



# WHĪTAU SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER NO 15: Thursday 21 May 2020

**WHĪTAU  
SCHOOL**

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Find us on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/WhTtauSchool>

*Take care of our children. Take care of what they hear,  
Take care of what they see, take care of what they feel.  
For how the children grow, so will be the shape of Aotearoa’.*

*Dame Whina Cooper*

## KEY DATES - PLEASE KEEP FOR FUTURE REFERENCE!

<b>Next Week</b>	25 May - 5 June Tuesday 26 May Wednesday 29 May	Term 2 School SWIMMING has been cancelled Ukulele Lessons Resume Subway Lunch Online Orders Recorder Lessons Resume
<b>Coming Up</b>	Monday 1 June Tuesday 2 June	Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday - School is closed Teacher Only Day CANCELLED - School is open

**ANY VISITORS IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS BETWEEN 8AM AND 4PM  
MUST SIGN THE PARENT CONTACT TRACING REGISTER**

Text School Absences to **027 758 1467**

**Whakatauki of the Week:**

*‘He Moana pukepuke e ekengia e te waka’ -  
‘A choppy sea can be navigated’*

Principal: Sandra Smith, JP

[principal@whitau.school.nz](mailto:principal@whitau.school.nz)

Board of Trustees Chairperson: Alexandra Davids

[botchair@whitau.school.nz](mailto:botchair@whitau.school.nz)

WhTtau School Bank Account: 12-3240-0083654-01



**We value Being Respectful, Being Responsible and Being a Learner**

## ***From the Principal's Desk....***

***Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Wh Itau School***

***Kia ora koutou katoa! Talofa lava! Mālō e lelei! Greetings everyone!***



It is truly wonderful for everyone to be back at school together this week. The Board, staff and I would like to sincerely thank you for trusting our school planning and procedures to ensure that everyone is kept safe, happy and well as we reopen at Level 2. All of the students are calm and keen to be back in class learning with their friends and their teacher. We now have around 79% of our students back at school on a daily basis.

We are thrilled with the way everything is working at school, but no doubt you have had some very tired and probably hungry children, to cope with at the end of the school day! Our staff are tired too! Thank you so very much for your positive support of Learning at Home programmes, getting your children back to school so punctually and following our drop off and pick up systems at the start and the end of the school day.

***Our daily Fruit in Schools and Milk in Schools will both restart on Tuesday 2nd June after Queen's Birthday weekend.***

### ***Covid-19 and the effect of the Rosewood Cluster on our community***

***We have received enquiries from families about children of Rosewood staff working in the COVID-19 confirmed clusters.***

The Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health have advised us that children of Rosewood staff who have contracted COVID-19 will have been managed as close contacts of their case parent. What that means is that they will have been isolated with their parents until the time the parent recovered and became non-infectious. The child contact will then have been in quarantine for a further 14 days after that date (to ensure that they too haven't been infected). As long as they have remained well, they are then released and can go back to school as normal with no risk to anyone.

***There is some anxiety in our community about children whose parents work at Rosewood but are not, or have not been cases.***

Staff at Rosewood are wearing the PPE that is appropriate, so that even if they do care for residents who have COVID-19, they are at very little risk of getting it and would not, unless their PPE failed or they didn't wear it, be considered close contacts. Their children, in turn, are not at risk of getting it from their parents, as they are at worst 'contacts of contacts'. That means that other children/staff that these children come into contact with at school are 'contacts of contacts of contacts'. To become infected, a person needs to be exposed to a person with COVID-19 who is infectious and in the situation above they are at least two removed (and probably three) from that, so it's physically impossible for them to get COVID-19 that way.

## Misinformation about Oranga Tamariki

We have been advised of Facebook chat making false claims with misinformation causing anxiety for whānau. The conversation piece is based on 'if you are Māori and your child has a cold or runny nose then the MoH can/will uplift them'. There is absolutely no validity in this false rumour. Please be reassured that all students need to be back at school when they are well. Please discuss any concerns you have with us. The Ministry of Education has contacted the Ministry of Health and Oranga Tamariki regarding this unsettling rumour.

## Inquiry Learning

We have started our new integrated learning unit called Restart! This has been especially planned by Miss Collins for each level and includes wonderful ideas from different sources such as Sparklers, Pause Breathe Smile Mindfulness, the RTLB, Ministry of Education and other sources. It's main learning areas are Health and Physical Education and Social Sciences. The purpose of this unit is to reintegrate our learners back into learning and focusing on the New Zealand Curriculum Key Competencies which are:

- Thinking
- Relating to others
- Using language, symbols and texts
- Managing self
- Participating and contributing

We look forward to sharing our learning with you later in the term through Learning Conferences.

**We warmly welcome the following new students who have enrolled at our school this week.**

**We trust you and your whānau will find our school an awesome, caring school where you will be 'learning to take us places...!'**

**Room 2: Joseph Westbury and Jayce Skinner**

**Room 3: Mia Horn**

Ngā mihi

Sandra Smith JP

**PRINCIPAL**

## *Taha Maori Focus*

Each week we have Maori phrases which we try to incorporate into our daily teaching and learning.

**He aha tēnei? - What is this?**



## **PB4L-SW@LNS – Week 6**

This week our focus is:



***Be Respectful - Keep yourself safe in work and play and be aware of your surroundings***

***What does this look like at home?***

- If something looks dangerous then stay away
- Look out for others and seek help if you need it
- Support others if they need your help

### ***News from the Kakano/Kehakai Learning Team and Miss Collins***

This week we welcomed three new Kākano students and Miss Diedrichs officially opened Room 2. We have New Entrant visits happening over the next two weeks and then another group of students starting after Queen's Birthday weekend. The Room 2 and 3 students have had a Teddy Bear Week and have brought their bears to school. They've read about bears, made bears and had a bear hunt. This was a lovely transition for our newest students.

Rooms 4 and 5 have settled beautifully back into learning and have been working on lots of wellbeing and mindful activities. Each class is completing shared reading and this is going home each night in your child's Poetry Book. We haven't sent reading books home this week. Please keep reading to and with your child. They are also still able to access Epic, Sunshine Online and Sunshine Classics to keep working on their reading at home.



# WHĪTAU SCHOOL WHEELIE DAYS

One day a week for each Learning Team where they can bring their scooter, skateboard, rollerblades or roller skates to school with a helmet.

MONDAY = KĀKANO

TUESDAY = KEHAKAI

WEDNESDAY = KĀRAWHA

THURSDAY = KŌRARI

## NO HELMET = NO WHEELS

The School will take all care possible but recommends that each item is well named and if bringing a scooter that it is locked in the Cycle Stands.

Other wheels will be safely stored in Cloak Bays or the Learning Centre.

Students will use their own wheels only and only on the Court Area.



