

## Newsletter 12

8th August 2023

This week we are celebrating all things maths as it's wiki pāngarau (Maths Week) at our school. Jo Lelieveld and her team have been setting up fun challenges and engaging learning opportunities that will hopefully turn children on to maths' and see it as a subject that has relevance and is fun.

In the last newsletter, I wrote about the Knighton Way Pou of Confidence/Maiatanga where our tamariki are encouraged to give things a go, put themselves out of their comfort zone, and get a thrill out of challenging themselves. This links in well with our final Pou of being an Inquirer/Kairapu. When I look back at my own learning at school (many, many years ago) a lot of it was what I call 'passive learning' where I wasn't really expected to think too much or deeply. I was given knowledge, which is a good thing, by the teacher but I wasn't really expected to do anything with it or even question the knowledge. In the 21st Century, it is important that children learn to inquire which includes questioning, thinking critically, making informed decisions, and to explore, understand and apply information. These are the critical skills our children need now and will certainly need in the future.

On that note, our school is wanting to revisit what our community, including staff, whānau, and students, see as 'success' and identify the attributes and characteristics that we want our children to aspire to develop. A questionnaire will be going out soon which will give us this information.



### Note your calendar

**Cross Country & Fun Run/Walk:** 23 August  
(Back up day in case of bad weather 30 Aug)

**Senior School Production: 4th - 7th September** Information regarding ticket sales will come in the coming weeks.

### Kapai's Kiwi Adventure Get in quick, tickets selling fast...

The Middle School staff and students are working hard preparing for their production Kapai's Kiwi Adventure, taking place 15 - 17 August.

Tickets are currently available through our online [My Kindo Shop](#) and from the office. Due to high demand tickets will be limited to **3 per family**. If there are surplus tickets they will be sold from next Monday 14th August.

### Brooke Neal - Olympic Ambassador

Last wiki, we were lucky enough to be visited by Brooke Neal who used to play hockey for the New Zealand Blacksticks. During the course of her international career, she played 176 games for Aotearoa NZ. Her message was both inspirational and important because it didn't matter whether we were budding athletes, emerging artists, future authors or still working on our dreams - Brooke gave us the incentive and skills to dream big! She showed us how to use our breath to feel calm and relaxed when things get tough. She also taught us how to turn ourselves into superheroes by standing tall and saying to ourselves - *I am brave, I am confident, I can do anything.*



Brooke with John, Caiden, Tkeelar (holding Brooke's Commonwealth Games Gold medal), Harper, Ezra T, Craetos, Finn and Trey

## Puppet Show

Recently, thanks to one of our wonderful school families, the Middle School was very lucky to see a fantastic puppet show called "A Flat For Rent" – a lovely Israeli folktale featuring an apartment building filled with friendly animals that are trying to find the perfect new neighbour. It was a heart-warming story about accepting others.

The show was performed by an amazing community group called 'Hands-On Heritage' that uses puppetry as a vehicle for the preservation and retelling of traditional legends and folktales. A professional puppeteer, Ifat Vayner, leads the project which is fully funded by Creative Waikato. All the puppets and props were handmade by the puppeteers themselves.

The show will be performed at the University in November and we will share details closer to the time.



## Hearing & Vision Testing - 10th August

Vision & Hearing Technicians will be visiting our school on Thursday 10 August. The objective of the test is to identify previously undetected vision and hearing defects.

If any parents/caregivers **do not** want their child to be checked, or their child is currently under specialist care for a vision or hearing defect, they should let the school know.

The technicians will check children who have not completed vision and hearing checks as part of their Before School Check, and children absent from previous visits or who require retests or follow up.

All of these checks are non-invasive, safe and should cause no discomfort.

Please check  
**LOST**  
**PROPERTY**

All unclaimed items  
will be donated

## Lost Property

Please come and look through the lost property outside Mrs Cowie's office regularly.

Named items can be returned to children but unfortunately most of the clothing that is lost by children is unnamed.

All unnamed belongings that are not claimed are donated to a second hand shop.

Parents and Caregivers who need to take children out of school for appointments need to sign them out at the office **before** going to collect the child from their classroom. The leave pass needs to be handed to the class teacher so they know they are leaving the premises. This is for safety reasons.

Office staff try to keep calls to classrooms to a minimum during class time as teachers are focussed on teaching and phone calls can be disruptive. Unless it is an emergency please make after school arrangements with children before school.

## Reminders

- **Change of clothes:** Please make sure your child has a change of clothes in their school bag, they may get wet and muddy playing on the field in the break times, as well as occasional toileting accidents.
- **Updating contact details:** If you have changed your address, email address or contact phone numbers please let the office know. It is very important we are able to contact families, especially if your child is unwell. We also need an emergency contact person for every student.
- **Returning sports/event uniforms:** Please return Knighton uniforms from Term 1 & 2 if your child is no longer taking part in an activity this term.

Ngā mihi nui

Andrew Campbell  
Principal