



Te Anau School - Te Kura o Te Anau

Term 4 Week 7

Thursday 29 November 2018

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Kake ake i te tiketetanga o te Taumata

Climbing Our Way To The Top!



Principal's Pen

Dear Parents/Caregivers/Whanau,

I write this newsletter while sitting at Takutai o Titi Marae in Colac Bay. To be precise, I'm waiting for our Year 5 children to go to sleep. The children have just finished a day being immersed in Maori culture. The day started off with a powhiri (an official welcome to a marae). This was then followed by an afternoon of weaving, music, nguru making (a small pot like instrument) and learning about the local area. It has been a very culturally enriching day for the tamariki (children) of Te Anau School.

Having spent a day like this it is good time to reflect on how far we have come over the past few years with our learning of Tikanga Maori, Te Reo Maori and Maori culture in general. This has been a deliberate move from the Board of Trustees. It started off with a whanau hui at the beginning of 2017. From this hui we came up with a few goals including an increased level of teaching of Tikanga Maori, more formal teaching of Kapa Haka and a strong push to have children pronouncing Maori vocabulary correctly.

One of our first challenges was having the children and staff pronouncing 'Te Anau' correctly. We also looked at our pronunciation of Te Reo Maori in general. These were some simple first steps.

After that we moved to employing a part time Tikanga Maori teacher. Matua Joe started with us at the beginning of Term 2 this year. Since then we have seen a big increase in the positivity around learning about Maori culture. Joe has been working both in individual classes and with a Junior and a Senior Kapa Haka group for the children who wish to take their learning further. This Kapa Haka group teaching has been done during class time this year rather than in lunch times as in past year to give more value to the group. Last Friday we were treated to presentations from both of these Kapa Haka groups at our whole school assembly.

Coming on this trip to the Marae today shows that this learning has shone through. The children had a bank of waiata (songs) that they knew and were ready to sing. As part of the powhiri I gave a speech in Te Reo Maori which was followed by the children singing a waiata called Te Pou. It was a proud moment hearing the children sing in support of my words with such confidence. It highlighted the distance we have come.

I look forward to more growth in this area at Te Anau School. But for now..... I need to go and try to get the last few children off to sleep!

Nga mihi nui,
Grant Excell
Principal

Welcome

Talia and Mason Turner have moved to Te Anau! Talia joins Mrs Taylor and Mrs Pearson in Room 4 while Mason joins Mrs Gamble in Room 9. We welcome you both to our school!

School News

School Accounts

These were sent out last week. Please pay your school stationery asap. School donations are voluntary but we do welcome any money we receive. Thank you.

Sausages

These are available tomorrow! Please bring a \$2 coin to the school and order in the office before 9am. To avoid delays, please send the exact money with your child.



School Pool

Pool keys are available from the school office at a cost of \$60 cash per family. Ten dollars will be returned to you if the key is returned before 31 March 2019. Please remember to name all items of clothing.

Pioneers of Fiordland DVD

We have received another batch of 10 DVD's for sale at \$15 cash each. First in with the money gets the DVD!! We also have a few coloured programmes available.

School Library

Our library is closing this week. Please have a good look around your house for any books as these will be charged \$10 each if not returned. Thank you.

Children Medication/Inhalers

A reminder to please pick up your children's medication, inhalers etc from the office before the end of the term. Thank you.

Poppet Clothing

A reminder that Denise will be outside the school office in her bright red van from 1pm to 3pm on Thursday 13 December for all your school uniform needs. Mobile eftpos will be available.

PTA News

Stuck On You Labels

Get ready for next year! This is a PTA ongoing fundraiser - shop online at www.stuckonyou.nz for all your child's personalised labels. Flyers available for pickup in the school office.

*Please advise the office before 9am if your child will be away, late or sick.
You can do this on the Skoolbag App, email or leave a message on the phone. Thank you!*



Year 6 Dunedin School Camp Fun



Community News

Craft Activity Holiday Program

Craft activity returns with Tea! Card making for beginners and advanced. Beginning December 17. Every Monday 1:00pm to 4:00pm, and Tuesdays 9:00am to 12:00 noon. All materials included to make 3 cards. Use of embossers, die cuts, stamps and more etc. Cost \$15 per child. Space limited to six per class. Please register interest by texting Tea on 021-084-089-00. Call for more info!

School Calendar

4 December	Year 6 Day at Fiordland College
4 December	Board of Trustees Meeting 7.30pm
5 December	Thank you Morning Tea
5 December	Transition to School Meeting
6 December	Year 5 and 6 Dine and Dance
7 December	Year 6 Milford Trip
12 December	Wonky Donkey Show
13 December	Poppet Clothing Van 1pm-3pm
13 December	Transition Afternoon
14 December	Year 6 Graduation 11am
14 December	End of School for 2018
4 February 2019	Start of School for 2019

