



KIA ORA KOUTOU

2 August 2018 # 22

Week 2 of Term3 – our winter is being pretty kind to us weather wise with not too many cold days and nights so far - let's hope that continues.

It has been an amazing month so far for the stargazers among us with the longest lunar eclipse, and the point where Mars has been the closest to earth for at least the last 15 years – culminating in a 'Blood Moon'.

This term as per usual will be a very busy term with lots on for all class levels – please make sure you check with your child's teacher for any notices of upcoming events.

TEACHER STRIKE ACTION - WEDNESDAY AUGUST 15TH 2018

As you are probably aware a Full Day strike action for Wednesday August 15th 2018 has now been ratified via a vote through the NZEI (Teachers & Principal Union).

As much as we regret this inconvenience to parents and communities, we feel strongly that various conditions and terms need to be addressed by the Ministry of Education, not only for our teachers but also for our children and the children in the future.

We are currently experiencing a shortage of trained teachers for full time positions and to relieve when teachers are sick or on professional development courses. This problem is only projected to get worse, due to the lack of trained and experienced teachers coming through our training and university systems. On top of this, we have an ageing Teacher/Principal population that will be retiring in the next 5 – 10+ years - without the experienced trained teachers coming through the system to replace them.

In addition, Teachers have not had any real pay increase above CPI for over 9 years, which is all contributing to a down turn in teacher morale, but also deterring young passionate people to look at teaching as a career option due to the comparative pay rates.

NZEI MESSAGE REGARDING STRIKE ACTION:-

Both primary teachers and principals are determined to send a strong message to the Government and demand change so our students

UPCOMING EVENTS

7 August – EBOP 7's

14 August – ICAS Maths

15 August – Teachers Strike (details following)

can have a teacher in every classroom, the learning support they need and teachers are recognised as the professionals they are. Both primary teachers and principals feel the Ministry's June offers did not address workload issues, extra learning support or ways to stem the growing crisis in recruiting and retaining teachers.

Both primary teachers and principals voted overwhelmingly in June to reject the Ministry's offers and to hold three-hour strikes on 15 August. The feeling was so strong that the National Executive then balloted to replace the 3-hour strikes with full-day strikes. Both groups of members have now voted to undertake the full-day strikes on 15 August.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MESSAGE REGARDING STRIKE ACTION:

The NZEI has advised our Board of Trustees that our principal and teachers will be taking strike action on Wednesday 15 August 2018.

The Board is currently considering the availability of teaching staff and whether we can safely keep the school open during this day, and deciding whether we can provide the normal teaching services during the strike.

It's important that you start considering to make alternative arrangements for the care of your child/children on the day of the strike.

We know that this is inconvenient for caregivers and students alike, but please be assured that student safety is our main concern.

We will be making a final decision early next week and will communicate this message home just as soon as we have decided upon the best course of action. If you have any concerns, please contact Mike Jones, Chair, Board of Trustees, 0274 370 377.

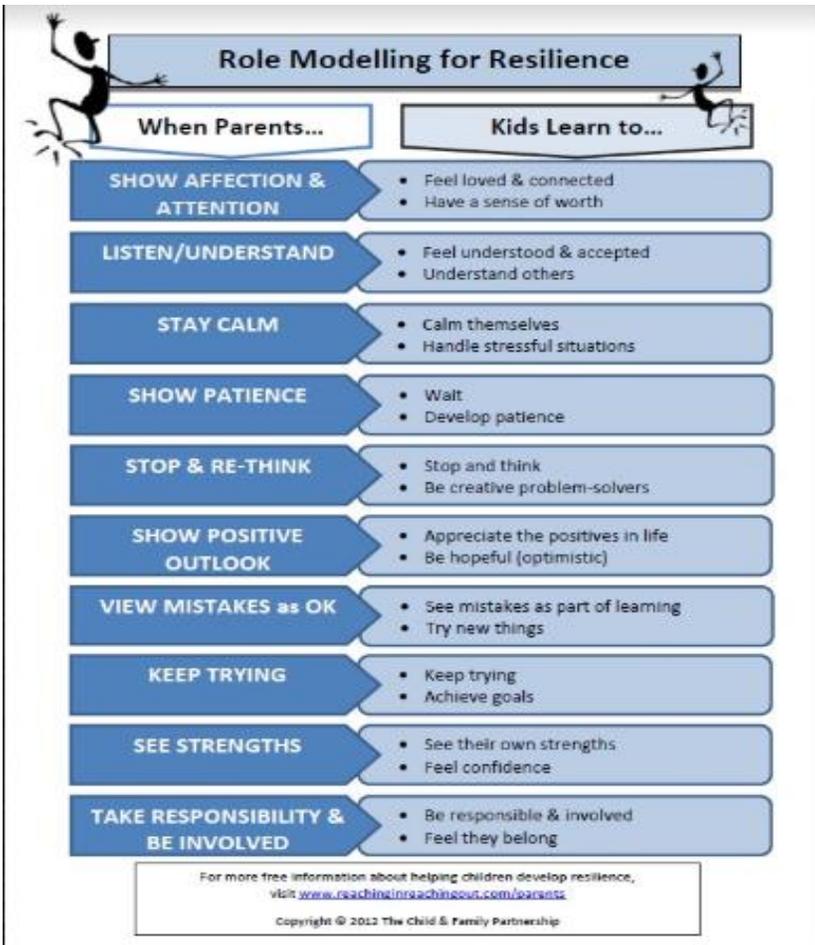
Board of Trustees notice:

Due to Claire Walker leaving the area with her family at the end of 2017, the Board of Trustees of Ohope Beach School are looking to pass a motion at our meeting, Tuesday 7 August 2018 to resolve a motion to exercise our discretion under section 94B of the Education Act, 1989 to alter the number of parent representatives to four from five.

If you have a view regarding this matter and you wish to attend the Board meeting to discuss this motion, please advise, Mike Jones, Chair on 0274 370 377 before the meeting begins.

Meeting details:

5.45pm, Tuesday 7 August 2018, Ohope Beach Charter Club



SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS – please order on line or return orders with cheque only payments to the school office by Friday 3 August (tomorrow).



SCHOOL PHOTO UPDATE

The photos have just been proofed so we should expect to get the key codes sometime in the next week or two.

We will let you know as soon as we get them.

SUBWAY LUNCHES are available on Fridays just go to <http://www.subway.co.nz/schools> and select our school and type in your child's class name (Manuka, Kahikatea, Kowhai, Rimu, Totoro) by 9am Friday morning.

PRIDE VALUES

P – Positivity - We participate in all activities with enthusiasm. We say kind and positive words.

R – Respect - We listen and use our manners. We care for ourselves, our belongings, the environment and each other.

I – Integrity - We make the right choices and do as we say. We are trustworthy.

D – Diligence - We try our best in all activities and take on challenges. We work hard to achieve our goals.

E – Empathy - We think about others and their feelings before we act.

Our focus this week is **Positivity**

Our pride time winners for last week were: **Te Tiwai – Isaac, Caleb, Nga Peka – Maddison, Maraea, Max D, Benya, Greer, Amelia** **Nga Huiarau – Indigo, Derek, Amaih, Daeshan**

LATENESS AND ABSENCE

On average we have between 5 – 10 children late (that is 10 or more minutes) to school every morning for various reasons. Occasional lateness is understandable with the busy lives we lead and the possible accidental sleep in etc. Punctuality is an important life skill that we should be role modeling to our children.

It is extremely important the children arrive early to school i.e. at least 10 minutes before the start bell at 8.30am.

Lateness causes many problems and issues for the child who is late; it also disrupts other children in the class, along with the teacher. Continual or regular lateness can cause ongoing problems for the child who is late – ranging from loss of self-confidence, becoming self-conscious, lack of vital start of day instructions and the feeling of being inadequately prepared for the academic day to mention a few. Children arriving late also cause lots of disruption and distraction for others in the class and teachers who have settled into their day. On top of all this being punctual is a life skill that we should be trying to model for our children – supporting lateness for whatever reason can be sending the wrong message.

Similar issues (if not more serious) for children can result from lengthy or regular absence from school. The main issue is loss of self-confidence and academic drop off. Teachers try hard to cater for these times, but it gets increasingly more difficult the more regular the absence becomes.

We want to give the children the best possible chance to progress and achieve at school, being at school regularly and on time gives children and teachers the best possible chance.

These issues only affect a small number of children and families, but it is important that we keep this sort of thing in focus and promote the awareness of the issues.

LOST PROPERTY (CLOTHING)

We have a large amount of lost property collecting around the school.

Please check out the display of expensive clothing that has come from homes of children at our school – and not made it back home!!

Sweatshirts, Jerseys, Coats, Pants, Shorts, Shoes, Socks, Hats etc. etc. - most of this is not named, and so is hard to return to the owner once found.

Please name all clothing coming to school, quiz your child about the clothing they have brought home and what might be missing – then look in the Post Property box.

The current collection of clothing if left unclaimed will be donated to a worthy cause before the end of Term 3.



WINTER TERM FLU SEASON!!

A short note to back up what has been in the media about this year's strain of flu virus that is hitting various groups of people.

A particularly nasty flu has been making its presence felt in parts of New Zealand – symptoms are all the usual flu ones – headaches, various aches and pains, loss of energy, rashes etc. etc. .

Schools are a very good place for such viruses to breed and be passed on with so many people in close proximity.

Some simple healthy practises to avoid sickness this winter:-

- ❖ Wash hands thoroughly after toilet use and before eating
- ❖ Cover mouth with elbow when sneezing
- ❖ Use tissues to wipe noses (all classes have a supply of tissues)
- ❖ Do not share drink bottles or food
- ❖ Get plenty of sleep
- ❖ Eat healthy and exercise

If your child is showing, any signs or symptoms of flu make sure you seek medical advice as soon as possible.

Also, let the school know what your child has been diagnosed with, so that we can be aware of what virus is present in the school and take any necessary preventative action that we can.