

LEVIN INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

9 November 2018

Principal: Sheree Garton
Deputy Principal: Robyn Wills

Upcoming Events

- Friday 9 November
- Kapa Haka
Regionals
- Monday 12
November -
TEACHER ONLY
DAY - School closed
- Tuesday 13
November - STRIKE
DAY
- Wednesday 21
November -
WRISSA Softball
- Wednesday 28
November -
Supersport Athletics
- Friday 7 December
- Year 8 Social
- Tuesday 11
December -
Graduation &
Prizegiving
- Thursday 13
December - School
finishes for the year

REMINDER:

**SCHOOL CLOSED
MONDAY 12 NOV
TEACHER ONLY
DAY**

**TUESDAY 13 NOV
STRIKE DAY**

Kia ora koutou. Nau mai haere mai

Dear Parents / Caregivers

As the term ticks on the momentum of events seems to be moving at a pace that requires staff, students and families to be well informed. Please add important dates to your calendar or phone, and do call or message us if you need any further information.

Today we hosted an Olympic superstar at school - Kayla Whitelock a NZ Blackstick who has attended many international events - she shared with us her story of resilience and working hard. Our school PB4L focus sat nicely alongside her words with this phrase '**do the mahi and get the treats**'. No better example of this phrase is the Kapa Haka group who are competing in Palmerston North this afternoon. These tamariki, their tutors, whanau, Kaumatua and supporters have worked for months on this bracket, whilst performing across the community in a variety of settings. We are so proud of you! A special thank you to our phenomenal tutors Darren Reid and Crystal Hirini for the taonga you have given to these students - not only in teaching but as role models for the importance of Kapa Haka to Maori.

Over the weekend I was reminded of the need for schools to take an active part in promoting Cyber Safety and applauding students who courageously come forward when things in the 'social media' setting let them down. Whilst teachers are tasked with supporting learning in literacy and numeracy, we are also tasked with supporting students who make mistakes in their behaviour, and I thank those parents who meet and support their children and staff to get this right.

This week I would like to welcome Lars Dobbertin-King and Karen Flowers to the teaching team for 2019. Both Lars and Karen bring a variety of skills and new ideas and we are pleased to be able to have them as part of the team. As a school we are lucky to have attracted great applicants to staff our school for 2019 and as Principal I am excited to work with this vibrant team. Next week's newsletter will contain more information on the way teams (Waka) will work, and an explanation of the learning students will be part of. Ms McKenzie will lead the 'Commitment Waka', and Mr Cullen will lead the 'Community Waka'. Mr Miller is taking term 1 to be Dad to one of our school babies 'Tommy', but will retain his 'Think Tank' classes for term 1 - returning to full time in Term 2.

A little reminder to all the siblings, neighbours, family and friends who are enrolling Year 7 or 8 students for 2019, please get your enrolments to us by 16th November as we will be making up class lists soon after that.

Teacher Only Day - Monday 12 November - Testing and report writing are all part of our commitment to providing whanau with the information needed to support and guide learners at home with next steps and celebrations of a job well done. This teacher only day is for staff to look schoolwide at testing results and to work collaboratively to report in simple yet informative language.

Strike Day - Tuesday 13 November - Non-union teachers and teacher aides will be at school to support those families who do not have alternative care for their child.

Have a great week from all of us at Levin Intermediate School.

Nāku noa nā Sheree Garton
Principal



Kayla Whitelock
Blackstick



Commitment Waka

It is hard to believe that we are nearly halfway through Term 4. With many events happening, it has been an extremely busy start.

A huge congratulations to our students that performed at Jandal Jam and all the best to our students performing at the Kapa Haka Regionals today. We have been lucky enough to have awesome coaches coming in to teach Badminton and Softball and on Wednesday we sent a group of students to a Touch Rugby tournament. There are still many more sporting and cultural events to look forward to.

While our students enjoy these activities, there has also been a very settled hum across the waka with a wide range of assessment and learning happening. I am pleased to say that many of our students have made some good progress over the year. Our inquiry focus for this term is "Taste" and looking at how we can ask questions that will lead to gathering a deeper understanding of the topic. In literacy we are focussing on persuasive texts and advertisements. Our literacy work will culminate in the students presenting a persuasive argument about an area of interest in a speech. Please talk about this with your child.

As we get closer to the end of the term our students will need to continue with routines such as getting enough sleep, eating healthy and exercising. All of this will help make the end of year enjoyable for everyone. Please continue to encourage your child to read every night, watch the news, practice their maths and continue to stay focussed on their learning.

Mauria te pono. Believe in yourself

Kirstin McKenzie
Commitment Waka Team Leader



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Please sign and return this portion to the school office to enable your child to go in the draw to win some wonderful prizes.

Child's name: Room: Parent/Caregiver signature: