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13 December – 2011

**Nā tō rourou, nā taku rourou
ka ora ai te iwi**

With your basket of knowledge and my basket of knowledge the people will thrive (or in our case the students will thrive).



Greetings to all families and friends of Ngaio School

The term is nearly over - 8 weeks have passed so quickly.

Looking outside I can see my buddy class gardeners preparing the gardens for the summer holiday break!

Todd is up at the pool preparing for the facility upgrade and John, our caretaker, is getting ready for the annual clean up.

Our students are preparing to farewell their teachers and are participating in all those end of year December activities.

The staff and students spent last week farewelling staff who are leaving 'Our Place'.

Staffing for 2012

Two new staff will join our Ngaio School teaching team next year.

Donna Higgins will be teaching a year 5/6 class in Tui next year. Donna comes to us from Te Aro School in Wellington.

Hannah Walker will join our Kowhai teaching team next year. Hannah comes to us from Gonville School in Whanganui.

2012 Staffing Organisation

Year Level	Teacher	Room
Year 2	Megan Palmer	Room 1
Year 1	Abbey Corich	Room 2
Year 1	Wendy Roach	Room 3
Year 1	Hannah Walker	Room 4
Year 1	Nikki Rathbone	Room 8
Year 1	Kathy Yamada	Room 5
Year 2	Sandra Traut	Room 6
Year 2	Alice Trail	Room 7
Year 0	Opening (20 May 3 rd September) TBA	Room 4a
Year 3/4	Chris Bailey	Room 9
Year 3/4	Katie McGrath	Room 10
Year 3/4	Adelle Broadmore	Room 11
Year 3/4	Penny Orbell	Room 12
Year 3/4	Liz Blackwell	Room 13
Year 3.4	Kate Woodbury	Room 14
Year 5/6	Hayden Trass	Room 15
Year 5/6	Leah Merewater	Room 16
Year 5/6	Christina Darney	Room 17
Year 5/6	Donna Higgins	Room 18
Year 5/6	Karen Solomon	Room 19
Year 0	Opens in September 2012 – December	Room 20 (Green room)

As mentioned in last week's newsletter the changes in staffing may result in some parental requests not being actioned.

New Zealand's most inspiring Teachers

Congratulations to our Inspirational Katie McGrath

Earlier this year the Warehouse Stationery search for New Zealand's Most Inspiring Teachers began.

Over a thousand nominations were received and our Katie McGrath was announced as one of the top 30 winners.

Katie has won a \$1000 Warehouse Stationery classroom pack. The publicity has been fabulous with articles in the Wellingtonian and the Woman's Day as well as broadcasts on Television 3 and MORE FM.

Reports

A reminder that school reports for year 4, 5 and 6 year students will go home on Wednesday afternoon. All parents will be advised of their child's class for 2012.

As in previous years your child will get an opportunity to visit the class they will be in 2012 before the end of the 2011 school year.

In closing

What a year – a devastating natural disaster, snow in Ngaio, the Rugby World Cup, an election and a building project (January-September)

I have been privileged to work with an amazing team of full time teachers, part time teachers and support staff. Ngaio School teachers are dedicated to making a difference to learning for all of our students. They are simply some of the best teachers nationally.

Our children experience warm pastoral care and carefully scaffolded learning every day.

The leadership team of Fiona Valentine, Adelle Broadmore, Hayden Trass and Wendy Roach have worked tirelessly to support students and teachers. Denise Hancox and Tania Cohen require special mention, as they are outstanding senior leaders.

Helen, Nicki and Debbie have been wonderful to work with – the ever-changing work spaces have created challenges that we have met!

Thanks to the Parent Teacher Association for all their efforts over the year.

And finally to the Board of Trustees.

The Ngaio School Board of Trustees is committed to our learners and work closely with teachers to strengthen and enhance everything that we do.

Andrew Hudson has provided wise leadership and counsel, Matthew Allen manages the school accounts wisely and Lisa Henderson and Robert Stewart have put many hours into the school property developments. Thank you to Kate Whitwell for her website and policy work and finally thanks to Wendy for representing the staff.

To all of you – I wish you all the best for the festive season and have a safe, happy and relaxing holiday break. Best wishes also to those families leaving "Our Place" – keep in touch.

Thanking you.

Liz Millar

Weetbix Tryathlon – Remember Entries Close Wednesday 14 December at 3:00pm *Kate McGrath*

Year 6 Leavers' Function – Thursday 15th December

For those who are attending the Year 6 graduation here is the outline of events:

5.30pm: Picnic on the field (**all family members welcome!**)

6.00pm: Catch a Cone: Parents/ Caregivers vs. Year 6 students (till about 6.20pm)

Parents/ Caregivers go down to Ngaio Town Hall (only those who have bought "Sweet Success" tickets can go due to the limited space); teachers and students will get ready at school.

6.45pm: Students walk down with graduation hats for 6.50pm entrance at Town Hall.

At the Town Hall a greeting will be followed by student song/ dance performances, dessert, speeches, the presentation of graduation certificates, and finally the Ngaio School song.

The evening should be finished before 9pm.

Note: in the event of wet weather the picnic and catch-a-cone game will need to be abandoned - students would need to arrive at school and meet in the school hall by 6.30pm at the latest. We would hope to make a call on this before students leave school that day.

Hayden Trass & Fiona Valentine

The Y5's-Farewell-to-Y6's Assembly

This event will be held on **Friday 16th December** in the School Hall at 9.45 am. Tui parents are welcome to come to this event, which is intended as a special farewell (song/ dance/ music) from the Y5 students for their friends and fellow students in Y6. Please keep in mind that space will be very limited in the hall. *Hayden Trass & Fiona Valentine*

The Final Whole School Assembly

(where ALL leavers of Ngaio school will be farewelled) will be at 11.45am on the same day on the courts. Wet weather- plans TBA. *Fiona Valentine*

Website Survey

We are currently re-designing our school website. We would love to hear your thoughts about how you use our current website and how we could improve it. Please click on the link below or copy and past this address to access our website survey. *Thank you. Ngaio ICT Team*

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/88CBF69>

Jonny and the 3 Gorillas

A story by Matthew ...

Jonny was a rather cheeky child. He spent all of his time dilly dallying round the woods. One day he was building a rocket ship a.k.a. UFO to fly to the capital and scare the living daylights out of people! He was flying along when he came to his banana shaped hut and said to himself "I might just have a quick nip around before I scare the living daylights out of the president." So he got down from his UFO and opened the door. "Great, no one home!" he said excitedly.

*Jonny was feeling hungry, he spotted three banana pies and said "I might just have a wee bite" and did so. Poohey!!!!!! Way too banannary. He tried the second one. ohhhhh way...too...cold he stammered. He tried the 3rd one. "Mmmm, just right" and he ate it all up. He got down from the table and started to explore the rest of the hut. Jonny wasn't feeling hungry any more but he needed a rest. He slumped into the next room and sighted 3 beanbags and collapsed onto the 1st one. He had his hands on his nose before you could blink. It stank of sweaty arm pits and football socks after a full 80 minutes! He launched onto the 2nd one and punched a hole in it. "That big pile of polystyrene isn't going to be comfortable at all" he said, so he walked onto the 3rd one and fell asleep. Meanwhile the 3 gorillas were coming home, **"What's this funny space-craft doing here?"** said the clumsiest, heaviest and biggest one as he continued his stride into the hut. They all gasped when they realised someone had infiltrated their hut. In about 5 minutes they found Jonny asleep on one of the beanbags. The strongest one flipped it over and they all jumped on top of it. Jonny woke up and managed to wriggle out but accidentally stepped on a trap door. It was about one hour until the gorillas realised that Jonny had escaped. "Oh well" they said and lived happily ever after ...*

...except for that guy.

KEY DATES

Wednesday 14 Dec	Weetbix Tryathlon entries close 3:00pm
Thursday 15 Dec	Year 6 Leavers' Function - begins 5:30pm - Field
Friday 16 Dec	Final Assembly - 11.45am - Astroturf. School closes 12.30pm
Tuesday 31 Jan	First Day - Term 1
Sunday 11 March	Gala 2012



December 2011

Dear Parents

Ministry of Education – Special Education, and several NGOs are working together to provide the Incredible Years Parenting Programme throughout this district in 2012. We understand that you are thinking about attending an Incredible Years Programme with us. Here is some information for you.

Incredible Years is a programme that helps with the day to day difficulties in parenting children (aged 3 – 8 years old) with challenging behaviour. It is run as a group. Incredible Years builds on the strengths that you and others in the group already have. Because each child is an individual and no two families are the same, Incredible Years will help you to parent your unique child. Building a positive relationship with your child is the basis from which changes can be made and parenting can become easier. This programme has been run worldwide for 25 years and has helped many parents and their families.

What can I expect if I attend Incredible Years?

- To become part of a fun, interactive and supportive group
- Attend weekly 2½ hour sessions for a period of 14-16 weeks
- Join a group of 12-18 parents who are also experiencing challenges in parenting
- Have opportunities to share my experience and ideas and build my confidence as a parent

What is special about Incredible Years?

- It is a programme that has been proven to be effective for families experiencing challenges with their children
- It is a programme run by facilitators with knowledge in specialist areas
- The first half of the programme builds on your child's social abilities and co-operative behaviours.
- The second half of the programme focuses on how to reduce the inappropriate behaviours
- Incredible Years puts the fun back into parenting

If this sounds like you, GSE have referral forms. If you would like to know more please call us.

Ministry of Education – Special Education

Dawn NIPPERT ☎ 04 439-4671 or 0800 737275

Community Notices

2012 Kapiti Women and Girls' Triathlon

New this year. Fun run/walk

We have added a 4km Fun run/walk to the Triathlon Duathlon run/bike swim/bike for the 2012 Kapiti Women and Girls Triathlon.

All women and girls can be part of one of New Zealand's biggest, friendliest and longest running events for women. In our 29th year, the Kapiti Women's triathlon and duathlon is on Sunday 19th February 2012 with a choice of events that allows anyone to have a go. NEW for 2012 is our 4km fun run or walk, this might be your first step to becoming a triathlete or duathlete or just something to set a goal to achieve over summer.

There are of course the usual triathlon (400m swim, 12km cycle & 4km run/walk), duathlon, swim run & swim bike events but you can also enter as a team for any event or do a 1/2 distance for any event.

We added the fun run/walk for those not yet ready to do the Triathlon/Duathlon and while it is open to all ages we especially invite girls under 12 to participate. We have an age restriction of 12yrs for cycling on the road. you younger girls can enter the 'have a go' fun run/walk or teams events. Grab some friends or set an individual challenge and we'll see you on the start line. Remember "we consider every entrant that gets to the start line a winner".

For a fun day, lots of spot prizes and a goodie bag for each entrant check out www.kwt.org.nz. or email admin@kwt.org.nz

Christmas Holiday Programme - 'Twas the Night Before Christmas

When: 19-23rd December **Time:** 9.00am - 3.30pm (drop off anytime from 8.40am) **Where:** Karori Baptist Church, Karori Road

Price: \$35.00 per day **Contact:** www.dramaclub.co.nz or Bridie Schroder - 021 054 2593 or bridie@dramaclub.co.nz.

What: Students will prepare for the performance of 'Twas the Night Before Christmas during the week and present the production to parents and family on the final day (23rd December at 2.00pm). **Limited spaces per age group.**

HRV Cup Fan Day

Friday December 23, 2pm – 4pm
Hawkins Basin Reserve

Get down to the Basin Reserve for your free chance to meet the Hell Wellington Firebirds, including Muttiah Muralidharan, as they prepare for the HRV Cup Twenty 20. Lots of activities and giveaways for all the family.

Inverloch Art School - Summer Holiday Children's Art Classes.

As well as Adult classes, this year, we are running two Children's Summer School Holiday classes. **Children's Summer Holiday Course** run by Robbie Lowe and **Drawing and Painting for Teenagers** run by Bruce Mahalski. Both Classes run from **Wednesday 4 January** until **Friday 6 January**, three days, from 9.30am - 1.30pm.

Please see our website www.inverloch.org.nz and find Summer School.
See you there!