



NEWSLETTER

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Newsletter 4

19th March 2021



Important Dates

- 23rd Mar Traditional Maori Games – TMP
- 30th Mar Year 6 Parent Camp Meeting (6pm)
- 2nd Apr Good Friday
- 5th/6th Apr Easter Holiday
- 16th Apr End of Term 1
- 3rd May Start of Term 2



From the Principal

Parent Interviews – Tuesday 9th March

Thank you to all the Parents and Caregivers that made an appointment to speak with their child's/children's teacher and discuss the year ahead. If you still haven't had a chance to speak to them, please email the teacher and arrange a time to talk about your child's competency goal for 2021.

Student Support at Fraser Crescent School

We have a large team at Fraser Crescent School dedicated to student support and wellbeing. This includes 9 amazing teacher aides, led by the team below. Our Student Support Team is made up of Phillipa Whiteman and myself from the Leadership Team, Michelle Tebbutt our Student Support Coordinator, Linda Ristau our Learning Support Coordinator and Franziska Ravera our SENCO (Special Education Needs Coordinator). We work with the teachers and a range of agencies/experts to provide extensive programmes and initiatives to students and their whānau. In recent times this has included various leadership and extension programmes, Brick Club, social skills groups, empathy programmes, music therapy, Maori leadership programme – He Toa, various Hub programmes and plenty more group and individual initiatives. We also work hard to seek funding through grants and other applications, and have secured an additional \$50,000.00 recently to support these initiatives, as well as having more funding applications in the pipeline. We also do lots of home visits to provide additional support beyond what we provide at school. You are welcome to contact us or your child's teacher, if you would like to know more information about what we do, or would like to have your child taking part in some of these programmes. Feel free to send me an email at principal@frasercres.school.nz





From the Board

March Board of Trustees Meeting Update

Our March meeting was a busy one with plenty on the agenda. We are in the process of reviewing our Home Learning policy. This has undergone a significant re-write as the current policy is out of date. The new draft Home Learning policy is attached at the end of this newsletter. Please email any feedback you have about this to principal@frasercres.school.nz. Our Board were delighted to hear that we have been successful with another grant application. Recent funds will pay for a number of leadership programmes, as well as some targeted programmes to get some children more engaged in their schooling, and to help with transport costs. The Board discussed our upcoming health consultation and want to ensure that this will reflect key and topical issues such as the impact of Covid on our community, mental health, inclusion and cyber safety. The health consultation survey will occur before the end of this term and we really want to hear your ideas. The 2021 Charter is complete and has been uploaded to our school website. Let us know if you have any questions about this document.



School News

Colour Run

Many thanks to everyone who supported our Colour Run. The children really enjoy the added excitement of the event and this often results in most of the children running lots of laps of our field. I would like to thank the Home and School for their support of our Colour Run, as well as providing the ice blocks.

PB4L Celebration Wednesday 10th March

The PB4L celebration held last Wednesday went really well. The weather was a little cooler than it has been but it didn't stop any activities at school or the trip to H2Oxtreme. It was fantastic that the children worked so hard displaying the FRASER Values and getting another 10,000 tokens!

Bike the Trail

We had a great day for the 2021 Bike the Trail event. Lots of Fraser children and their families were **Active Adventurers** and rode their bikes along the river trail to Stokes Valley or all the way to Petone. This event counts towards the children's Fraser Quest programme. I would like to thank those who supported this event, especially our Home and School Association.

Year 6 Camp Parent Meeting

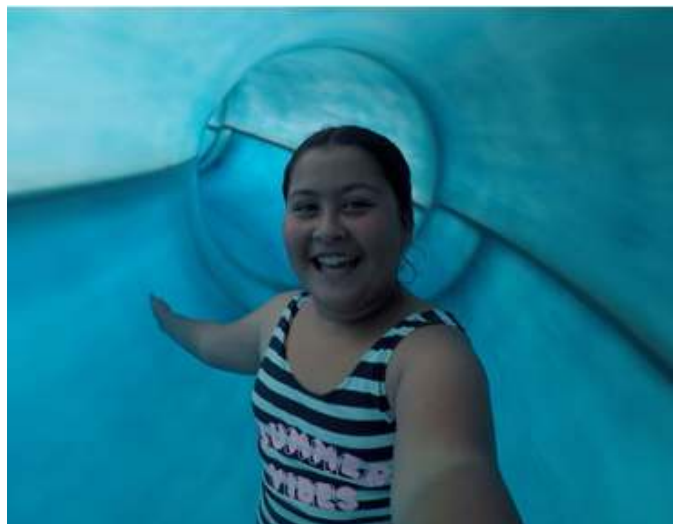
All Parents & Caregivers of Year 6 students are welcome to a parent meeting in The Hub on Tuesday 30th March at 6pm. We will go over the camp activities, fundraising opportunities & helpers required for camp. Looking forward to another successful camp at Makahika in Levin with our year 6 students.

Increase in Police around the School Gate

The local police have commented on the drop in parking or stopping on the yellow lines since they increased the patrols at the school gates. Please keep up the good driving habits as we want to keep everyone safe.

School Lunches

We've noticed quite a few children are asking for a top up for the lunch they bring from home. Please check with your children that they are taking enough for morning tea and lunch. Also check if they are still hungry after lunch. Children sometimes need extra if they're going through a growth spurt.



Home Learning Policy – Feb 2021 [DRAFT]

There are 4 types/options of home learning that we encourage at Fraser Crescent School.

1. Reading at home. A love of reading and developing comprehension skills are important to all areas of learning. Junior students will usually be provided with a book for reading at home, while older students are able to take books home from our school library to read. The Upper Hutt Public Library and Mobile Library are other places for students to get books for reading at home.
2. Fraser's Quest Programme. The school has an optional home learning challenge called the Fraser's Quest. This programme provides a range of fun challenges that children can take part in. The Quests help to promote our FRASER Values and can be done at times which suit the child and their whānau. Not only are the Quests fun, they allow children the opportunity to develop new skills and engage in diverse experiences. All the information about our Quest programme can be found on our school website via the following link: <https://www.frasercres.school.nz/home-learning/>
3. Catch up and extra effort. There may be times when a student needs to catch up on some classwork and complete this at home. Digital devices also enable students to access their work at home and at school. For example, this allows a student who started writing a story at school, to complete it at home. Furthermore, children can start work/projects at home, and can complete these at school.
4. Targeted programmes. Sometimes a student needs additional support with a particular area of their learning. In cases like this, an individualised homework programme may be put in place, with involvement from the teacher, student and the whānau.

Learning at home philosophies

Here are our three top tips which underpin our philosophies around learning at home.

- Try and make any learning activity at home fun. If it becomes stressful for anyone (your child, yourself) stop.
- Select the tasks and activities that suit your family. Consider things like your child's interests, abilities, resources within the home, and whether the task can be done independently, or does it need lots of your support?
- Do what you can, when you can. Children need a balance of learning, fun, play, relaxation, etc.

Further home learning ideas

Here is a list of some tasks and activities that might appeal to learners of all ages.

Games. Different games develop a wide range of skills from taking turns to counting, from problem solving to sharing. Card games, dice games, board games, imagination games. Have a think about what resources you have at home to play different games.

Get Outdoors. Be sure to get your kids outside regularly. Set up an obstacle course, build a fort, play catch, do a scavenger hunt, do some chalk drawing etc.

Cook or Bake. There is lots of learning involved in cooking, plus the satisfaction of providing a meal or snack for the family.

Play. Lego, blocks, jigsaws, dress-ups, cars, dolls etc. Play helps to build imagination, oral language skills, problem solving etc.

Learn a new skill or hobby. Maybe someone in your bubble can knit, or is awesome at woodwork. The internet, especially YouTube can also be inspirational in teaching new things. Learn to code on Scratch, learn some origami etc.