



Henderson Intermediate School

NEWSLETTER 1

Term 1 | Week 1 | Tuesday 1st February 2022

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Kia Ora Talofa Guten Tag Bonjour Malo e lelei Kia Orana Fakalofa lahi atu Goeie Dag Sawadee Croeso Bula Fáiite

Kia ora koutou

Warmest greetings to you all and welcome to the 2022 School year. We are looking forward very much to working with you and your special young person over the year. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you have any issues or concerns. Let's hope that 2022 is a different year for us all. We need to all work together to ensure that we are able to avoid another lockdown this year. We are very much in a "WAIT AND SEE" window right now! Last week I emailed out to you all, a copy of our Updated Covid Plan. This gives you a clear idea of what we are doing here to keep your children safe. I have already had some emails and calls from some of you who are anxious because of health issues in your families, and you are feeling uneasy about your child returning to school. At this stage, teachers are not providing online learning, but in some cases, we are happy to help you by providing work for your child to do at home until they can come to school. This is such a tricky time for everyone and you as parents, are the only ones who really know what is best for your son or daughter. Their safety and well-being is of course all that matters! Please email or call me, if you need to, regarding a situation you may have that needs us to provide work for your child.

Our School is passionate about engagement with families. We know how critically important it is for you to be closely engaging with us on a regular basis. When parents work together with schools their children have success in their learning. We believe that every student has a right to succeed. We want to do everything we can to ensure that your child reaches "better than their potential." We are in a privileged position! Working with your child each day is a privilege and a pleasure. The middle years are a most exciting time. This is a time of huge change emotionally, socially, physically and academically.

To the families of our Year 7 students - we hope that you and your child have a wonderful time being part of our school whānau. This is the time of opportunity, a time for your child to try out many different things and to find out what their real interests and strengths are. To our Year 8 students may this year be a time of growing and developing the new skills that you gained last year. We are really looking forward to working again with your families! The growth over these two years is the second most significant time of growth for any human being. Teaching children at this stage is very specialised. Our teachers will meet the needs of your child and will help them to achieve. They are determined to see every child in their class, have success.

We are only a phone call away if ever you need to talk to us about anything at all. All our homeroom teachers will be contacting you through Classroom Dojo. This means that you will have very regular contact from your child's teacher. One of the positive things from the Lockdowns, was that teachers found they had much better communication with parents and whānau. I am sure that this great engagement with whānau, will continue this year!

CONTACTING YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

From time to time you will want to contact your child's homeroom teacher. Our teaching team put in long hours and one of the things that we want to ensure this year is that teachers are not being contacted at home at night or during the weekend. Like all of us they have families of their own. **Times when you can meet face to face with your child's teacher are: Any week day from 8.15am to 4.00pm by appointment. If you need to contact your child's teacher you can expect a response Monday – Friday from 8.15am to 5pm.** I am always able to be contacted on my cell phone any day at all.

STAFFING 2022

We warmly welcome new teachers: Janet Koschir, Sarah Lee, Kathryn Aiavao, Suliasi Ma'asi, Suhayla Ekhlasi and Chris Hunter who is our new full time caretaker. We are thrilled to welcome these wonderful new people. Sara Lee was previously on our staff and as she has returned to Auckland she has come back to us, which is wonderful. Janet and Kathryn are both from Pomaria School. They are well known to many in our school already which is a real bonus. Suliasi has been working part time in the school previously while completing his Teaching degree. Suhayla was a teacher trainee here in 2021 so it is welcome back to her too! Chris has been doing the mowing contract for us and we are very pleased to now have him as our full time caretaker. In March we will have 3 new teacher Aides. These staff are paid by the Ministry of Social Development and the School only pays a small amount towards this. Really, this is a gift for us! We would love to be able to have a Teacher Aide supporting students in every class, but quite simply the School cannot afford to do this.

HOMEWORK

All classes are providing an after-school Homework Support programme. Each Team will determine when this is. Teachers will be providing students with some work to do at home.

FREE LUNCHES IN SCHOOLS

Our school is one of the lucky ones that provides free lunches in schools. All your child will need is something for morning tea and a water bottle to school.

SPECIALIST LEARNING AREAS

For those of you that are new this year, your child will have specialist subjects that they attend while at Intermediate. These are covered in two 5 week blocks. They are: Food, Art, Music, Science, PE and Design Technology. You can expect to hear from the teacher working with your child in these Specialist Areas from time to time. These programmes will get underway as soon as we move out of this Red Level.

UNIFORM

With the back log of uniform orders, we realise and understand that not all students have their full uniform. Please don't worry at this stage. With the high number of students that we have, stocks have been depleted.

BUILDING WORKS UNDERWAY

You will have noticed that we have 2 new classes on the field. These are to help with housing programmes while our Tech Block is being rebuilt. This year we get underway with an exciting new project with 14 brand new classes in a 2 storeyed block being built where the old Tech Block was.

MEET THE TEACHER

Your first opportunity to meet our staff and your child's teacher is going to be through ZOOM.

WAITANGI DAY HOLIDAY

Please note that the school is closed for Waitangi Day Monday 7th February.

CONTACTING ME

I can be contacted on my cell phone anytime on 021 252 1383. An anxious young person for the whole weekend is not what we want so please contact me.

Normally, I would be saying if you prefer face to face as a way of dealing with things, then make a time to come see me! But with Covid, that will not be able to happen. So please phone or email me.

Email me, at principal@hendersonint.school.nz. Thank you for choosing to make Henderson Intermediate YOUR SCHOOL for your special young person!

Here's to a great 2022 together.

Warmest Wishes

Mrs Wendy Esera

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF STAFF AND BOARD