

Kia ora and welcome to a new school year at Levin Intermediate. We're really pleased to see both old and new faces this year. Our newsletters will come out at the beginning and end of each term. We've found that in this digital age Facebook, Twitter and websites provide direct access to the information you may need. So we encourage you in the first instance to follow LIS on Facebook. It is here we often post regular pictures and notices highlighting what is happening at school. We'll start to further populate our website with information as the year progresses.

Sports News

Our school will participate in a range of inter-school sports activities this year. This includes our local inter school sports as well as Wellington Regional Intermediate Sports, Super Sports events with intermediates from Horowhenua and Manawatu and the AIMS Games, which is a large Australasian middle schools event. Robyn Wills is our teacher in charge of sport. She will be calling for names of keen, capable students to take part in these events.

Japanese Exchange Programme

Our Japanese visitors arrive in March. They will be with us for a week. We are looking for families to host these students. If you are interested please contact the school office.

Our school will be taking a group of students to Japan later this year. There will be information regarding this in a few weeks' time. If your child is interested they need to listen carefully to the notices.

Beth Duff – teacher in charge of Japanese Exchange

Office Notes

School Fees – Our compulsory school fees total \$80.00. These consist of Technology fees for Art, Food, Textiles & Hard Materials. These fees can either be paid in one lump sum, term by term (in advance), or by automatic payment. Term 1 fees are due now. We have automatic payment forms available at the office. If you wish to set up payment by internet banking, our Westpac school bank account number is 03 0667 0195192 00. Please ensure that you list your child's name as a reference. Statements are sent out once a term.

Canteen - A variety of mostly food is available to purchase from our school canteen. Lunches can be ordered at the Canteen before school from 8.30am. Students can see Mrs Lange at 10.45am if they have forgotten to order before school. We will shortly add a menu to our webpage.

Absences – If your child is absent from school, please ensure that you ring the school before 9.00am to explain their absence – phone 368 8306 and press option 1. It is helpful if you state your child's full name, room number and the reason for their absence. Thank you.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS – BE ON TIME, BE THERE BY 9

School Buses

If your child catches the school bus they will be bringing home a form today that needs to be completed and returned to school. Each year new forms need to be filled out. If these forms can get back to us as soon as possible that would be appreciated.

BYOD

If your child has a laptop/chromebook/tablet that they wish to use to support their learning at school then they are most welcome to bring it to school. The school will provide access to our wifi. Students are responsible for their own devices. The school has its own computers and chromebooks to support learning so there are plenty to go around.

Mobile Phones

Students who bring mobile phones to school can choose to do one of three things with them.

Students who need them for out of school hours can hand them in to their teacher each day. They will be kept secure in the school office and returned at 3pm.

Students who may want access to their phones during the day (They may get a message about after school arrangements) may choose to keep them in their bags. If they choose to do this the school will not be held responsible for any loss or damage.

Students who wish to use their phones as a classroom learning device need to get permission from their teacher before bringing the phone into class. Again the school will not be held responsible for any loss or damage.

Given how connected our students are to digital devices we want them to take a break from them during the day. Just as we step away from classroom learning during break times, we also want them to step away from digital devices. So staff will ask students for their phones if they are using them at break times. The phones will be kept in the school office and returned at the end of the day.

Meet your child's teacher

In the coming weeks we'll invite you to come and meet your child's teacher. This will be an opportunity for us to share information about what we are planning as well as an opportunity for you to tell us more about your child. We'll send a note out later this week with details.

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