



Devon Intermediate

Sailing towards an Attitude of Excellence



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Devon Intermediate School

Newsletter

February 2020



Devon Intermediate School
Te Kura Takawaenga o Ngāmotu

Kia ora Whanau

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2020. We send out one newsletter a month to keep you informed of the comings and goings at Devon Intermediate and we also use our Facebook page or School Loop App to keep everyone up to date with what is happening at our amazing school. The Facebook page is a closed group, so please contact Marissa at the school office if you would like to be added as a friend of the school.

It was fantastic to see so many parents and whanau at our Powhiri held to welcome our new students. Our school roll is approximately 430 and we have decided, in order to keep them safe as they enter and leave the school, we will be locking the Devon Street school gate between 8.15am and 8.45am and 3.00pm and 3.15pm. In the past we have repeatedly asked parents not to come down the drive to drop off and pick up their child for safety reasons. If there is a medical reason which requires your child to be dropped at the school office, please call the school and speak to Mrs. Gellen.

During the holidays I received the resignation of Ms. Sonja Ngaia who was to be teaching in Room 20. We have been very fortunate to welcome Miss Jacinta Radford to our staff to replace Ms. Ngaia.

Term one brings with a flurry of events including our school photos on February 17th, our Standards Swimming sports which will be held on Friday 21st February as well as our Championships Swimming sports which will be held on Friday 28th February. We welcome everyone to come and watch these events which start about 1pm.

Please note, school WILL be open on Friday 7th February. The Board have approved Teacher Only Days to be held on June 26th and October 23rd this year.

My thanks to all those parents who attended the Pathways and Planning meetings which were held prior to the start of school. I hope meetings were valuable to both you and your child and ensured they were excited about joining us at Devon Intermediate.

Thursday 5th March will see us holding our first hui. Information will be given regarding both the MANA and Attitude for Excellence programmes and it will also give you an opportunity to catch up with your child's teachers to see how they have settled in to life at Devon Intermediate. The evening will start at 5 pm in the hall with groups splitting off to find out about MANA and Attitude for Excellence, or for you simply to catch up with the teachers. You are more than welcome to bring your own picnic and enjoy our school pool (if the weather is suitable). Our Parent Link group will be running a sausage sizzle, selling ice blocks and drinks also. The evening will conclude at 7pm. You may wish to join us for the whole, or just part of the evening.

A reminder also that school concludes at 2.30pm every Tuesday for staff to be involved in Professional Development courses. We have scheduled a Teacher Only Day on Friday 6th March which is the Friday prior to Taranaki Anniversary Weekend. The staff will be focusing on restorative practices relating to our school wide PB4L philosophy.

Currently there is a lot of media coverage with regards to the Corona Virus. The advice we have been given is that if your child is sick, please keep them at home. This is standard practice as with any illness and is not related just to the current world wide situation.

The school diary is one way we communicate between home and school and I would encourage you to ask your child to see it so you can keep up to date with their homework requirements, MANA ticket progress etc.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding school, feel free to get in touch with either your child's teacher or one of the senior leadership team.

Nga mihi,  Jenny Gellen, Principal

DATES TO NOTE

Monday 17 February
School photos

Friday 21 February
Swimming Standards

Friday 28 February
Swimming Champs

Thursday 5 March
Parent BBQ/Hui

Friday 6 March
Teacher Only Day

Monday 9 March
Taranaki Anniversary

Tuesday 10 March
Intermediate Surfing
Competition

Thursday 12 March
MANA Reward Day

Thursday 19 March
Taranaki Swimming
Champs

Tuesday 24 March
Immunisations
Tiki Toa

Thursday 2 April
Catch up
Immunisations

Tuesday 7 April
Summer Sports
Exchange

Thursday 9 April
MANA Reward Day
Last day of term

Tuesday 28 April
Start of term two

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Our school website is a valuable communication method. As well as the school newsletter, it also contains other important information about school and class events and activities. Class teachers will be regularly updating their class pages. We consider our website to be an important component of home and school communication and encourage you to visit it regularly.

SCHOOL FEES 2020

Devon Intermediate Board of Trustees removed the cost of the school donation in line with the 2019 Budget Announcement, whereby the school is subsidised \$150 per student for school expenses.

The annual cost to cover, Food, Wood, Art, Digital Technology and Performing Arts take home consumables have been reduced to just \$20.00 per student this year.

Additional costs for the year are:

School Diary \$10.00

Life Education \$5.00

Payments to be made to the school office (cash, cheque or EFTPOS). Alternately, payments can be made by Direct Credit to Bank Account No. 153949 0276621 80 or by Automatic Payment. Please ensure that your payment description includes **students name and what payment is for.**

SWIMMING PROGRAMME

Swimming is a compulsory component of the Physical Education curriculum and the focus of our Term 1 programme. It is important that students are prepared for swimming each day by having the appropriate swimwear. They need to bring named togs and towel. Goggles and/or rash shirts are optional. If there is a medical reason your child is unable to swim for the day, the appropriate section needs to be completed in the school diary.

NETBALL

With the netball season quickly approaching, we are looking forward to another great competition at Devon this year. We are lucky to have the services of our Community Liaison officer, Jan Manu, who has offered to support coaches, managers and umpires again this year. If you are interested in coaching, managing or umpiring a Devon netball team, please contact Whaea Jan through the school office. Ph 758 5266

UNIFORM

Remember that you should ensure all school uniform items are clearly marked with the student's name. We suggest that the sun hats are marked using a Twink pen. As part of the summer school uniform, all students are required to have a school navy, wide-brimmed or bucket hat. These hats are available from the school office for just \$10 each new, or second-hand \$5 each. Hair is expected to be neat and tidy – **no way-out styles or colours will be permitted.**

CONGRATULATIONS

Harmony Awa-Paora has made the Aotea U13 Maori Netball team travelling to Whangarei on Easter Weekend to the Nationals.

Aaliyah Zenovich has also been selected as a training partner. Well done to you both.

**WELCOME BACK
TO SCHOOL**



Devon Intermediate School
Te Kura Takawaenga o Ngāmotu

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