



Monday 13 June 2022

Kia ora Parents, Caregivers & Whānau,

I hope this finds you all well, and you have settled into the cooler weather. Although the rain, as much as it can be an inconvenience, will be a welcome respite to empty water tanks and dry gardens.

Covid case numbers seem to have evened off again, however we are still being super vigilant, and encouraging safe practices to ensure our teachers and students are disrupted as little as possible. We have had a very busy few weeks at the school, with shows, competitions and other fun activities. I am very proud of everyone's hard work and dedication towards making such days so successful.

We were lucky enough to have the **Auckland LEGO User group** display in our School Hall recently, \$4 of the \$6 entry fee came back to the school, raising \$2300 to go towards the pool chlorinator. There was a great turnout of our school families, and also families from the wider local community. I am sure there were lots of imaginative LEGO creations built over the subsequent days.

With **LEGO** being such a big focus recently it was wonderful to see all the First LEGO League Challenge displays in the Hall, and the classrooms. Thanks to everyone who came in to view these and the robot games. All our students put so much work into showcasing their builds for the '**Cargo Connect - how does cargo and freight connect the world?**' challenge. Our senior students always enjoy the Robot games each year where competition is fierce. It proves to be a great day of fun battling it out on the purpose built challenge tables. The winning teams will participate in the NZ finals competition held in Auckland on 2 & 3 July. Thanks to our acting AP, Ellen Edwards and the Senior School teachers for their enthusiasm and hard work to make it all happen again this year.

The **Matakana Model Boat Show** had its debut over the long weekend. There were over a hundred boats on display in the school hall, and the pool. It truly is inspiring to see the work that goes into building these models. The efforts put in by the organising committee were very evident, right down to the cataloguing of all the boats, and their history. The school was presented with \$2,342 as a result of the door donations, raffle, and catalogue sales. The **Matakana App**, also kindly donated \$1 from every APP download over the Boat show promotion period, amounting to \$50. Thank you to everyone that came along to view the show and special thanks to Kim Scott for her outstanding work to make this all a success.

Last week our Year 5 & 6 students visited the **Auckland Museum** as part of their Migration & Mobility Inquiry. It was a great day out of the classroom learning about New Zealand histories. Students always enjoy getting out of the classroom for a more hands-on experience. Thank you to teacher Claire Allen who organised the trip and the other teachers and parent helpers who helped make it a success on the day.

On Thursday of last week the whole school participated in a dress up day and **traditional "old school" style games** as part of 'Spark Week'. It was great to see so many fantastic costumes, and

hearing lots of laughter as students played games that many of us were so familiar with when we were young children. The teachers did a great job setting up and running the games. Thank you to everyone for your awesome organisation and participation.

This week our Year 0,1 & 2 classes will be visiting the **Warkworth Museum** as part of their Migration & Mobility Inquiry. This is a wonderful local resource, with loads of information and memorabilia about our local area history. It is great to have something like this so close by. The classes will be enjoying their lunch in Parry Kauri Park, by the giant Kauri trees. Such a beautiful setting. Thank you to teacher Janet Goosen for organising this trip, and to the teachers and parents that will be accompanying the students.

To end off this week we have a **Matariki Night Light** display at school from 3.30pm to 5pm. Parents are invited to come along and share in our class light & art displays. The PTA are offering hot chocolates, and a sausage sizzle as a fundraiser. I feel sure it will be a great sight with all the lights shining around the school so please come along and enjoy the occasion with us.

Next week we have our second **Pizza with the Principal**, this coincides with the **Principal for the day**, Nate M, will be joining me to run the school. (This was an auction item that was won at last year's school Auction Night) On the same day there will also be a **bake sale** to raise money for the **Garden to Table programme**. Harcourts, who are sponsors of Garden to Table are very kindly helping to run this sale for us. Our students love to be able to come along and buy a treat or two at lunchtime so kindly support this great initiative please.

All in all it has been a fun, activity packed term so far. It is so great to be able to do all the events and activities that we have planned without the threat of postponement or cancellation. Thank you to our parents for your cooperation with mask wearing whilst at school and in assemblies, unfortunately this is a small ongoing price to pay for our continued ability to function in a relatively normal fashion.

Enjoy the last few weeks of Term 2, stay warm and well.

Noho ora mai

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Darrel Goosen', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Darrel Goosen