

DEVON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

WEEK 11 – 1 JULY 2015

Te Kura Takawaenga o Ngāmotu

Kia ora, Buenos días, Bula vinaka, Namaste, Kia orana, Konnichiwa, Guten tag, Ni hao, Privyet,

Greetings to parents, caregivers and friends of Devon Intermediate

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

MANA BADGES

Congratulations to Oliver Hill, Brianna Scouler-McCready and Satish Patel who all received their Bronze MANA badges at Monday's assembly for gaining 50 MANA tickets. Well done to all of you.

This is a great achievement, particularly as Year 7 students.

BASKETBALL RESULTS

Boys - Devon Blues	vs	Puketapu Serverz	lost	34-48
Girls – Devon Fire	vs	Highlands	lost	15-40

NETBALL RESULTS

Devon Gold	vs	Manukorihi Aranga	lost	14-24
Devon Blue	vs	Manukorihi Ngatahi	lost	12-32
Devon Silver	vs	Highlands Totara	lost	0-19
Devon White	vs	Spotswood Diamonds	lost	4-27

STUDENT LEARNING CONFERENCES

Student Learning Conferences are being held on Tuesday 4 August 3.30-8pm and Thursday 6 August 1.30-5.30pm. These will be an opportunity to discuss your child's progress and achievement over the past two terms as well as their report and exercise books which came home last week.

We will be using an online booking system for these conferences although those parents without access to the internet will still be able to phone the office to make an appointment. Booking information will be distributed early in the new term. **Please be aware that school will close at 1pm on Thursday 6 August.** We ask that parents make alternative arrangements for their children on this afternoon.

PROPERTY PROJECT UPDATE

As you will no doubt be aware, we are in the midst of a major property project, involving most areas in our school. The areas currently undergoing construction are:

1. Outside toilet block in F Block. These were opened for use on Monday this week.
2. The demolition of the 4 prefabs. Two of these have been demolished. Landscaping work will be undertaken when this work is completed.
3. Adventure Block classrooms are currently being refurbished. They will most likely be ready for use early in Term 3.
4. Earthquake strengthening will be completed in the hall during these holidays.
5. Significant work is currently underway in the library and administration area. We are hoping to be using this area in Term 4.
6. The heating system is being upgraded throughout the school.
7. Discovery Block classroom refurbishment will begin when the Adventure Block classrooms are completed. Classes in Discovery Block will move into F Block when Adventure Block classes move back into their own rooms.
8. A new Northern Health School building is being constructed down by the Bonithon Avenue entrance.

When all building work is finished, the whole school will be completely repainted in a new colour scheme. Like the phoenix rising from the ashes, Devon Intermediate will be re-invented!

As you can imagine, this work is very disruptive to the everyday operation of our school. I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to our staff who has demonstrated such flexibility and patience over the period of the construction.

MANA REWARD DAY

For those who are eligible, MANA reward day is being held tomorrow, Thursday 2nd July. As mentioned previously there is no cost to students and all those eligible will have brought a notice home to you last Friday.

TEACHER ONLY DAY MONDAY 10 AUGUST

The Board of Trustees has approved a Teachers Only Day for Monday 10 August. The staff will be working with outside consultants to develop a future focused vision for our school based on our current programmes and integrating e-learning and teaching using our new library space.

School will be closed for the day. We appreciate your support.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY AT DEVON

Over the past two terms our staff has been involved in regular workshops with Stuart Hale, an e-learning consultant, focusing on using iPads. This has been in preparation for the purchasing of iPads for classrooms early next term.

As well as iPads, we will be replacing all of our leased desk top computers with mobile devices, probably Netbooks. We currently lease 64 desktop PCs, the majority of which are in the ICT Room. Each classroom also has up to four PCs. When the current lease runs out in August, we will be replacing most of these PCs with mobile devices, probably Netbooks. Our ICT Room will be disbanded to allow teachers the flexibility of having these devices situated in classrooms to allow easy integration into programmes.

REPORTING TO PARENTS SURVEY

Thank you to those parents and caregivers who have completed this online survey. It will remain open for the rest of the week. The link is <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YBYVLBM>. We value your feedback.

DEVON INTERMEDIATE FACEBOOK PAGE

Just a reminder that the school has its own Facebook page. To become a member of the closed Devon Intermediate Group, please request membership through Facebook.

MOKOIA INTERMEDIATE SPORTS EXCHANGE

A huge thank you to all of the parents and caregivers for your tremendous support of the Mokoia Sports Exchange. The deadline for the initial deposit has now expired, so students selected as stand-by players will be notified during the first week of next term whether they are required. All students attending the Mokoia exchange will receive further information early next term.

FONTERRA SCIENCE FAIR

Friday last week saw a flurry of activity as students across the school rushed to complete their work for the Devon Intermediate Science and Technology Fair judging. The quality of entries was even higher than last year. There are 8 photographs, 13 advertising posters, 13 entries for scientific journalism, 11 water rockets, 2 observational drawings and 27 scientific investigations going through to the Fonterra Taranaki Science and Technology Fair which is being held in Week 3 of next term. Congratulations to all the participants.

ROAD SAFETY

Devon Street is a busy State Highway. It is especially dangerous in wet weather and during both morning and afternoons when the commuter traffic is heaviest. These times coincide with the times students are making their way to or from school.

There are some students not currently using the Devon Intermediate School pedestrian crossing who have been observed crossing Devon Street in a dangerous and reckless manner, in the vicinity of the Treehouse and near the Seaview Road intersection. This is an extremely hazardous practise. Motorists often have very limited visibility of the road and do not expect to encounter pedestrians either on the traffic lanes or emerging suddenly from between parked cars. Motorists cannot be expected to cope with students darting onto the road or walking down the middle of the road on the white line. We are extremely concerned for your child's safety. We would appreciate it if all parents/caregivers could speak to their child about road safety and re-inforce the importance of using pedestrian crossings.

END OF TERM

School finishes for students at 3pm on Friday 3 July and begins again for Term 3 at 8.40am on Monday 20 July. Wishing all students and whanau a safe and happy holiday break.

Together we can make a difference

F.S. Parkinson

Fiona Parkinson
Principal

DILIGENCE - INTEGRITY - SERVICE - RESPECT

This week's MANA focus is:

Demonstrate Empathy towards others

- Walk in someone else's shoes
- Appreciate others' way of learning
- Value others' right to learn
- Value the teacher's right to teach

DATES TO NOTE

3 July	Last day of Term Two
20 July	First day of Term Three
28 July	Open Night at NPBHS, 4pm – 6pm
29 July	Open Night at NPGHS, 5.30pm – 8pm
3 August	BOT meeting, 5.30pm
4 August	Highlands Sports Exchange
5 August	Open Night at Spotswood College, 7pm
10 August	Parent Link meeting, 7pm
17-19 August	Mokoia Sports Exchange
20 August	NPBHS, NPGHS & Spotswood College interviews at Devon