

# Devon Intermediate

Sailing towards an Attitude of Excellence



400 Devon Street West, New Plymouth Telephone: 06 758 5266

e-mail: office@devonint.school.nz | http://www.devonint.school.nz

## **Devon Intermediate School Newsletter**

13 April 2022

Kia ora whanau

Welcome to our week seven newsletter.

On Friday 24 June we will celebrate Matariki together, our first te ao Māori inspired public holiday. The rising of Matariki and Puanga is a time to honour the past, present, and future, with an emphasis on observing how we fit into te ao turoa, the natural world, and our responsibility to te taiao, the environment. A reminder, there is NO school on Matariki Day, Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June.

Since the last newsletter we have had a lot to celebrate. Chloe Herrett had her amazing weekend in Christchurch, despite the challenge of overcoming horrendous weather, both in getting there and returning home safely. See her report on the next page.

Congratulations to our colleagues, Mr Lionel Haldane and Ms Rachel Vickery, who have won places in the Blake Inspiring Teachers programme. It is a five-day environmental education and leadership programme held in Auckland during the holidays. They will spend the week learning and networking with teachers from throughout the country. Each day starts at 8am and finishes at 9pm but they are both excited by this wonderful learning opportunity.

On June 21/22 the Endeavour Team are travelling by bus to the Rotokare Reserve. The purpose is to learn about the Trusts' efforts to protect wildlife, to regenerate native forest and to experience a predator free wildlife sanctuary so that all can flourish. An amazing learning experience with a direct link to the themes of Matariki.

Head student applications for the second half of year have now closed. Next week we will begin shortlisting the students who will then deliver a speech to their peers in our week 9 assembly. At Devon Intermediate we have a high caliber of students and those who are shortlisted can feel incredibly proud making it that far. We wish the applicants all the best. It is fantastic to see so many of our students taking up the opportunities offered at Devon Intermediate and giving things a go.

Next week the Let's Go Cycling team will begin working with our Year 7 cohort. Each class is timetabled to have two full days learning cycle skills and safe road practices. We are pleased to be supporting our ākonga to be safer on the road as they travel to and from school.

Everyone agrees, we have had some terrible weather recently. We were disappointed to postpone the sports exchange with Manukorihi Intermediate; but, the new date for this event is August 12 in term 3. We have all fingers crossed that the weather will have improved by July 1st when we expect to host Hawera Intermediate School. All schools are looking forward to resuming these interactions after they were paused due to covid.

Just a friendly reminder, if you are collecting your child from school early, you need to come in to the office to sign him/her out. Thank you in advance for helping us maintain a robust safety procedure.



**DATES TO NOTE** 

Thursday June 21st Endeavour EOTC

**Thursday June 23rd** 7/8 Rippa Rugby

Friday June 24th
Matariki celebration
School closed.

**Thursday June 30th**Mana Day out

Thursday June 30th Student Disco

Friday July 1st
Devon vs Hawera
sports exchange

**Tuesday July 5th** Good home quiz night Once again, Devon Intermediate would like to Opt-In to the Donations Scheme as set out by our Government. As part of the process we are asking if there are any parents who **DO NOT** want us to opt in. Taking your response into account, the Board will make a final decision at their next Board meeting. If you **DO NOT** think the school should Opt in, please feel free to inform me by email; dyouna@devonint.school.nz

#### Save the Date

We have Pathway and Planning meetings on Thursday July 7th and Friday July 8th. There will be NO normal CLASS timetable on either of these days. Appointment information will be sent home closer to the time for parents to book time slots so you, your child and the teacher can celebrate their progress and learning for the year to date. If you would like to meet with your child's technology teacher, please contact the school to make arrangements.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge our whanau and taiohi who are actively supporting us to send out messaging that shows an intolerance to vaping. We see a changing trend as our student body indicate they are becoming as tired of the issues of vaping as we are. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Nga mihi nui Debra Young Acting Principal

### Chloes weekend in Christchurch-

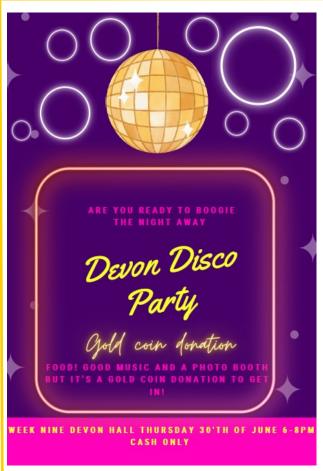
Last weekend I flew to Christchurch for the Young Explorers Summit with the Antarctic Heritage Trust and William Pike Challenge. Apart from getting stuck in Auckland it was so much fun. We did a lot of things including a Hägglund ride, meeting penguins, Snow room, meeting huskies and going for a walk around the town and visiting a museum. We also got to talk to people who are currently in the South Pole. I met lots of new people and stayed in a scout camp. Something that I found challenging was making new friends and the flight back home because I got stuck in Auckland due to the weather.

By Chloe Herrett



### **DRINK BOTTLE REMINDER-**

Please remember to send a drink bottle with your child to school. We have a large number of students coming to ask for water bottles each day.



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