



Newtown School
Love learning, love life!

NEWSLETTER

Message from the Principal

Kia Ora Whanau and Families

Welcome to Term 2, and a busy one it appears to be. I hope you all enjoyed some refreshing time with your children over the two week break.

Building Update

The school is buzzing with excitement as the time for our students and staff of our whanau's big move gets closer. We are really excited that our new Learning Centre is nearing completion. We have been told that we will be able to gain access of the new facility from Wednesday 4th July. We will bless the building first, paving the way for us to add the finishing touches, ready for students move in on Thursday, 5th July.

Our new school junior playground, carpark and caretaker shed along with some conversions to Whanau Tui will be completed during the term 3 holidays and into the new term. The removal of the old prefabs will take approximately 5 weeks. All of these work site areas will be fenced off.

All the new furniture and equipment has been ordered in readiness for the move into the new school. We will give more details of the shifting into the new school, blessing and opening in future newsletters.

Our staff have had the opportunity to walk around the mostly completed new school - our initial thoughts are that the new learning spaces have ample nature light, are very quiet and very spacious. We will eventual have fantastic learning and teaching spaces that our school community will be very proud of!

Mural

Have you seen the wonderful new mural on the side of the hall in Main Street - I would like to acknowledge the amazing support of our BoT and F@NS group, in collaboration with the Wellington City Council, and Newtown Residents Association. This significant mural is now a treasure for the school and community.

Attendance

This term we will be helping our students recognise the importance of regular attendance at school. Over time we can see that attendance in Terms 2 and 3 falls away and, while we don't want sick children at school, we need to be sure that any other absences are minimised. We believe that by sharing their attendance information and discussing how regular attendance is important for learning progress, it will support you in ensuring that they are at school every day on time.

Union Meeting Date

The following is notification of a follow up NZEI paid union meeting: [The Teachers Union \[NZEI\] has called a paid Union Meeting for staff on the afternoon of Tuesday 19th June and as good employers we are required to facilitate their attendance. I would therefore ask that you collect children by 12:45 pm on Tuesday 19th June and make appropriate arrangements to ensure they are supervised. Our school will provide supervision at school until 3pm for caregivers unable to collect their children at lunchtime.](#)

I look forward to working with you during Term 2 and encourage you to ask your child's teacher or myself for any information that you need to support their learning!

Best wishes for a successful term.

Noho ora mai ra,

Mark Brown Principal – Tumuaiki

Every Minute Counts...

A very importance notice:

School starts at 9 am - All students need to be at school by 8.45 am.

Setting Sun

Silk thick luxurious foam sunk through the ground like a setting sun

As the navy blue faded the topaz appeared

travelling with elegant fluttering across the sky

I wonder with the clouds what they feel like

would they be smooth and creamy

or hard as rock

When darkness appeared it goes black

nothing in sight

it's over



Poet - William Murphy - Year 6

Rebecca Power - Associate Principal

Rebecca and her family will be relocating to Christchurch later this year. Her husband, Chris, has been appointed as Manager of the new Christchurch City Library. Rebecca will be missed. We will keep you updated about her replacement in Whanau Tui.

MEDICATIONS

All students are required to hand in prescribed medications to the office. Office staff will only administer medicines to students once a form has been completed and signed by a parent or caregiver.



Curriculum Corner!

In our curriculum, we say we have '*learners who are curious and have an interest in the world around us. Learners who notice, think, reflect and share ideas. Learners who wonder about possibilities and delight in discovering what is new.*'

That is exactly what is happening across Newtown School this term!

We've had an exciting start exploring our new concept of 'Action-reaction'. Using this as a lens we have had:

- whānau marching, eating army soup and remembering ANZAC day
- whānau discovering action reaction with pests in the environment and who are people of action.
- whānau wearing science goggles to notice action and reactions in different experiments.
- whānau through investigative play exploring all sorts of actions

What a great way to generate our love of learning, to wonder and to discover something new. Ask your children what they have been finding out.

SPORT Update

Great end to term 1 sport with our Makos winning 14-4 in the A Grade mini-polo final.

Our school touch team were also incredible, winning the Division 2 final.

Huge thank you to all coaches, managers and supporters that make this all possible!



New Junior School Playground

A new 'junior school playground' will be built in the space in front of the present Whanau Tui and our large courtyard, during July and August. The three large trees will be retained and will be part of the boundary/seating design.

This playground has been specially designed for our 5 and 6 year old students.



Absent Students: To report your child absent you can either

Phone: 389 6667

Email: admin@newtown.school.nz

Text: 02040175659

Please include your child's name, home class teacher and reason for absence. If your child arrives to school after 9.00 am, they are late.

Please ensure they sign in at the office before going to class. Thank you.

SCHOOL TIMETABLE

School Starts – 9:00am

Morning Interval – 11:00am

Lunch – 12:45pm

School Finishes – 3:00pm

Wanted for school planting - Native grasses

We want to replant parts of school grounds.

If you have surplus plants or you are splitting grasses, we can use them!

Let our office know and we will pick them up, or drop them to the school office.



Parenting Helpline

get support, advice and practical strategies

we can help with any of your parenting concerns

Call 0800 568 856
9am - 9pm Monday to Sunday

www.parenthelp.org.nz

Parent Help
For Parents and Young Adults

A very special welcome to these new students to our school:

Joseph, Zion, Theo, Amos, Troy, Lukas, Valerie, Kristina and Memphis

Term Dates 2018

Term 1 - Wednesday 7 February to Friday 13 April

Term 2 - Monday 30 April to Friday 6 July

Term 3 - Monday 23 July to Friday 28 September

Term 4 - Monday 15 October to Thursday 20 Dec.

CHANGE OF DETAILS

It would greatly assist us if you could please advise the office if you have any changes of address, phone numbers or emergency caregiver details. In the event of an emergency, sickness or injury we need to be able to contact someone who can collect your child.

New School Mural

We are very excited to have a fantastic new mural along the Mein St side of the school hall, painted by artists [Michel Tuffery](#) and [Charles and Janine Williams](#).

This mural was commissioned by FANS as part of plans to revitalize the school environment for the benefit of our tamariki and the wider Newtown community through new publicly accessible artworks that connect our school to its diverse and vibrant community.

Here's how the artists describe their mural "Kamala with Hihi":

"Our mural thematically brings forward elements iconic to Newtown as an inner city suburb which has contributed to the deep history and wider culture of Te Whanganui a Tara. At the core of this is the engaging role Newtown School provides as it nurtures and inspires our tamariki, and equally a diverse and vibrant community. ...The colours and simplified motifs weave the kaupapa of history, community, culture and environment, they are united colours that will accentuate school campus. Of prominence is the figurative form of Kamala (1931-1983) and our hihi native bird an acknowledgement symbolically to the Tangata Whenua and our habitats. Kamala was a gift to New Zealand's children from the All India Women's Conference, in appreciation of the work done by aid organisation Corso, Kamala was world famous in Wellington Zoo, adored by many."

The mural was made possible with support from the Wellington City Council and Newtown Residents' Association, Resene and the generosity of people who donated to our [givealittle](#) campaign.

FANS would like to acknowledge the work of Maria Cotter, Victoria Esson, Lucy Kebble, and Jess Gorman in securing such a vibrant and inspiring artwork for our school. Further plans are afoot for commissioning additional murals around the school grounds.

If you would like to hear more about the mural project, or be involved in applying for additional funding for other exciting new school projects, please email the FANS group at friends@newtown.school.nz

And if you can, please donate to our [givealittle](#) page to support us to make our local school environment one that our kids can thrive in and be proud of!

