



Monday 26 June 2023

Kia ora Parents, Caregivers & Whānau,

I trust you are all well and are managing to make the most of the odd sunny days that pop up amongst the many decidedly dreary ones. The new motorway certainly makes a trip to Auckland for shopping or visiting friends and family much quicker and more pleasant, even on a miserable weather day!

There seems to be a staggering amount of illness around at the moment, vomiting bugs, colds and Covid among both Staff and Students. Please be vigilant and keep your children home if they are unwell. The new Covid guidelines indicate that if there is a positive test the person must isolate until they show a negative test result.

I am excited that the beginning of Term 3 will see our school hall back in action (all going to plan). We have some fantastic new **LED stage lights** that are being installed. These were purchased using grant money received from the **North & South Trust**, along with funds raised by the school. The lights will be a great asset to the hall, and will be able to be used for School Assemblies, Kapa Haka, Glee Club, Move & Groove, the PTA Disco and lots of other events that utilise the stage area.

With the completion of the Hall the next stage of repairs will begin in our **Senior block**. Classes have been relocated around the school for the duration. We are hoping to have them back in their usual classrooms by the end of Term 3. Thank you to the parents that volunteered to come along to help with the move, it is highly appreciated.

I trust that you all managed to get along to the **Parent Interviews** held last week and had the chance to discuss your child's progress with their class teacher. These meetings are an important part of your child's learning journey, as they ensure that you as parents/caregivers are 'in the loop' with their progress throughout the school year.

On Friday I had the pleasure of Leon Ferguson-Wolf helping me to run the school as '**Principal for the day**'. He had a great time performing some of my regular principal tasks and duties. Amongst others, he handed out stickers for excellent reading and writing in the junior classes and also helped to emcee the **Jumping June** skipping event. Leon even got to sit with the teachers in the staffroom for morning tea, complete with a hot chocolate and special bikkies. The School Leaders joined us when we headed to Charlies in the afternoon for a well deserved ice cream. You did an excellent job Leon, I hope you had a wonderful day in charge of our magic school.

Our **Annual Bayleys Barnyard Boogie and Auction Night** went very well recently. **The Stables** proved to be the perfect venue, and we managed to fit in a whopping 180 people, the most tickets we have ever sold. From what I saw everyone had a fabulous time dancing to the great vibes played by **DJ Mark Laurence**. All in all we raised approximately \$28,000 for the school, which is a fantastic effort. I would like to thank the **Auction Team** for all their hard work organising the event.

Thanks also to our hosts **Bayleys** and **The Stables Matakana** as well as **Mark Laurence** for his excellent music. Last but certainly not least a huge thanks to all the people that came along on the night, bought items at the Auction and donated goods. Everyone played an important part in making this such a successful fundraiser.

To end off this week we have a **Matariki Night Light** display at school from 3.30pm to 5.30pm. Parents are invited to come along and share in our class art & light displays. The PTA are offering hot chocolate and a sausage sizzle as a fundraiser - perfect for a winter afternoon. I'm sure it will be a lovely sight with all the lights shining around the school and the artwork in the windows, so please come along and enjoy the occasion with us.

It has definitely been a busy first half of the year and it looks like Term 3 & 4 will be equally as busy. Please do keep an eye out for notices coming home and on the school calendars, that feature both on the School Facebook page and on the school APP, to ensure that you don't miss out on anything. The '**What's on**' alert that is sent out on a Sunday afternoon is a good way to refresh your memory as to what is happening during the week.

Enjoy the last week of Term 2, stay warm, stay well and travel safely if you do.

Noho ora mai



Darrel Goosen