

Newsletter 11

30th July 2024

Welcome back to Term 3. It's hard to believe we are entering the second half of the academic year. It's been great reconnecting with our ākonga (students) and helping them settle back into 'school routines' after their well deserved break. I'd like to welcome all the new families to our school and community. It is very important to us that everyone at our school, whether they have had a long association with us or if they're brand new, has a sense of turangawaewae or belonging.

You would have noticed the building work going on with Akomanga 17 and 18. Both classrooms are being refurbished and getting a new deck and cover as part of our Ministry of Education funded 5 Year Property Plan. The staff and children from A17 and 18 are based in Akomanga 26 until the completion of the work which is expected to be toward the end of the term.

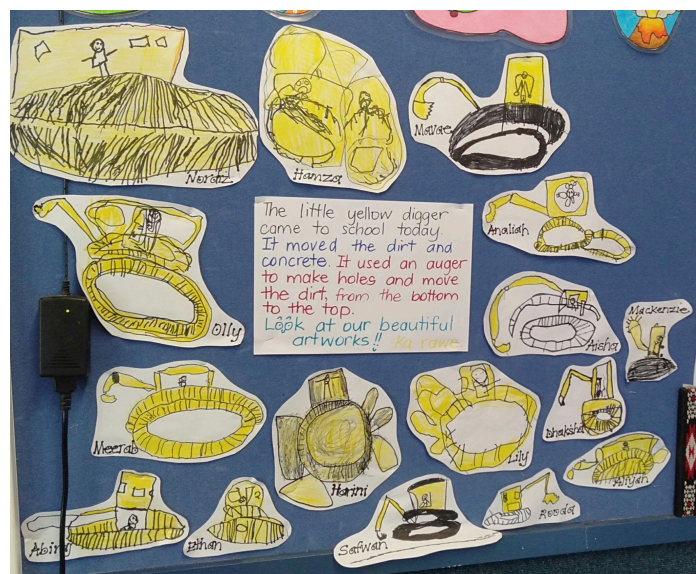
It's been great to see more and more families using the car park at the church on the corner of Clyde Street and Knighton Road at drop off and pick up times. There is plenty of space, it's easy to get in and out of, and it's only a couple of minutes walk to school. There is also plenty of parking along the Henry Street area at the back of the school which again is easy to get in and out of and is only a few minutes walk.

School Attendance

Last week we sent home a leaflet to every whānau (family) called 'School Attendance - A guide for parents and whānau', written by Te Tari Arotake Mātauranga, Education Review Office (ERO) www.ero.govt.nz. It contains some important information about the need for our tamariki (children) to attend school *regularly* and the consequences of irregular attendance.

A copy of the leaflet is at the end of this newsletter.

Only 48% of Knighton students attend school regularly!



Akomanga 14's artwork about the little yellow digger

Fruit Donations



If anyone has any excess fruit on their trees, the Hauora Hub would greatly appreciate it for tamariki that don't have kai.

If you are unable to drop it off we have some kind parents who have offered to pick it up.

We have leaflets at the school office with information about the before & after school programme - KASP - which is held in our school hall.

Wheels Day

The Student Council is having a Wheels Day on **Thursday 1st August** in the **2nd break**. This is just for fun so no need to bring any donation.

Tamariki must remember their helmet. They can bring scooters, skateboards, roller skates and roller blades but **NO** bikes because the court is too small for bikes.



The Student Council

**Please check
LOST
PROPERTY**

*All unclaimed items
will be donated*

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.

PLEASE name ALL your children's clothing.

Sport

Inline Hockey games start this Wednesday, 31st July. Game times will be sent out each week on the School App.

**Mini Ball games start Friday, 2nd August. The draw is available on the Waikato Basketball website:
<https://waikatobasketball.co.nz>**

Note your calendar

- 1 August - Berkley Middle School Open Evening
- 2 August - 8:45am Learning Community Hub
- 5 August - 6:00pm - Board of Trustees Hui
- 8 August - 5:30pm Whānau Hui
- 26 August New entrants cohort entry
- 28 August School Cross Country

Overdue Library Books

We have been concerned about the large number of missing library books so at the end of last term we asked for all books to be returned and we did a stocktake - as of today we STILL have more than 200 unreturned or missing books.

Please check your book shelves and children's school bags and bedrooms for Knighton books that need to be returned. Thank you for your support.

Pedestrian Crossings and Parking

Hamilton City Council will be doing an audit on our crossings sometime over the next few weeks. You may see HCC staff before or after school.

This is a good time to remember not to park in driveways or on the grass verge; and only use the pedestrian crossings when crossing the road.

Community Notices

Peachgrove Intermediate Enrolment

Orientation days for students interested in:
Bilingual Class: 29 October 9:00 - 11:00 am
Gate Class: 29 October 12:30 - 3:00 pm
Sports Class: 30 October 9:00 - 11:00 am

Enrolments are done online and submitted directly to the school.

***Applications close 30 October 2024**

Contact Peachgrove directly for more information:
office@peachgrove.school.nz or 07 855 7596

Berkley Intermediate School

Information Evening: **this Thursday** 1 August - 6:00pm

***ALL enrolment forms must be received at Berkley school office by 4pm Friday 30 August 2024.**

Ballot for out-of-zone enrolments Wednesday 11 Sept.

Contact Berkley directly for more information:
office@berkley.school.nz 07 856 6537

Hamilton Book Month

Hamilton Book Month is on throughout August with thirteen no and low-cost events. Come and hear fiction and memoir panels, author talks, a poetry celebration with NZ's Poet Laureate Chris Tse including the launch of

Tracey Slaughter's latest poetry collection, four workshops covering writing fiction, memoir, poetry and how to make money from your writing, a literary pub quiz, book battle, The Bookshop Detectives Live! event, a blokes' book club plus an authors' showcase. Authors include Emily Perkins, Anna Smail, Emma Wehipeihana (Espiner), Ngāhuia te Awekōtuku, Craig Hoyle, Caroline Barron, Chris Tse, Tracey Slaughter, Ben Brown, Elizabeth Kirkby-McLeod, Garth and Louise Ward.

Almost all events are free, some require registration. see details at

www.hamiltonbookmonth.com



**HAMILTON BOOK
MONTH August 2024**

**Ngā mihi nui
Andrew Campbell
Principal**

School Attendance

A guide for parents and whānau

Written by Te Tari Arotake Mātauranga, Education Review Office. www.ero.govt.nz

Summary

It is important for your child to attend school regularly. The Education Review Office (ERO) looked at what helps children go to school, and what makes it harder.

This guide will help you to see why attendance matters, and how you can help your child to get the most out of school.

What is attendance?

Attendance is when children are at school and in the class they are supposed to be in.

It all adds up: **Children who miss a week each term will have missed out on a year of schooling by the time they are 16.**

Why is attendance important?

ERO looked at research from Aotearoa New Zealand and overseas, to find out about the difference that attendance makes for children. **Even missing just two days a term is linked to not doing well.**

We found lots of evidence that regular attendance has a big impact: *the more often children attend school, the better they do at school, the happier they are, and the better they are set up for life.*

Why do children miss school?

We know that children's attitudes, and how children experience school, impacts on attendance. We have identified the **most important** things:

For **parents** the most important attitude is:

- how comfortable they are with their child missing school

For **your child** the most important attitudes are:

- if they think going to school every day is important
- if they see school as helpful for their future

What can you do to support attendance?

We found that what you do can have a big impact on your child's attendance. Parents who are comfortable with their child missing a week or more of school per term are more than twice as likely to have a child who doesn't regularly attend school. It is never too early to start. When children miss some school early on, it can lead to missing more later on too. When your child is at primary school, your input is even more important. You can help set up good habits that will last for the whole time they are at school.

Below are some things that you can do which help.

- It is your responsibility to get your child to school.
- Talk to your child about how school is important for their future, and how it is important to go every day. Be positive about school!
- Make sure your child knows that you care if they are going to school.
- Only take your child out of school when there is a really good reason, like if they are sick.
- Have a consistent morning routine, not too rushed.
- Help your child to be prepared for school, like making sure they have done their homework the night before.

Questions you can ask your child

It is good for your child when school is a great place for them to be, and they are engaged with what they are learning. Check in with them often and listen to what they say.

- Ask them about what they have been learning.
- Ask them to tell you about a conversation they had with a classmate or friend.
- Ask them what was challenging or fun about their day.
- Ask them what they are most looking forward to tomorrow.

If your child doesn't want to go to school, there can be a lot of different reasons for this. It is important to be supportive, even if it is a bit difficult. You can help by understanding why they don't want to go.

- Is there something happening at school they want to avoid?
- Are they getting on with the other children?
- Are they having trouble with bullying?
- Are they feeling a lot of pressure in their learning?
- Are they interested in what they are learning?

Once you know what the problem is, you can work with your child's school to make it better. The chances are that the school has dealt with these issues before. It also helps your school to know early when there is a problem, so you can really help a lot by knowing what is going on for your child.

Things you can talk to your child's school about

- Get to know your child's teacher or teachers – this makes it easier to talk when anything comes up.
- Learn how to let the school know when your child won't be there and do this as soon as you know.
- Make sure you know how much school your child has missed – the school will know this and should share it with you, but you can always ask.
- The school wants your child to be happy and succeed too – help them to understand your child and your whānau so they can work with you to make school a great place for your child.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

In line with the Government's focus on attendance, we will inform the NZ Police Bluelight Truancy Services of your child's absence if it is greater than 30% of the year to date or if your child has been away for three days in a row and we haven't been told why.

It is important to understand that the Ministry of Education may become involved when children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just they miss and
1 day per fortnight =	4 weeks per year =	1 year over their school life
1 day per week =	8 weeks per year =	2.5 years over their school life

Minutes missed = days lost

A few minutes here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child <u>starts school late</u> or <u>leaves early</u> just they miss
10 minutes =	3 days learning per year

20 minutes =

11 days learning per year

For more information:

- Visit the Ministry of Education website www.education.govt.nz or contact your local Ministry of Education office.