

NEWSLETTER NO 7 THURSDAY 20th MAY

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Over the next few days students will be meeting with their teachers to discuss their progress in reading, writing and maths. On the teacher's laptop, the teacher will show the student exactly where he/she is achieving against the expected asTTle level and the expected national standard for the year level. Together the teacher and student will identify the student's next learning steps for the three subjects. We believe this conversation is really important as students need to know exactly where they are with their learning and what they have to do to improve. You will receive a copy of this data in your students mid year report.

asTTle

I'm sure that most of you will know what asTTle tests are as students in our contributing schools have been sitting them for years. However, to remind you, asTTle stands for assessment tools for teaching and learning and when the tests are marked students will receive marks such as 2b,2p,2a, 3b,3p,3a, 4b,4p,4a, 5b,5p,5a. The numeral is the curriculum level and the expectation is for our students to be at Level 3/4. Each level is divided into sub levels and they stand for basic, proficient and advanced. The students sit three asTTle tests a year in reading, writing and maths and whilst they may not move up a whole level we would expect them to move a sub level or two. Still confused? Ask your child to explain it to you.

School Cross Country



Fortunately we were able to hold our school cross country in fine weather last Wednesday. Nearly all our students took part and we were really impressed with their attitude and commitment to complete the course. Listed below are our top 10 finishers. The top 15 place finishers will have the opportunity to train and be selected for the inter school cross country at Trentham Memorial Park on Wednesday 2nd June. Congratulations to the following students listed in finishing order:

Year 7 Girls

Marie George	Rm 21
Danche Anae	Rm 11
Vanessa Iradukunda	Rm 19
Ariel Hemara	Rm 19
Lily McKeefry	Rm 11
Jazmine Gestro	Rm 13
Kahui Ormsby	Rm 6
Lakyn Irving	Rm 16
April Tualapiu	Rm 20
Shanaia Rapira	Rm 19

Year 7 Boys

Tabai McGregor	Rm 15
Riki Hunt	Rm 19
Huntah McGregor	Rm 5
Valence Callaghan	Rm 21
Kyle Mekii	Rm 12
Tamaroa Ulutuki	Rm 19
Joey Basire	Rm 13
Lani Silbery	Rm 16
John Macmillan	Rm 11
Jackhan Gemmell	Rm 12

Year 8 Girls

Shannon Eijgenraam	Rm 6
Katie MacDonald	Rm 20
Kelly Byford	Rm 20
Renee Jensen	Rm 14
Mikaela Headifen	Rm 21
Shanelle Cherry	Rm 19
Naea Albert	Rm 14
Tema Havea	Rm 15
Bianca Scurrah	Rm 6
Moeshan Clarke	Rm 8

Year 8 Boys

Rangi Apiata	Rm 14
Jack Morrissey	Rm 16
Bonventure Remijo Thomas	Rm 9
Bradley Ebert	Rm 19
Ephraim Bellami	Rm 14
Joshua Bond	Rm 6
Besufekad Shafe	Rm 21
Abdi Kalif	Rm 16
Jacob Hogwood	Rm 16
Franz van Beusekom	Rm 11

Intermediate Education

Over the last three weeks the newsletter has developed each of the key themes of an Intermediate education: academic achievement, social development and sporting confidence. This week the final theme is citizenship. Research claims that it is about the age of 10 - 13 years that humans begin to develop an understanding of their world as being larger than their own home and neighbourhood. This then is the appropriate age to begin to develop a sense of citizenship.

The first move is to Intermediate school, which for most students is situated outside their immediate community. For their first time they mix with a much wider cross section of the community. Citizenship at Intermediate school can be developed in a number of ways:

- Through a school council that is chaired and run by the students.
- Mixing with and learning from students of various ethnicities.
- Involvement in community issues, letter writing and debating topical issues.
- The teaching of the values of citizenship including tolerance, respect, citizenship, democracy, through our social studies and health programmes.
- Awareness of global issues and events such as The Olympics, Recycling, Environment etc.
- Class units of work that tackle some of the big personal and interpersonal questions such as death, pubertal change and race relationships.

- Leadership development through students taking assemblies, being on reception and fulfilling various class/school duties.
- Involvement in the wider community through camps, on - line communities, international students and Venture Class.
- Encouragement to represent their school at regional and national level in their chosen field of endeavour.

For many students this wider concept of citizenship as a member of a community that is New Zealand, is a challenging process and one where success is difficult to measure. However, it remains a crucial stage in each of our own personal growth and it is right that Intermediate schools spend a significant amount of time on this area of human development.

Cell phones, MP3 Players, I Pods



At assembly yesterday I reminded the students that when they enter the school grounds each morning they must turn cell phones, I Pods and MP 3 players off and put them in their pockets or school bags until such time as they can hand them to the teacher who will put them in the classroom 'lock up' for the day. Students who choose not to do this will have their equipment confiscated and a parent must then pick it up from the school office. Could you please support us in this matter?

Parking in Walters Street

When picking up students after school could you please refrain from parking on yellow lines and over driveways? It is advisable to arrange to meet your child further up or down the street to avoid congestion outside the school gate.

Thank you

Steve Black
Principal