



PRINCIPAL'S PĀNUI

Kia ora whānau,

It is hard to believe we are nearing the end of this term already. Covid within our community has added complexity and challenges for us, as it has in the rest of New Zealand. We will continue to work hard to be responsive to what is needed and to stay as healthy as we can.

Celebrations. This time of year is significant for a number of communities within Newtown School. It is currently Ramadan for our Muslim families and it will soon be Easter for our Christian families. During these special times we learn what is important for each other and we ask questions with respect to help grow our understanding. We value being part of a diverse community.

Current news. A number of students of all ages have been aware of the situation in Ukraine. As parents and teachers these are challenging topics to explore with young people. With our digital capacity now, our children often see and 'experience' news in quite a different way from the past.

We use the language of our school values to help them respond with compassion and care and to look for actions of whānaungatanga. To balance, we note people who have enabled transformative change so tamariki will be inspired to be people who can make a difference. People such as Moana Jackson, who passed away recently. I read a quote of his impact 'Matua Moana made me want to be a thinker, an educator, an organizer and a doer.' We remind our tamariki of the positive impact they can have on others.

Building projects. On a final practical note there are a number of building projects on the go at Newtown this term. Our pool is awaiting an aspect of final compliance and now a need to purchase a heat pump. No swimming yet but we are working hard to make it happen.

We are fortunate there has been continued traction in our 'admin hub'. Have a look through the windows to see where they are up to.

Finally our hall kitchen will be finished next week! We are very excited looking forward to sharing kai and cooking opportunities in our new kitchen. It's awesome. Thank you to St Toms for their koha towards this project. Matariki breakfast (23 June) will be a great chance for us all enjoy the new kitchen together.

Thanks to the many people who have contributed to helping our place remain positive, connected and caring. Thank you to our hard working staff, supportive whānau and our tamariki.

Reminder: There will be no school for students on Thursday as we have one of our planned Staff Only days.

Have a fantastic Easter break and holiday
Noho ora mai ra, Nicki Read - Tumuaki

IMPORTANT DATES

TERM ONE: 3 February - 14 April 2022

- **13 April** - Last day of term
- **14 April** - Staff Only Day
- **15 April** - Good Friday

TERM TWO: 2 May - 8 July

TERM THREE: 25 July - 30 September

TERM FOUR: 17 October - 15 December

"QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"I'm loving the home learning pack, but I can't wait to get back to school."

Changes to the Traffic Lights

From 11.59pm Friday 25 March



RED

Face masks required
in most indoor settings

Indoor capacity limits
of 200 people.
No outdoor capacity
limits

Self-isolate for 7 days if
you test positive or live
with someone who has
COVID-19

ORANGE

Face masks required
in many indoor settings

No indoor or outdoor
capacity limits

Self-isolate for 7 days if
you test positive or live
with someone who has
COVID-19

GREEN

Face masks
encouraged indoors

No indoor or outdoor
capacity limits

Self-isolate for 7 days if
you test positive or live
with someone who has
COVID-19

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

**Unite
against
COVID-19**

**ANOTHER
QUOTE
OF THE
WEEK**

"Yay my bike is
fixed! Now I can ride
with my friends"

Hannah Powell



Kia Ora, Bula, Talofa! Ko Hannah Powell tōku ingoa. I am a beginning teacher in Harakeke. I love the curiosity the ākonga have and their pride in who they are and what they think their superpowers are. I have come to learn how talented the staff at this school are in fostering this curiosity and upholding the mana of the tamariki.

I am passionate about health, wellbeing and physical education as I see different students thrive in these spaces of learning. I grew up in Leigh, a small coastal town an hour north of Auckland, and this is probably the reason why I will happily jump in the ocean rain, wind or shine. Outside of school, I'll be reading, running, biking or laughing and eating with friends and family.

Sarah Ramsay



Kia ora koutou Ko Sarah Ramsay tōku ingoa. I, like Hannah, am a beginning teacher starting my teaching journey here at Newtown School in Waitangi. I am loving getting to know all of the ākonga in Waitangi and learning about their passions and strengths within our inquiry into Ako this term. I love seeing the spark of curiosity in the tamariki and hearing all of their awesome questions everyday.

I am passionate about the histories of our country and physical education. I grew up in Te Whanganui a Tara but have been away the last few years studying down at Otago. I am happy to be back home. Outside of school I love walking my dogs, reading, sewing and cooking.

Celebrations

What we are celebrating this week

- Hearing the children share their strengths with each other confidently and being open to learning from each other in Waitangi's Ako inquiry sharing this week.
- Whānau Tū's amazing mural of Whātaimai the taniwha of Wellington

Jess Gorman



Board of Trustees Spotlight

The Board want to share a bit more about what it is like being on the School Board over the next few months as the three yearly elections are happening later this year and we hope that lots of members of our community will put their names forward! If you would like any more information we would be happy to help - email us at bot@newtown.school.nz

Kia ora whanau! Ko Jess Gorman ahau. I am the Chairperson of the Newtown School Board of Trustees. I joined the Board after the elections in 2019. I have had three children at Newtown School - my older children Xavy and Anouk are now at Wellington High School and South Wellington Intermediate School and my youngest child Dashiell is in Year 3 in Pohutukawa.

My role on the Board involves being across all of the issues and opportunities arising at school where a governance perspective is needed. Much of what happens at school is operational and is managed by our wonderful staff. The Board is there to provide strategic direction to the school, reflect the community perspective and ensure that our school has all of the resources it needs to provide a great learning and working environment for our akonga (students) and staff.

In my role I meet regularly with Nicki our Tumuaki and set the agenda for our Board of Trustee meetings, which happen monthly. At those meetings Nicki and other staff tell us about all of the different operations of the school and about new developments in the education sector - we ask questions and agree actions for the staff and for the Board members where needed. Minutes of our meetings are taken by our wonderful minute taker Steve, and after they have been approved at the next Board meeting they are available on our website.

It has been a real pleasure and honour serving on the School Board. I love learning more about all of the fantastic work of our community and being able to provide guidance and support when tricky issues arise - Covid has been an example of this and has given many opportunities for the Board and school to work together while playing their distinct governance and operational roles.

For those who have previously contributed in governance at the early childhood level, you will be pleasantly surprised to find that being a school trustee is not as onerous a task - we are very well supported by the school staff and the NZ School Trustees Association has a wealth of training, guidance documents and templates on offer.

I would encourage everyone who enjoys making a contribution to their community to consider putting yourself forward for a role on the Board - there are many different ways to contribute and each member brings their own unique experience to the role.

sKids Newtown Teacher Only Day

Newtown Teacher Only Day

For those who would like to enrol your child into sKids for our school Staff Only Day, please click on the link [**here**](#)



#wateronlyschools

We are a **WATER** only school. Please do **NOT** pack fruit juices, fizzy, flavoured milk or energy drinks for your child's school lunch



One of our lovely parents has a bike seat to give away to someone who needs it. Please contact the office if interested or you know someone who might need it

Please **NO** parking in the Staff Car Park and St. Annes Carpark
Let's keep our children **SAFE**

Pop-up COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic for Tamariki aged 5-11 years and whānau



Bring your tamariki aged 5-11 years, older children and your whānau to our special COVID-19 vaccination clinic at Te Kura Kaupapa Māori O Nga Mokopuna. There will be health professionals to answer any questions you have, and vaccinations are free and available for anyone aged 5+. It's also a great time to get your booster if you're 18 and over, and it's been at least three months since your second dose.

Date and time of event: Saturday 9th April 10am-2pm

Name of venue: Te Kura Kaupapa Māori O Nga Mokopuna

Address of venue: 4 Falkirk Avenue, Seatoun

Protect your tamariki, your whānau and your community.



GUITAR LESSONS

One on one guitar lessons available with Julian at Newtown School. 15 years teaching experience. Flexible approach to suit all learning types.

email: jules.musiclessons@gmail.com

Help me I'm lost!

We have a **unnamed scholastic lucky book club order** here in the office that no-one has picked up. If you ordered a book club and your child has not bought it home, please contact the school office