



MOANATAIARI SCHOOL

Newsletter

Tuesday 22nd August 2023

Kia ora tātou

I trust you all had an enjoyable mid-term break and are feeling refreshed and ready for the rest of this busy term.

We have planting at Kuranui Bay tomorrow, as well as senior speech competitions, then the school spring disco this Friday evening. Many thanks to everyone who are helping with these events.

David Brock, Principal – Tumuaki

Kuranui Bay Planting

We are looking forward to a great planting day tomorrow at Kuranui Bay and will leave school at 9:15 to walk down for the briefing at 9:30am.

We will supply gloves and spades but **children are reminded to wear covered shoes** and to bring a water bottle.

Students will also be able to participate in a Department of Conservation treasure hunt while at the beach.



2023 Start Date & School Terms

Term 3: Monday 17 July to Friday 22 September

Term 4: Monday 9 October to Friday 15 December

Coming up:

Wed 23 Aug	Kuranui Bay planting
Wed 23 Aug	Year 4-8 speech competition
Fri 25 Aug	School spring disco
Tue 29 Aug	Thames Valley Cross Country
Fri 1 Sep	Thames speech competition
12-15 Sep	Senior camp at Waitawheta
Mon 18 Sep	Reports sent home
Tue 19 Sep	Supersmash cricket
Wed 20 Sep	School photos
Thu 21 Sep	Parent/Caregiver interviews
Fri 22 Sep	End of term 3

Cancer Society Mufti Day

Many thanks to everyone who donated to our Daffodil Day collection for the Cancer Society. We collected \$180.30 and the children had fun dressing up in yellow for the day.



Scholastic Book Club

Orders for brochure No.5 close on **Friday 8th September.**



Te rerenga korero:

Tāria I konei *Please take a seat*

Speeches

The day had come, you're probably wondering what day? - SPEECH Competition Day.

Gosh, I was thinking about it all day when we started to set up. We were told to go play once that bell rang. Oh man it just rang, I started biting my fingers. I was going next. My teacher gave me a quick pep talk beforehand, and I was up there reading my speech.

I tried to keep my pace down and my voice up. I'm done! That was not too bad but we just had to wait 2 hours to find out who won. The bell rang and it was lunchtime and the judge started to call out the winners. (Judge talking) "This speech had so much information about vaping." Hey, that's my speech! The next person told us about pies, whooo, go Bayley. Although it was a scary thing to do, I came 1st and that's all that matters.

By Olivia Gill

Speech Competition

It was time for me to go. I was shaking like an arcade machine. I was so scared that I would mess up or trip over, but I knew if I didn't win this I would be a disgrace to my beloved pies, (my speech was NZ Pies are better than Aussie Pies.) I stood up and did my speech with not even one misunderstood word. I was so happy that I got it finished and done with, but I wanted to win, so I had to listen to the other speeches to see which one was better than mine.

I heard one about how we should ban vapes, it was way better than mine. I couldn't believe my ears, but I didn't budge. I listened to the other speeches till they were all done.

Here it was, the judge was about to tell the results, in 1st place was the vapes speech. I was shaking, I thought my speech was really cool but then they called out 2nd and it was the pies! I jumped out of excitement, whoo, everyone cheered. I was so relieved that my speech got 2nd place and now we are going to the finals.

By Bayley David

Speech Competition

After morning tea, it was speech time and I was so nervous that I got butterflies in my stomach. While I was reading my speech, I was scared that I would fail. Politely, I stepped up and began to read my speech. When I finished, mum and my friends gave me a clap like I was the best and the results were good too! I was second! I was so proud of myself. After school I told my mum that I placed. My mum did not believe it so I kept telling her, then she knew.

By Geonho Cho

As part of Conservation Week, our gardens were showcased in the Sparkler's Newsletter.

On the māra at Moanataiari School

We are showcasing Moanataiari School's amazing initiatives to connect their tamariki to nature through gardening. Here's what they had to say about it!

"Our garden is a special place of learning for the children. Every week, each class spends time out in the garden caring for their class plot and the surrounding environment. As a class, the tamariki decide what to plant each season - usually based on what they would like to cook and eat! Research shows that the greatest benefit comes when there is a connection between tamariki and their place in nature – an ongoing relationship."



"The philosophy of our school garden is built around **whakawhanaungatanga**. Building relationships with nature, with each other, and with learning. The children are active in the garden environment, having real experiences. They are able to ask questions, have conversations, think about and plan what to do next, and try out their ideas. It engages children's senses as well as their intellect. Supporting tamariki to connect with nature can benefit them for the rest of their lives."



Attendance and unjustified absence: A guide for parents

The Ministry of Education in response to government policy are prioritising attendance as a major issue in schools. The critical issue is not whether a child is absent but whether the child is away for unjustified reasons. If your child is sick we need them to stay at home until they are well. Students being away from school definitely impacts learning. We hope that the following information clears up any misunderstanding you may have about justified and justified absence. The school in following MOE policy will need to contact some families to clarify what is happening.

Justified absences:

1. Illness or medical appointments, i.e. specialists, optometrists, dentists etc.¹ or Health-related quarantine, e.g. Lockdown, nits, notifiable infections.
 - a. Visiting an ill relative.
 - b. Some issues such as Social anxiety will need to be worked through with the school and have a plan in place.
2. A family emergency, crisis or accident.
3. Bereavement, tangi or unveiling.
4. Severe weather or natural disasters including power outages, no water at school, or inability to get to and home from school safely.
5. Religious or cultural observances that have been explained to the school.
6. School-approved events or activities.
7. Absences resulting from disciplinary actions, such as stand-downs or suspensions.
8. Family activities with prior approval: In some cases, schools may allow excused absences for family vacations or important family events if prior permission is obtained.

Unjustified absences include:

1. Parents or caregivers failing to contact the school to explain why their child is away.
2. Parental excuses deemed invalid. Examples include:
 - a. My child is staying with family or relatives and they haven't come back yet.
 - b. We didn't get home until late and my child is tired.
 - c. Children not having food. (Let us know confidentially and we will help.)
 - d. Spending quality time with mum and dad. (This should be done in the weekend or during holiday time.)
 - e. The uniform is still in the wash. (You can send a note about the uniform and or we may have spare uniform)
 - f. My girl has her period (we will help with providing products as required).
 - g. Being absent for a haircut.

¹ Sometimes a medical note may be required.

3. Absences due to social events, or family gatherings. e.g. a student's birthday, a family member's birthday. This includes relatives visiting from outside of the area.
4. Absences caused by being out of town or traveling without appropriate justification.
5. Missing school days for non-emergency or personal reasons such as:
 - a. The school day is already shortened.
 - b. It is the start of the term or year and you want to extend the holiday.
 - c. An online situation or social situation has emerged outside of school has had an impact on your child. (If this has occurred the school may need to work through this with you).
 - d. There has been bullying or allegation of bullying. (If this is the case you need to speak to the school)
 - e. The weather is bad and you think the school is closed without checking.
 - f. There is an event that your child doesn't want to participate in. Quite often this could be a sports event such as swimming sports, athletics or cross-country.
 - g. Your child helps at home with the chores or with a younger sibling.
 - h. Your child got in trouble or because there was some social difficulty at school.
 - i. There is an activity that is contrary to the family view and there is no discussion with the school. (Discussion can assist better understanding).
 - j. An animal is sick and needs to be taken to the vet. (This is an adult responsibility.)
 - k. Patterns of absence on Friday or Monday.
6. Taking a day off for some event or a holiday without prior approval of the school².
7. Missing school to participate in a non-school-related activity without permission.
8. Wilful refusal by the student to attend classes.

Absences for children who are in any specialist programme, e.g. Reading Recovery must have a very clear reason for being away because of the impact on the child's learning.

² Prior approval means that you have spoken with the school's principal before the event or the holiday.



SPRING DISCO

25 AUG **FOOD AND DRINK FOR SALE** **6:00**
8:30

IN THE COURTYARD
\$5 ENTRY PER CHILD

*Parents will need to stay with their children if they are a Junior
(Rooms 4 & 5 students)*



TAURANGA STEM Fest IS BACK!

SUNDAY 01 OCT
10AM-4PM

FREE TICKETS

Get your free tickets online: stemfest.nz



WHĀNAU FRIDAYS

FRIDAY NIGHTS STARTING
25TH AUGUST

Board Games Volleyball
Supper Table Tennis

6-8pm Come and go as you please
The Salvation Army
713 Pollen Street



THE 2023 GENERAL ELECTION

Enrol. Vote. Be heard.

vote.nz

ELECTORAL COMMISSION
TE Kaitiaki Take Kōwhiri

After School Care

Contact Donna on 027 547 9407.
\$7 per hour.



Fees can be paid in cash at the office or directly online into our account no.
01 0455 0108122 01

Thames Music and Drama

with performing rights by APRA NZ, Concord Music and Universal Music
presents...

Judy White

& the Seven Dwarfs
a twisted fairytale musical

PG

Civic Centre
9-16 September

Tickets at
thamesmad.co

Thames Music And Drama will be staging an original jukebox musical "Judy White and the Seven Dwarfs" next month. This is a family friendly show rated PG (like most Disney movies it contains some adult references that will go over most kids heads) . It contains no bad language or violence and only mild PDA (holding hands etc).

However it is also going to appeal to the older generation with lots of hits from 1963 such as The Shoop Shoop Song (It's in his kiss), It's my Party, Surfin Safaris, California Dreaming and lots more. The production also features about 20 young people in lead roles (as 'dwarfs' and princesses).

Transition from School Expos/Careers Expo

The expos will have a range of stalls sharing what supports they can offer school leavers entering the community.

**Thames High School Friday 1st September
9.30am and again at 12 noon.**

Contact maree.woodall@education.govt.nz for more information.

It's time for Teen-Esteem Workshop's Year 8 Transition to High School workshop!

Teen Esteem Workshops offer a range of strengths-based child centred programmes which empower tamariki through the use of creativity, group process and positive personal reinforcement.

TRANSITION TO HIGH SCHOOL is a one-day workshop for Year 8 students. The workshops are run on a school day, from 9:00am to 3:00pm and are free for your child to attend. We take a small group of students from a mix of schools and explore issues that directly impact this group including: peer-pressure, inclusion/exclusion, bullying, self doubt/self harm and anxiety.

In all our workshops we meet our objectives by using a variety of interactive group activities including: games, music, art, relaxation techniques, and group discussion. We are now taking names for workshops to be run in August, September and October, term 3 and term 4 this year. Sign up quickly to ensure a place.

The workshops will take place at the Kauaeranga Valley Hall. Once we've received your child's registration we'll be back in touch with more details.

We provide all food, drinks and resource packs. Special dietary needs are catered for. All Health and Safety and Risk Assessment Guidelines are followed.

Teen-Esteem Workshops has been operating in the Coromandel Region for over 25 years. For more information about us you can visit our website:

www.teenesteem.co.nz

COST: No cost but koha/donation gratefully received.

Each workshop is limited to 12 participants! To book a space or for more information contact us on:

email: teenesteemworkshops@gmail.com

phone: Julia - 022 693 7621

www.teenesteem.co.nz