



## Parent / Whanau Update

February 28th, 2023

Kia Ora Koutou, Kia Orana, and Warmest Greetings to you all,

We hope you all had a lovely summer break doing things you enjoy. The weather we have recently all experienced has certainly been unpredictable and often not felt like summer. Our thoughts go out to the many parts of the country who have suffered severe damage to property, cars, roads and their entire communities. To those who have lost loved ones in these awful events, our hearts go out to all involved.

As a school community and wider Tokoroa community we have been fortunate to not experience significant damage during these weather events - this is something we are very grateful for. Thank you for your support recently as we made the call to keep everyone safe at home during the Cyclone.

This year has begun with our school experiencing roll growth. We are thankful for the support and trust from our community which has enabled this. We have worked hard as a team over the last four years and your confidence in us to educate your children is evident. Our team of teachers is complimented by a fabulous team of Teacher Aides, great Grounds staff and a dedicated Food in Schools Team along with friendly, helpful and skilled Administration staff. As a team we aim to provide a welcoming, safe environment and a well rounded education for our young people.

Our larger than expected number of Year 9 students and extra students at all other year levels has meant we have had to hire further teachers, buy new furniture, chrome books and create some new

classes. We have been working on making these changes over the last few weeks and many of these will be put into place this week. We have had classes bigger than we prefer over the last weeks but these will begin to



be split and class sizes will reduce to numbers we feel are more appropriate for the personalised education we like to offer.

## General Information



### **Changing subjects:**

Our senior students have been asked to wait to change their subjects until the 27th of February. When these changes are loaded we will settle all students into their classes for the remainder of the semester. Changing from this point forward for the remainder of the semester is not ideal as all students need to be working on completing learning for the NCEA assessments in each of their courses.

### **Drop offs / Pickups / Car Parking:**

With increased student numbers, particularly in our Junior school (Year 9 and 10) there are many more students being picked up or dropped off each morning and afternoon. Afternoon pickups are very chaotic currently and much worse when it rains. We have actively been out at the gates in the mornings and afternoons to keep an eye on this situation. We ask for your patience as you wait for your children and then you wait to leave.

We have made contact with the council to see how we can resolve this issue to ensure the safety of everyone at these times.

We have limited car parking on our school grounds and will soon allocate all staff members their own car parks. You will see the car parks all have numbers on them. It will be important you please avoid parking in the staff car parking when you are on site.

### **Uniform:**

Our uniform can be purchased from our onsite Uniform shop. This is open every morning and we have a full range of items available. There are some items on order but we should be able to supply your child with the items they need. Denise Brooks runs our Uniform Shop and you can contact her on [dbrooks@fvhs.school.nz](mailto:dbrooks@fvhs.school.nz) if you have any questions about Uniform.

It is a requirement that all of our students wear the correct uniform to school each day. We have a mix and match uniform so they can choose the pieces they are the most comfortable wearing. We do not accept random hoodies, gumboots or random shoes. The footwear is to be plain black, we are not accepting sandals and socks. Please provide a note from home if you have issues with uniform. We have a supply of second hand uniforms available.

We encourage you to name all of your children's uniform items - if it is found around the school it is impossible to return it if we do not know who it belongs to.

We encourage you to bring in any items that may be too small for your child to either donate to us or swap for other clean second hand items.

Hats, Caps and non- uniform items will be taken from students and stored securely for the day. We thank you for your help ensuring your child comes to school in the correct uniform each day.

### **Bad Behaviour and consequences:**

All members of our school community have the right to feel safe and secure attending school. As a community there are rules we all need to abide by to ensure the smooth functioning of our wider community, the same applies to school. As we know from dealing with young people there are moments they can sometimes make poor choices.

Our teachers are trained to work well with young people and we enjoy this adventure each day. We don't enjoy it though when we have members of our school community with anti-social behaviours. These include fighting, confronting others, drug use, theft, damaging school property, verbal abuse or bullying.

We will not tolerate this inappropriate behaviour. This term already I have sadly had to suspend five students with one being excluded by the Board of Trustees. I also have had to stand down two students for 5 days each and two further students for 3 days. We have also sent home several students for a period of time depending on the circumstances.



Students can be stood down for five days in any one term and 10 days in a year before they are suspended. Suspension means they are requested to remain at home until a meeting with the Board of Trustees happens (within 5 school days usually). The decision about returning to school is then in the hands of the Board.

Each incident at school is taken seriously and is investigated thoroughly by our senior team. This requires us reviewing camera footage, interviewing a number of students and then coming to a reasoned decision.

We ask that if your child is involved in an incident at school you wait for us to make contact with you. We will always be in contact with you as soon as we have an understanding of what has happened. We are always happy to speak with you and student safety is always important.

The standards we expect of our students are high for their behaviour and their academics. We are sure you will support this.

We are not tolerating bad behaviour from students and the message we are sending is a strong one with the stand downs and suspensions already this term.

**Sports fees:**

This year we are going to simplify the charges for all sports teams. We are going to charge a flat fee of \$50 per sport per student. The fees for as many sports as possible will be charged to your students account as soon as we know the sports they are playing this year.

The fees need to be paid or begun to be paid (ideally half prior to the season beginning). We would encourage you to set up an Automatic Payment for these fees and pay them off. If students owe us fees from last year we will make contact with you prior to them being able to join teams this year.

We have decided to introduce one Hoodie for sports - there only needs to then be one purchased for all sports. Students will not be able to purchase the Sports Hoodies until they have paid the fees for the current sports they are playing. Hoodies cannot be worn to school, only for sport after school hours. They must be paid for in cash or EFTPOS prior to being issued from the Uniform shop.



**Outdoor Education:**

Given the extreme weather we have been having we have had to make some changes to our Outdoor Education programme. Many of the tracks we were going to use have been closed and we are unsure when they will reopen.

Safety is always the top priority when we are planning any Education outside the classroom. Students in these classes will be informed of the changes we have needed to make. We will endeavour to keep the trips happening on the planned days. The teacher in charge of Outdoor Education - Elise Tilsley will be in touch with you shortly with updated plans.

**Student notices:**

Everyday between 6am and 6.30am the daily notices are sent out to all students via email from Mr Mutua, Deputy Principal. These notices give an update on classroom changes if a teacher is absent, sports and cultural notices, career opportunities, leadership meetings and events taking place in the school. It is important students read these so they know what is happening. A printed copy of these are also placed on each of the notice boards each day.

The notices are also shared with every class during their 1a class by the teacher, as a Google slide presentation, in case students hadn't read their emails that morning so they know what is happening for the day.

Mr Mutua sent the daily notices out to all parents/caregivers last week so they could see how detailed the notices are. We ask parents to encourage their children to check their morning emails for the day's notices.

**Security and Cameras**

Over the holiday period we had a new alarm fitted to our entire school and a new camera system installed. The cameras are designed to keep us all safe and to watch our school property during the hours we are not there.

Our Electric gates are nearly ready to be used for both of our entrances.



## Coming up

### **Athletics information:**

Our annual Athletics Championships will be held on Wednesday 1st of March. The event will begin with our Lake march and chants competition at 9am. Our first Athletics events get underway on the track and field immediately following the conclusion of the march. We welcome whanau to come along to support our students as they run, jump and throw their way through the day.

Our event concludes with relays and at the very end of the day our very fast (hopefully) staff team will take on the Year 13 students.

Our track is located on the top field and can be accessed via the tennis courts (for your safety). We will have portaloos available for your convenience.

All students are to remain on the fields and in the school grounds all day, even if their families attend. We will have a canteen available for students on the field so they can purchase items - cash will be required. Lunch for the day will be served to students on the field.

### **International Languages week:**

International Languages Week is an annual event held at Forest View High School to promote languages and cultures from around the world.

Young New Zealanders today have exposure to a huge number of international languages – more than 160 languages are spoken in our country. Learning an international language encompasses much more than language proficiency. Knowing an international language means knowing about the culture that is the foundation of that language.

Our school is celebrating International Languages Week, next week, 6th-10th March. One of the highlights of the week is our Parade of Nations and Interlake games which will be held Wednesday 8th March from 11am-3pm. Students and Staff are encouraged to wear their cultural attire and represent the culture/country/community that they want to celebrate; they are welcome to wear mufti that day. There are food trucks selling food at lunch with food prices from \$5 - \$15, EFTPOS will also be available. Free sausage sizzles will be given out during lunch. All students will be served lunch as normal at 10.30am, before the Parade starts on the Basketball courts. Families are welcome to join us from 11am.

Our theme this year is: Languages are the key to the world.

### **NCEA me te Whanau:**

We have an awesome opportunity for Māori whānau to learn about NCEA and get some tips and tricks from NZ Qualifications Authority on how you can support your tamaiti to succeed in school. Whāea Kaia, our Kaiako responsible for Māori Inclusion visited many of your homes to personally invite you. This will be held Monday 13th March in our Auditorium. The workshop is one hour long and the school will provide refreshments following.

The workshop will cover the following topics:

- How NCEA works
- NCEA endorsements and how to get them
- University Entrance (UE) and how to achieve it
- Choosing NCEA subjects and creating career pathways
- The importance of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) subjects, and,
- How you can support your tamaiti to succeed

Please rsvp to [amutua@fvhs.school.nz](mailto:amutua@fvhs.school.nz) or 8865219 for catering purposes by Friday 10th March.

**PPTA Strike Day information:**

We have been notified by the PPTA of a Strike day on the 16th of March. This affects most of our teachers so we will need to close the school for this day.

**Ball Fundraiser:**

In order to help to fund our Cloud 9 Ball the Ball Committee will be holding a Trivia Evening. This will be held at the Tokoroa Club on Saturday 18 March starting at 7pm sharp. The cost is \$40 per team with doors opening at 6.30pm. Great prizes up for grabs!

**Photos:**

We are holding individual, lake and class photos on the 21st of March. You will be able to purchase these from Impact Photographics once taken. There will be further details shared with you about this. Sports and Cultural group photos will be taken later in the year.

**March 24 - Green Mufti Day**

This year each Lake is getting in behind a worthy cause with a themed mufti day. Our first for 2023, is happening on Friday 24 March to support Gumboot Friday - The theme is Dress in Green as Lake Ohakuri are leading the way for this worthy cause.

**Dentist on site:**

We are very fortunate to have a dentist on site at school, between the 20th and 30th of March. In due course you will receive a permission form if you would like your child to use this service. This service is free for all of our students and of course with it being on site it is easy to access. We encourage all students to take full advantage of free dental care while they are under 18.

**Dress as your superhero:**

Tuesday 28 March will see the second of our Mufti Days for 2023. The theme for this day will be Dress as Your Favourite Superhero - there will be prizes for best dressed in theme. There is NO cost to this mufti day.

**31st of March - Year 13 and Staff day only**

On this day only Year 13 students and staff will attend school. This is a day the staff and students can work together to set up the Ball. We treat this as a special day where we get to work alongside each other on one of the special events the students get to organise in their final year at school. We are looking forward to this day.

## **Ball:**

Our annual FVHS Cloud 9 Ball will be held on Saturday 1 April, the Ball Committee are working hard to make this occasion a beautiful and memorable one for our senior students (years 11-13)

Tickets will be available very soon priced as previous years at \$75 per person.

As a privilege our year 13 students may bring a guest from outside of our school, in order to do this an interview must be arranged with Mrs Hale and she will make the final decision as to whether the guest is welcome. Please email [scribb@fvhs.school.nz](mailto:scribb@fvhs.school.nz) to organise this.

## **Assessment Catch up day**

On Wednesday 5 April, Akoranga will be replaced with an assessment catch up and study day. Students come to normal classes 1a and 1b, and can leave at 11am if they have no catch ups for any subject.

Students will be notified by Arataki teachers if they need to catch up on either their JCL or NCEA assessment tasks.



Following this day students who are behind will be given not achieved grades- in Senior and Junior School.

## **Camps**

### **Year 9 Camp:**

Lake Okataina again played its part as the backdrop of our Year 9 Camp in 2023. Held in February, the weather was balmy compared to our usual May visits. This allowed students to continue swimming well into the twilight. Under the instruction of Te Waiariki Purea Trust, students learnt how to paddle and race two waka as well as kayaks. Whilst mastering the art of each waka, students also learnt local chants and stories of how Maori communicated in the region using the environment to help project their messages. When back at camp, students engaged in mountain biking while also learning about the undisturbed native flora and fauna. Thank you to all of the teachers who made this camp possible. Bring on Year 9 camp in 2024!



### **Year 13 Camp**

After visiting Wellington in 2022, this year's Year 13 camp was back at Pacific Park Christian Camp in Papamoa. Our Year 13 experience was designed to put the final touches on our students as they were about to step out into our school as leaders. Although we held this camp between two cyclones, students made the most of the altered program, using all of their city skills and knowledge that they learnt on Year 12 camp in 2022. The highlight of the camp was the first night meals prepared by the students in communal camp kitchens. The teachers had never seen so much pasta being boiled at once. Thank you to all of our Year 13s who attended. We hope that you have enjoyed all of your camp experiences during your time at Forest View High School.



### **Year 12 Camp - 3rd to the 6th of April.**

At Forest View High School we understand that our students will potentially leave school and need to move to the city for further study or employment. Alongside NCEA, one of our goals is to educate our students with the skills they need to be confident citizens of New Zealand's society. To be so, requires the ability to navigate city environments. This skill will enable students to thrive in bustling New Zealand metropolises like Auckland.

During our Auckland experience, students will learn; the art of being on time, how to use public transport, what it is like to stay in city accommodation, and how to find their way through large malls such as Sylvia Park. Alongside these skill building activities will be knowledge gaining opportunities as students visit the Sky Tower and Rangitoto Island. To top the trip off we will be having a large amount of fun engaging in activities such as ice skating, shopping and the White Water Rafting Wero, provided by Vector Wero.

## Past Events:

### Student Leadership Training Days

On Thursday 16 and Friday 17 February, our Head Students and Lake Leaders attended their training days. They learned about the principles of leadership, different styles of leadership, and how to find out what kind of leader they are. There were some challenging tasks over the two days, but our students benefited from this greatly. We are looking forward to seeing our Student Leadership Team step up with some of the upcoming events in our school.



### Waikato University Leadership Academy Launch

On Tuesday 21 February, our Head Students went to the Waikato University Leadership Academy Launch. There were many different high schools who have joined this programme, which is run by the Waikato University School of Management, and we are proud to be one of two from the South Waikato District. In joining this program our Head Students will be undertaking a first year university paper, which aims to help to develop them as leaders not only of our school, but of their futures.



## Introducing:

### Our Food in Schools team



We would like you to be able to put faces to our talented Food Team. Our team is led by Charissa Banfield.

From left to right: Aratangi, Nane, Carissa, Fran, Lisa, Charissa, Ellen, Trish, Kim, Jo, Kayanah, Cath, Rangì (at the front).

We have the following teams working spread across three kitchens each day:

Aratangi Tuaeu-Paraire (team leader), Rangì Glassie, Joliene Harrison, Glynis Muir  
This team makes the lunches for Tainui Full Primary and Tokoroa Central

Kim Hocking (team leader), Ellen Beale and Fran Martinez  
This team makes all of our Special Diets and runs our Canteen

Cath Watson (team leader), Lisa Callaghan, Trish Carter, Nane Makiakama, Kayanah Wirihana, Carissa Jensen

This team makes our school lunches and lunches for all remaining schools

We are really grateful for this programme which not only provides lunches to our students and those from other schools but also allows us to employ a team of local people.

## Our Senior Leadership Team

	<p><b>Jocelyn Hale</b> - Principal</p>
	<p><b>Kathy McGovern</b> - Deputy Principal</p> <p>Responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Trades</li> <li>● Careers</li> <li>● Teacher Aides</li> <li>● Children with Learning Differences</li> <li>● SENCO</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Aaron Mutua</b> - Deputy Principal</p> <p>Responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Principal's Nominee</li> <li>● Daily Logistics and Relief</li> <li>● Language Weeks</li> <li>● Arts and Languages Faculty Leader</li> <li>● Maori and Pacific student achievement</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Chris Teague</b> - Acting Deputy Principal</p> <p>Responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Timetable</li> <li>● Camps</li> <li>● Science and Technology Faculty Leader</li> <li>● Leader of the Faculty Leaders</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Jason Jowett</b> - Assistant Principal</p> <p>Responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Leader of the Kaitiaki</li> <li>● Arataki and JCL Planning</li> <li>● Across School Kahui Ako Leader</li> <li>● Student Achievement</li> <li>● Year 13 Kaitiaki</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Cherie Merrylees-Clarke</b> - Assistant Principal</p> <p>Responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Student Leadership</li> <li>● Akoranga</li> <li>● Kaiārahi</li> <li>● Lake Competitions</li> <li>● Transitions</li> </ul>