

# WITHERLEA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Monday 7th December 2020

Term 4 Week 9: 2020



## Principal's Message

**Kia ora koutou Witherlea whanau,**

This will be the last newsletter for the 2020 year and we head into the next two weeks with excitement because of our planned events; *Year 4 annual Pine Valley Camps to begin Monday - Wednesday with Room 15 then Room 16 and 17's Year 4's are off Wednesday - Friday. Back at school we have our Year 5-6 days out, our Punga Team: Year 1-2 Movie Day and our Year 3 adventure day* not to mention our Year 5-6 Leadership Day. It looks like Week 9 is set to fly by and then we are into Week 10, the last week of the year.

What a year it has been - we successfully navigated our way through 'Online Learning' this year and learned SO much from this, about ourselves and our learners and in particular the gaps. We have since created a 'Digital Education Plan and Philosophy' to guide our next steps. We sincerely thank our community for their responses to the Survey Forms following this and their honesty; this influenced and guided our direction. The teachers and leaders will continue to work with Martin Hughes from 3M Learning on Digital Fluency and we are excited about the future for our learners with Digital Education.

Next week our most important event is the 'Break Up Picnic' on Tuesday night (postponement day Wednesday night). This will be a celebration of our year with special performances, awards and recognition and of course a chance for our students to showcase their talents. Bring your whole whānau and a picnic from 5:30pm onwards.

Our last day for the year is **Friday 18th December** and the school closes at **12pm** before restarting officially on **Tuesday 9th February 2021**.

We wish every student and their family and whānau a safe and happy holiday break from the whole Witherlea School Team.

**Ngā manaakitanga,**  
**Andrea Harnett - Tumuaki**

## Leadership Team 2021

We are very blessed at Witherlea School to have so many teachers who have the experience and expertise to lead in the diverse areas within a primary school. There are so many ways to lead within a school and via '*Piritahi Kahui Ako (CoL)*' and we support all our teachers to be leaders not just with these positional roles. Here are some of the positions and people for 2021;

### Deputy Principal: **Phil Funnell**

- Across School Lead: *Piritahi (Wed/Thurs)*
- Special Needs Education (ESOL/ORS/Behaviour)
- BT Programmes/Release + Relievers/Digital Team

### Assistant Principal (Kauri Team Leader): **Hazel Halton**

- Across School Lead: *Piritahi (Wed/Thurs)*
- Data and Assessment/Release Role for 2021

### Assistant Principal (Kowhai Team Leader): **Matt Robertson**

- Science/Enviro Lead/EOTC
- Room 18 Teacher: Year 4-5

### Assistant Principal (Punga Team Leader): **Angela Clark**

- Transition to School / Pastoral Care
- Ferns Teacher: New Entrant

### Hub 2 Leader: **Catherine Stringer**

- Room 12 Teacher: Year 2-3

### Te Ao / Kapa Haka Lead: **Ariana McIntyre**

- Within School Lead: *Piritahi*
- Room 6 Teacher: Year 5-6

### Events / Performance and COMs Lead: **PJ Muir**

- Room 9 Teacher: Year 5-6

### Arts Coordinator (Music/Dance): **Naomi Anderson**

- Room 16 Teacher: Year 3-4

### SENCO (Special Needs Coordinator): **Maree Herdman**

- Room 15 Teacher: Year 3-4

### Sports Coordinator: **Dan Stephens**

- Room 5 Teacher: Year 1

### Within School Lead - *Piritahi*: **Jemma Herdman**

- Room 9 Teacher: Year 5-6 (6 weeks)

**"Ararangi - Pathway to the Sky"**

**Empowering all learners to reach their potential in an innovative community**

# Term Events

## Term 4

### Week Nine

**Monday 7th December - Friday 11th December**  
Pine Valley Year 4 Camps

#### Monday 7th December

December Board Meeting: 5:30pm (Library)

#### Wednesday 9th December

Year 3 EOTC Day @ Witherlea

#### Thursday 10th December

Year 5-6 Leadership Day @ Witherlea

#### Friday 11th December

COMs Team Assembly  
Service and Sport Awards for 2020 11:45am

### Week Ten

**Monday December 14th - Friday 18th December**  
Last week for 2020

#### Monday 14th December

2020 School Reports go home - Year 2-6  
2021 Class and Teacher

#### Tuesday 15th December

End of Year Picnic and Concert: 5:30pm start  
BYO: Picnic

#### Wednesday 16th December

Class Swap - 2021 Transition Day 2:10pm-2:45pm

#### Friday 18th December

School Closes @ 12pm for 2020  
Last day for the year

## Term 1: 2021

### Week 1

**Monday 1st February - Friday 5th February**  
Teacher Only Week: School Closed

#### Friday 5th February

New Entrant and Year 6 Orientation

### Week 2

#### Monday 8th February

Waitangi Day observed: School Closed

#### Tuesday 9th February - Friday 12th February

First week of school for children

#### Tuesday 9th February

**Day 1 - School Open @ 8:15am - Coffee Cart**  
Open Classrooms and Flag Raising  
Families and Whānau welcome

### Week 3

#### Wednesday 17th February

Meet the Teacher Evening: 5pm-7pm

## Geo City National Accolades

The accolades just keep on coming for Room 8/9 who last week had GeoCity - Skylands go nationwide with Kea Kids News on Stuff and now the first article in the Education Gazette; NZ's top magazine published by the Ministry of Education for NZ Schools highlighting innovative practices. It has to go through many phases to be published and we are so proud of ALL of our students in Room 8/9 who took on this creativity through their project based learning led by two teachers; Phoebe Quirk and PJ Muir who combined classes to work collaboratively.

It also shows how effective composite classes can be with many of our learners taking advantage of the opportunity to continue learning with the same teacher for 2021 - NO time wasted having to transition it will be straight into the continuation of where they left off on the last day of school.



## The 'new' Kaitiaki of our School

We wish to farewell Mr Anthony Atyeo who has been our Caretaker this year and much more; he has worked with our students learning EPro8, mentoring students and supporting learners with special needs. He leaves us to go back to the Police Force but hopefully we may see his face around school for some special projects.

We are delighted to announce that Mr Andrew Barnes will be joining the Support Staff Crew as our 'new' Caretaker. Taking over the grounds where Anthony has left off. Andrew starts today and is already part of the Witherlea whānau with Liam who is in Year 4.

Andrew will support the Admin Team to ensure our grounds are safe and tidy for all the learning and play activities.

# Be Kind, Be Safe, Be Fair Term 4 WINNERS

**Congratulations to these students  
for living our school MOTTO**

## **Punga; Year 1-2**

**Hub 1**

*Gus M, Charlotte G, Yaduveer S*

**Hub 2**

*Lexi R, Beau F*

## **Kowhai; Year 3-4**

**Hub 3**

*Lily D, Sophia C, Harry D*

**Hub 4**

*Ryley M, Elias T, Payton F, Zora S,  
Grace M, Mia K*

## **Kauri; Year 5-6**

**Tane Mahuta and Uenuku**

*Ollie H, Shanaya T, Chloe B, Denzel H,  
Jack M, Josephine W, George G*

studioHQ *let's dance*

# SPECTACULAR Dance Showcase

**WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
2020**

Show starts **7pm** at **Boat House Theatre  
Blenheim**

**Tickets now on sale**

**Includes Complimentary Refreshments**

**Adult \$30 | Child \$15 | Family \$75 (2 Adult, 2 Children)**

**Contact Vicki 027 748 4172 | [studiohqdance@gmail.com](mailto:studiohqdance@gmail.com)**

## **Early Words Programme**

**Congratulations to these students for  
completing their Early Words;**

*Koen A, Ruby P, Jake V*

## **Santa's Grotto Pop Up Shop!**

**Come and do a spot  
of Christmas shopping!**

**Thursday 10th December  
8.30am-9.30am & 2.30pm-4.00pm  
Room 10**

**Loads of brand new books, toys,  
giftware and vouchers!  
Prices start at \$1**



**A Witherlea School Fundraiser!**

## **TOUCH Champions**

**Witherlea Turbos WIN 4-1 with an amazing team effort;**

**Payton F, Kahn M, Ben C, Stella C, Sam W,**

**Sam L, Jack C, Leonard H, Richie M**



# Be Kind, Be Safe, Be Fair

## Kia Atawhai, Kia Ora, Kia Tika



### Football Fun

This amazing group of students organised by Mr Stephens and supported by our parents took part in the Football Festival on Friday at A & P Park. Year 3-5 students.



Real-life learning inspired by GeoCity project

[READ MORE >](#)



### New Look Year 6 Leavers Celebrations

We are delighted with the changes to the Year 6 Leavers programme that has seen; t-shirt designs, haka, open whānau evening and kai from our kaiako as we started our farewell and transition days for these amazing leaders.



### Congratulations Madi

Madi was awarded distinction in both her Jazz and ballet exams (the highest award you can achieve) but not only that, her jazz result was the 4th highest mark in the whole of NZ!



### Generosity to Foster Hope Marlborough

Our Punga Team donates to Foster Hope for children who have nothing at Christmas - thank you for your kindness.

### Contacts Us;

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Witherlea School Board of Trustees

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