

5th February 2021



Kia ora koutou & welcome back whanau & friends to Te Kura o Wairau. I hope you and your families had a happy and safe holiday break, and got to enjoy time together.

### **Powhiri**

We had a beautiful powhiri on Wednesday welcoming in 27 new students to our kura. Thank you to our new families who have entrusted us with their taonga (children). I was so very proud of everyone during the powhiri. Our students looked stunning in their uniforms, and showed a high level of pride in being part of this school family. My beautiful staff loyally supported the students and provided the care and compassion that they appreciate as they navigate their way through their first day. We were so very fortunate again to have Peter Te Rangi whaikorero for us, and to have Whaea Darnielle karanga for us. It was also a real pleasure to have two of our parents karanga and whaikorero for the manuhiri. Peter acknowledged us in his whaikorero as a school, staff and community because of our tikanga and level of respect we have for one another.

### **Our Meet & Greet**

Next Wednesday 10th February we are having our Meet & Greet from 4:00 to 5:30pm. Please come along and join us. This year we will be gathering outside Rooms 7, 8, 9 & 10 again under the shade of our trees on the grass area. We will have the BBQ on cooking sausages, and have ice blocks for all of our students. Bring your picnic and a blanket and join us for a korero/catch up. It is a great opportunity to meet new whanau and to hear some holiday stories. From about 4:30 - 5:15pm we will open the swimming pool up for our students. An adult will need to accompany their children (for safety please). Make sure they bring their togs and towels along.

### **Lunches in School**

We have opted into the 'Lunches in Schools' programme. This will begin in our kura starting Term 2. More information will come out with details during the term.

### **New Uniforms**

Over the next 2 weeks our students and staff are going to be putting down their ideas and thoughts about what our new t-shirt could look like. Attached to this newsletter is a blank t-shirt template. If you would like to share your ideas about what our new t-shirts could look like please start sketching. These need to be to me by the 23rd February, with your name on the front of the page. We will then be able to consider all the information we receive and begin to make some decisions. Once we reach a decision we will have these printed and they will then be for sale. We are very aware that there will end up being a cost for some of our families who already have our current uniform. It will be a choice to have whichever one you would like this year, however by next year - 2022 all students will need to be in our new uniform.

In terms of our current shorts and polar fleeces. Once the t-shirt exercise has been completed I will let you know about what we will do with our shorts and polar fleeces.

### **Polynation**

We have been given the most amazing opportunity. 30 adults from our school community are going to be able to take part in a 'free' Wellness Challenge run by health professionals who care. It is a 4 week 'Health and Wellness' plan that will support you to get healthier by participating in 'group training' & 'nutrition support'. The plan starts on 22nd February and finishes on 21st March. The programme will be run at Te Kura o Wairau. If you want to join this group you need to be in fast. Please fill in the registration form attached to this newsletter and get it back to school by next Tuesday 9th February. First in first served. Good luck.

### **Teacher Only Days**

During this term we will have 1 Teacher Only Day on Friday 12th March.

**Teena Johnson**  
**Tumuaki/Principal**