituhi, and pāngarau. This could be in dedicated lessons and in other learning areas as students read, write, and engage with maths in a variety of purposes and contexts.

Teachers will deliberately and purposefully dedicate time to teaching these core skills. Teaching techniques like investigations, collaborative learning, and games will continue to be used so students stay engaged with their learning.

This change sets a clear expectation that all year 0-8 students should receive regular, focussed instruction in these core areas. Many schools and kura are already teaching an hour of reading, writing, and maths each day.

Learning to read, write, and do maths is important in everything we do. Daily teaching has been shown to lift student progress, when coupled with a high-quality curriculum taught using evidence-informed teaching practices.

Reference:

<https://newzealandcurriculum.tahurangi.education.govt.nz/one-hour-a-day-reading-writing-and-maths-for-years-0-8/5637194830.p>

At MIS our mission is:

To provide opportunities for students to learn and grow in ways that acknowledge and value emerging adolescence.

As a teaching staff we work hard to ensure dedicated and explicit instruction is provided in each learning area, responsive to students needs. We also acknowledge there are times when an integrated approach is most valuable so that learning can be achieved through relevant contexts.

In January during our call back days teachers discussed ways to maximise learning time to ensure we meet the requirement of explicit instruction one hour per day (average). Teachers have compiled classroom timetables to reflect how we are going to achieve this. NB: it does look slightly different in each classroom due to the specialist subject timetable. Please note that all specialist classes have a dedicated English/Mathematics focus also.

Learning is most valuable when it is cohesive across a range of contexts and we believe we do this very well already, but we have reviewed our practices and tweaked them accordingly.

School Swimming Sports Festival:

Our school swimming sports festival will be taking place at the Morrinsville Rec. Grounds on Friday 23rd February. Students will either swim in the competitive or non-competitive races. Students have entered events via the student notices and all students have been given a notice this week to bring home detailing how the day will run and what is required. The schedule of events can be found on our school Facebook page.

Swimming sports is a fun day out and families are very welcome to come along and support the swimmers. There will be a sausage sizzle running on the day with sausages and drinks available for purchase for \$2 each. The pool canteen will not be open.

School Fees and Donations:

Our School Board has opted into the School Donations Scheme for 2024 which is available to schools in Decile 1-7 to help cover costs historically incurred by families. The School Board does not require families to pay fees towards day-to-day operations. However, we do ask that a fee of \$40 is payable to cover the cost of the take home component for Hard Materials and Art. Despite the increasing cost of materials to the school the Board is mindful of ensuring we keep the fees as low as possible and so will not be increasing the fee this year.

Hat fee: a fee of \$10 is charged to all school families for the use of the school hat (worn in Terms 1/4). The fee covers some of the purchase cost and also the laundering costs.

Families are welcome to pay the \$50.00 fee from now on. Our school bank account number is: 06-0369-0928976-00. Please include your child's name and 'school fees' as a reference. **All families who pay the \$50 fees by the end of Term One, will go in the draw to win a \$100 grocery voucher.** Alternatively, families are welcome to set up an automatic payment to pay the fees off.

There are some things that will still require payment by parents e.g. out-of-hours music tuition, sports trips and overnight camps (which are all voluntary extra-curricular activities).

Policy Review:

Policy Review is an important component of our school organisation, and consultation process. We are a SchoolDocs school which means we work with SchoolDocs to provide us with a comprehensive set of policies which have been well researched and follow the Ministry of Education National Administration Guidelines. The policies and procedures are tailored to our school, and the school supplies specific information such as our charter, and procedures for behaviour management, reporting to parents, etc. Please visit our site at: <http://mi.schooldocs.co.nz/>

Username: mi

Password: mis

Regular review takes place and I alert the community to the review when scheduled. Not all policies are required to be reviewed by the community. The Term One policies that can be reviewed by the community are: Parent Involvement, Communicating with Parents, Community Conduct Expectations, School Planning, and Reporting to Parents on Student Progress and Achievement.

Year 7 and 8 Immunisations:

The Year 7 immunisation for Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough and Year 8 Immunisation for Human Papillomavirus (HPV) will be undertaken during 2024.

- *Consent forms have been sent home with all Year 7 and 8 Students*
- *Please complete and return to school*
- *There is provision within the form for consent and non-consent*
- *As part of the programme, information has been given to each Year 7 and Year 8 Student.*

Head Lice:

We have had a case of head lice detected at school this week. Our school policy states that the treatment of headlice is the responsibility of parents/caregivers; therefore we request that all parents check their child's hair and treat, if required, as soon as possible. If you require information regarding head lice treatment please contact your local pharmacy. Thank you for your assistance.

Measles: ... a notice from the Public Health Nurse (Keren Johnston)

Te Whatu Ora have recently released a warning to all unvaccinated Kiwis not to travel overseas as measles cases increase across the globe. Measles is highly infectious and cases have been recently reported in Australia, the United Kingdom, the United States and across Asia and the Middle East. All New Zealanders should make sure they are fully immunised against measles if they plan to travel overseas.

Aotearoa New Zealand is at very high risk of a measles outbreak. There's a risk of getting measles if you have not had 2 vaccinations, or have not already had measles. The measles (MMR) vaccine is free for all children in NZ, and all adults over the age of 18 who are eligible for free NZ healthcare. Adults born before 1969 are not required to have an MMR vaccine – as they are considered to be immune to measles.

To avoid schools from having to close if an outbreak does occur, we are encouraging all schools to update their vaccination records with copies of vaccine certificates. We are also encouraging staff who work at the school to be aware of their vaccination status and to get the MMR vaccination if required.

Action: if you haven't already given us a copy of your child's vaccine certificate can you urgently provide us with one so we can get our register up-to-date.

School Term Dates:

- Term One: Wednesday 31st January to Friday 12th April
- Term Two: Monday 29th April to Friday 5th July
- Term Three: Monday 22nd July to Friday 27th September
- Term Four: Monday 14th October to Tuesday 17th December

 MIS Term One Calendar [Click the link on the left to access the Term One calendar.](#)

2024 Teacher Only Days:

The following MOE dates have now been approved by the Board as Teacher Only Days for work on Te Mātaiaho / NZC Refresh:

1. Tuesday 4th June (Week 6 after King's Birthday).
2. Friday 25th October (end Week 2 before Labour Day).

In addition, there will be a Kahui Ako Teacher Only Day held on Monday 4th March.

Please visit our school website www.mi.school.nz Like us on facebook and download our free Skool Loop App to keep up-to-date with school activities and events.



BATTLE of the SCHOOLS

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ENTRIES OPEN NOW!
3 RIDER TEAM SPRINT EVENT
OPEN TO ACCREDITED AND NON-ACCREDITED RIDERS YEARS 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
FIVE WEEKS OF TRAINING STARTING 9TH MARCH
FROM BEGINNER TO TRACK STAR!
FREE ENTRY TO CAMBRIDGE CYCLING FESTIVAL SCHOOLS RACE
RACE DAY 13TH APRIL
FOR MORE INFO EMAIL MYA.ANDERSON@VELODROME.NZ



WAIKATO BOP SCHOOLS XC MTB CHAMPS 2024
Sponsored by Evans Doyle Accounts + Advisors

Track suitable for all abilities - Open from Year 5 - Year 13
Enter through your school by Tuesday 5th March
NEW FOR THIS YEAR - TEAM RELAYS

Thursday 14 March
Te Miro MTB Park

Please email temiromtbevents@gmail.com for any queries

Food and drink available - please bring cash

 Evans Doyle ACCOUNTANTS + ADVISORS  TE MIRO MTB CLUB