



"A great little school in the heart of the city"

School Newsletter - Issue 1: 04th February 2022



Be honest.

Be **engaged** in my learning.
Choose the right **attitude**.
Be a **risk-taker** and challenge myself.
Be **thoughtful** and respectful.

Honest - Pono

Engaged - Whaiwaahi

Attitude - Waiaro
Risk-taker - Nanakia

lacktriangle Thoughtful - Whaiahakaaro

We all work together as learners, parents, community and as a school to partner in the responsibility of showing

Kia orana, Bula, Talofa Lava, Malo e lelei, Fakafeiloaki, Namaste, Ni hao, Xin Chao, Kamusta, Kia ora, Assalam Alaikum, Annyeonghaseyo, Sua sdei

Welcome Back! Welcome Back! Welcome Back!

Ka koikoi te kookoo ka ketekete te kaakaa ka kuukuu te kereruu ka tangi te tiitii ara ko te piipiiwharauroa e rere waho nei, Kui! Kui! Whiti! Whiti! Whitiora e! Ka tukuna atu aku mihi aroha ki a koutou katoa te whaanau whanui o Whitiora.

Welcome back after what we hope has been an amazing summer for you all. It has been great to see the return of many of our tamariki and connect with our whaanau. On Tuesday we held a poowhiri for our new tamariki and their whaanau and welcomed them to be part of our Whitiora whaanau.

We welcome three new staff members - Whaea Louise Moore who will be in Kowhai, Whaea Eva Gilchrist who will be in Matai and Whaea Adele Hickey who will be supporting our children with the Reading Recovery programme. Nau mai! Piki mai!

Back to School

Whitiora School Website

We are very excited to let our whaanau and Whitiora community know that our new website is now live. You can visit our website at www.whitiora.school.nz. On this page you will be able to look at the profiles of our staff, our pastoral team Te Puumanawa o Whitiora and Board of Trustees, access school documents and newsletters, see the learning happening at the school and keep up to date with school events on the calendar.

School Fees/ Stationery

Whaanau and families are not required to pay a school fee for 2022. Stationery packs are available at the school office.

Lunches

The school is part of the Lunches in School initiative. Lunch is provided every day for our students which is catered by Montana Catering. The lunches cater for all dietary requirements.

Teacher Only Day - Pause, Breathe, Smile (Mindfulness)

Teacher Only Day

As part of our commitment to the wellbeing and hauora of the students at Whitiora School we have been given the opportunity to take part in some exciting professional development. Pause, Breathe, Smile is a school based mindfulness programme leading to

significant increases in wellbeing which is very relevant, especially during these times of covid.

AS ALL OF OUR STAFF WILL BE ATTENDING THIS COURSE, NEXT FRIDAY 11TH FEBRUARY, WHITIORA SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED FOR A TEACHER ONLY DAY. (Our After School Programme will not be operating on this day)

Out of School Care Programme

Whitiora Out of School Care is an OSCAR registered programme that provides a relaxed, fun and friendly environment for our children.

We operate Monday to Friday:

Morning sessions - 7.30am to 8.30am \$5.00per session **Afternoon sessions -** 3.00pm to 5.30pm \$10.00 per session

(WINZ subsidies available)

For more information please contact our office admin.

Health & Safety Procedures at Red Setting

As you are aware we are now faced with the challenges of the omicron variant, especially with how quick the virus can spread. We have moved fully into the new traffic light framework for all our school activities and events this year. It is good to know that at Red setting, we are able to support everyone learning onsite. This is how the start of the school year 2022 will look like for our children.

Whitiora School will follow and teach the following guidelines for safe practice

Anyone who is sick must stay at home

- Children must not come to school if they are sick.
- If your child going to be absent advise the school each day

Phone: (07) 839 5579; Text: 027 753 0880

 If your child is sick at school parents/whaanau will be contacted for immediate pick up

Note: all parents/whaanau must be contactable for everyone's safety

Wearing of masks (Public Health Order)

Schools have been advised that it is now mandatory that all students from Year 4 to Year 8 and all staff must wear a mask when inside, this includes staff. You can help the school with this by teaching your child how to wear a mask properly and talk to them about the importance of wearing a mask inside. The school will also support our tamariki with mask wearing. If your child has their own mask then please send them to school with it. The school will provide masks if necessary.

Hygiene & Safety Practices

The staff will continue to support and encourage our tamariki safe practices when they are at school including:

- Safe distancing
- Washing hands with soap and water
- Safe practice for sneezing or coughing
- Cleaning and disinfecting learning area

Breaks & Eating times

To minimise contact between learning centres during school time, children's breaks and eating times will be staggered throughout the morning and afternoon sessions.

Safety procedures for whaanau and families

Parents, Whaanau and visitors coming into the school

Please understand that the following procedures are to minimise contact and keep all our children, staff and whaanau safe.

- No non-essential visitors on site.
- All visitors, including parents and caregivers who need to come onsite are required to
 - Wear face coverings
 - o Sign the register at the school office
 - Use the contact tracing app
- All children will need to be dropped off at the entrances of the school.
- Please stay in your vehicle to drop off and collect your child.
- To minimise congestion, there will be staggered finish times with drop offs and pick-ups from outside the school grounds.
 - 2.40 Kowhai and siblings from other LCs
 - 2.50 Matai and siblings from other siblings
 - 2.50 Te Aahuru
 - 3.00 Rata and Tootara