

## Te Kura o Taitoko ki Te Tokerau

Ko Rāpare, tuatahi o Mahuru: Thursday 1 September 2022

<https://www.facebook.com/levin.northschool> <http://www.levinnorth.school.nz>.

Talofa, Kia ora, Welkom, Huānyíng, Yōkoso, Bienvenida, Sata srī akāla, fáilte, croeso, أهلا بك, 欢迎, ようこ

A HUGE welcome to our new people....

Kiara, Reko, Romeo, Rocky, Ranger, Lincoln, DeeJay, Eloise and Sophie.

Firstly an apology... to those of you who can't wait for our newsletter (LOL NOT).... I forgot to write one last week - it completely escaped me..... so here it is this week! (Moirā)

### Getting kids to school....

Did you know that:

- 3 out of 5 kids do not attend school regularly ie the equivalent of 2 days plus absence per fortnight?
- Sadly in a recent national survey of over 1200 people, the main reason for children not being at school was that parents and caregivers were dis-interested, unsupportive and disengaged, closely followed by 'poverty and the cost-of-living' reasons.

Attendance at school has a HUGE impact on the life outcomes of many young people and in an effort to stop the 'attendance slide' the Government recently announced \$88 million would be spent on student attendance services and local initiatives.

In June, the attendance and engagement strategy was released and a target for schools to achieve **70% regular attendance in 2024 and 75% regular attendance in 2026** has been set.

In Horowhenua (our Kāhui Ako) we have been given funds to support student attendance and are working to find out what is going on for our area. We are also doing this constantly as a **school**. Our focus is not to blame whānau, but to try to find out how we can make a difference (if we can), as we notice that kids do not make progress, make friends or manage as well if they are not at school regularly.

For many whānau, there is a perception of what school is like, based on their experience, but schools have CHANGED (or they should have!). Our kids are central to the learning that happens in terms of their academic needs and their particular uniqueness. This is no easy task but hopefully some of the photos in this newsletter and the celebration ones give you an idea of 'how we roll'.

School (should read EDUCATION) is not all about sitting at desks doing WORK.

### A varied curriculum

Some of the events in the life of our school over the past week....STRIKE (music performance), badminton, cricket....

All of which are opportunities for kids to learn...



**Manaakitanga** We value ourselves, others and the environment,

**Kotahitanga**, We own what we do, we have a sense of being together, we belong, **Manawanuitanga**:Determination to do our best and never give up



## Rugby Rugby Rugby



What a game last week against Fairfield. Despite 90% of the team NEVER playing before, Mr P and the team outdid themselves.... They played like a TEAM and absolutely blitzed Fairfield. They were also supportive of each other and considerate of an opposition who were reeling..... And Wednesday this week we beat Levin East to become area champions; 10 tries to 6. THAT is So COOL.... Way to go North!

STRIKE performance was last Friday... this was the FIRST time we had been together as a school in at least 18 months and it was quite a tug on 'heartstrings' to see everyone in the same place at once. The performance was LOUD but amazing and the kids were outstanding!

## Pasifika and Kapa Haka return to North

These two ropu have started up again at our kura.

A BIG welcome to Whaea Sherry and Whaea Sillina from Mua ū poko who are working with our tamariki to prepare them for Te Ahurei. We have at least 70 people interested and last year's ropu has been amazing at helping the newbies to learn the waiata. The group is meeting on Tuesday and Thursday mornings between 9 and 10 to practice - if you would like to come along and learn with us - PLEASE do!

Our Pacifica group has also started. Megan McKenzie and Sarah-Jane Samuelu are working with Livi Samuelu (who is an Across School teacher for our K ā hui Ako and also a teacher at Taitoko) and at least 50 children. They are preparing for Junior Jandal Jam which will be held at Horowhenua College on October 20th.

Livi started teaching the kids a sa sa last week and it was AMAZING! Megan and Sarah went to Porirua to purchase the fabric for the lavalavas so it



is all go.....

If you can help with either of these, see the teachers concerned!

## Disco...

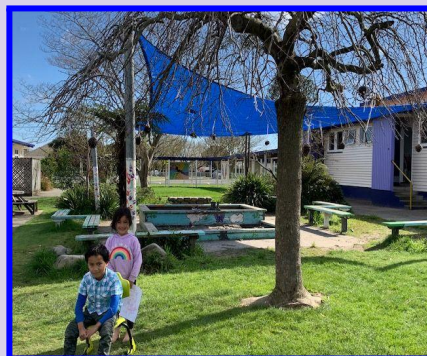
Thank you to all of the people (families, teachers and kids) who helped to make sure the disco was a HUGE success last Friday. We raised nearly \$1000 which will go towards camp costs later this term. The kids and families who attended had a great night. (See the celebration for photos)



## Camp Donations

Thanks also to the VERY generous families (and extended families and others) who have donated money so that other kids can go to camp... to date we have received nearly \$1,500 - any donations will be gratefully received ...every little bit helps :-)

What do you do with rancid peanut butter and a load of pine cones? Leighton and Roxas sitting under the **bird feeder tree** - yes you make bird feeders hanging from the tree... look carefully and you can see the pinecones... The birds LOVE them!



## ROAD SAFETY... Again!!!!

**NO 1. PLEASE DO NOT CALL YOUR CHILDREN ACROSS THE ROAD. LAST YEAR WE HAD A CHILD HIT BY A CAR AFTER A PARENT CALLED THEIR CHILD OVER - yesterday a near miss!**

**NO 2. DO NOT PARK ON THE YELLOW LINES - OUR ROAD PATROLLERS CANNOT DO THEIR JOB WHEN YOU PARK THERE!!!**

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