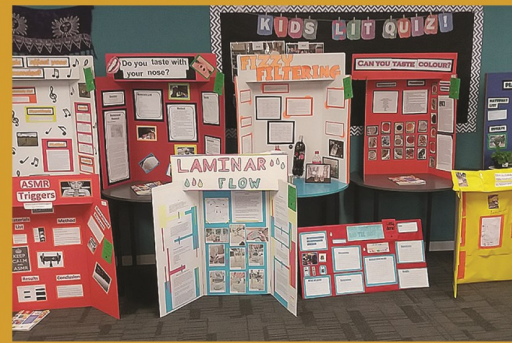




# Devon Intermediate

*Sailing towards an Attitude of Excellence*



400 Devon Street West, New Plymouth

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# Devon Intermediate School Newsletter

27 September 2021

Kia ora Whanau

A few updates before we complete the end of a disrupted Term 3. A reminder that we have a Teacher Only day this Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup> therefore there will be NO classes on this day. We look forward to welcoming the students back on Monday October 18<sup>th</sup>.

This week, we farewell Miss Mattock as she takes maternity leave until the end of next year and we wish her all the best for motherhood. Mr Ben Peacocke will be taking over Miss Mattocks class until the end of Term 4. Mr Haldane will move to the team leaders role until Miss Mattocks return.

In addition to Miss Mattock leaving this week, we sadly farewell Whaea Jan who is retiring. Whaea Jan has been an integral part of Devon Intermediate since the start of Term 3, 2017 and we will miss her greatly but hope to see her on the netball courts next year. Our thanks to Whaea Jan for all the wonderful work she has done with our students and whanau over the past 4 years.

At the start of next term, the Life Education buses will be at school, and classes will be enjoying lessons in them over the first two weeks of Term 4. For year 7s the Life Education lessons will focus on change and will cover the topic of Puberty. The lessons will start by covering what is puberty and when it takes place. The class will then complete a puberty unit where they will explore the changes that happen for each sex and the changes that happen for both. The classes will then look at Harold's puberty kit which has hygiene and period products which will show and explain what they are and how they can be used. Gender inclusive language will be used for all lessons. For a range of reasons this could be a challenging topic for some so it is important that students are aware that puberty will be covered. Please feel free to contact me for any further information or to discuss any sensitivities that I need to be aware of. The Year 8 students will be covering Substances and Digital Wellbeing.

Our Parent Information evening will be being held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October, providing we are at Level 1, and this event will be held from 6.30pm—8pm for prospective new parents and students to attend. My thanks to our students who will be presenting different aspects of our school at that evening event.

Labour Day is on October 25<sup>th</sup> and schools are closed and we hope to hold our standards athletics event on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October. More information will be sent at the start of next term.

Unfortunately, we have several laptops which have not been returned after Lockdown. If we could have these sent back immediately it would help the school.

For those students who will be in year 8 next year, we will be having 3 classes whose learning platform is digitally based. Students in these classes will require their own Chromebook. The school has purchased some of these which we are willing to allow families to pay off if you can't afford to purchase a Chromebook, but would like your child to be a member of one of these classes. Our aim/goal is to prepare our students for the future. Within the next decade 75% of jobs will involve using a computer/device of some sort. With this in mind, as professionals and educators it is important that we teach our students the necessary digital skills to prepare them for the world they will be living and working in. Could you please contact Marissa [office@devonint.school.nz](mailto:office@devonint.school.nz) , if you would like your child to a member of a digital class, and haven't contacted her previously, so we can ensure we have enough devices onsite for you to purchase.

Finally, many thanks for all your support over the year and especially during this lockdown affected term and we look forward to seeing you all next term.

Nga mihi

Jenny Gellen, Principal

## UNIFORM BONDS

A reminder that all sports uniforms should now have been returned to school and unfortunately we still have some sports fees outstanding which need to be paid immediately. The sports fees we collect go straight to the different sporting organisations so unpaid fees means that the school carries the debt which we can ill afford to do. Uniform bonds will be returned once all Sports Uniforms are returned to the teacher in charge.



## SUMMER ATHLETICS

The start of the summer athletics season is almost upon us, and clubs all around the country are looking for tamariki and rangatahi to get involved and give athletics a go. Your local athletics club is run by volunteers, and they are working hard to get ready for the new season.

We have a few local clubs here in Taranaki, New Plymouth Harriers, Taranaki Race Walking Club, Inglewood Athletic Club and Egmont Athletics.

## TOPEC

Our Outdoor Education Enrichment had an overnight camp at Topec Friday the 17th, September. A great time had by all. Thank you to the parents and teachers who made this happen for our Tamariki .



Devon Intermediate School  
Te Kura Takawaenga o Ngāmotu

## DATES TO NOTE

**27-29 September**  
Girls Self Defence

**Thursday 30 September**  
MANA Reward Day

**Friday 1 October**  
Teacher Only Day

**Monday 18 October**  
First Day of Term Four

**Tuesday 19 October**  
Cross Country champs

**18-28 October**  
Life Education Programme

**Thursday 21 October**  
Parent Information Evening

**Monday 25 October**  
Labour Day—no school

**Friday 29th October**  
Standards Athletics



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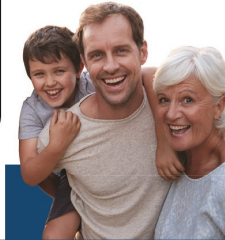
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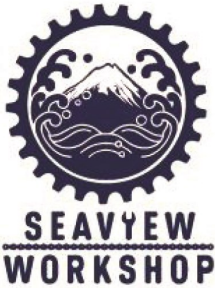
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