



Te Kura Maori o Nga Tapuwae

TE WAIORA O RONA & SCHOOL UPDATES

Friday 31st May 2024

Tēnā koutou e ngā mātua,

As winter is settling in a lot more, we thought it pertinent to send out a Te Waiora o Rona update as well as a few other key pieces of information that you will need to know for this second half of Term 2.

Breakfast Club & School Lunches

As you will have seen there have been some major changes to the Ka Ora Ka Ako – Healthy School Lunches Programme that will take effect in 2025. We want to assure you that we will do our best to retain what we currently have in place as the overwhelming feedback from students is the lunches provided by our in-house chef are not only delicious but nutritious.

I want to take this opportunity to ask parents to remind your children that they are not allowed to go to the shop before school. There have been reports of inappropriate behaviour by others at the shop and we have instructed students to stay away from there in the mornings. In place of that, we provide a beautiful breakfast each morning that is available from 8am. This includes weetbix, fresh fruit, fruit salad, yoghurt, toast, baked beans and on special occasions other hot meals. This is much better and healthier than the pies, chips and fizzy drinks that we see coming back from the shop. Therefore, we ask that parents remind their children of the rule regarding leaving the school grounds after you've arrived in the morning. This is NOT permitted!

Support Services

We would like to inform new whānau who have just joined us this term and remind old whānau of the additional support services we have available:

Medical support:

We have Liana Snell who is our fulltime Healthcare Support Worker who also has access to a Registered Nurse if/when needed. Liana does regular "Head to Toe" checks on all students whose parents signed the Mana Kidz permission slip. Through these checks, she has detected 87 cases of Strep Throat which left untreated could've led to Rheumatic Fever whereby causing long term effects on the heart.

On a Thursday we have Dr Molly Anderson from Turuki Health onsite. She sees patients from 9am – 1pm each week in 15 minute intervals. These timeslots are purely for our school whānau with priority going to our students, their grandparents/great grandparents and then other members of the whānau who are registered patients of Turuki Healthcare. This is an awesome opportunity to whānau to be seen by a GP much quicker than you generally can elsewhere so we seriously encourage you to make an appointment through Leanne Gardiner. She can be contacted via Ph: 09 551 6161 or lgardiner@ngatapuwaee.school.nz. We want to ensure that Dr Molly's schedule is full so we can keep her returning to Ngā Tapuwāe every week.

Mā Gardiner also goes to the chemist to collect all medication that Dr Molly sends for the patients she sees throughout the day so that you can have them by 3pm when your child leaves school.

Social Worker

We also have a Social Worker - Bonny Alaia from the Mangere East Family Services Centre, working here on a Monday and Tuesday. He is available to support our whānau in a range of ways so if you would like to meet with him in-person, by phone or via zoom then please feel free to contact Mā Gardiner at the office to make an appointment or you can email Bonny directly via bonny@mefsc.org.nz but please inform him that your child/ren attend Te Kura Māori o Ngā Tapuwāe as he supports other Kura too.

Counsellor

We have a counsellor Rona Waetford who works 3 days a week and can support students. Unfortunately we do not have the capacity to support whānau but if your child would like to make an appointment with Mā Waetford you/they can contact Mā Gardiner at the office and she will find a time slot to book them in.

General Health & Wellbeing

As winter takes hold, we want to remind whānau that it is extremely important that our students stay warm to stay well! There are a number of jerseys/jackets in the lost & found baskets around the school so remind your child to look there first if they can't find theirs. In this regard, we IMPLY you to label all of your child's clothing (especially items such as jacket/jerseys/shoes and anything else that is easy to take off).

If you are experiencing financial difficulties and can't currently afford to purchase warm uniform for your child, please send me a letter/email requesting support. I don't want money to be the reason our kids are getting sick.

Vaccinations available to whānau – Wednesday 5th June 2024

We would like to extend our thanks to Turuki Health who have agreed to come here on Wednesday 5th June at 3pm to provide free Flu vaccinations and Covid-19 boosters for students and whānau who would like them. Please note that these will not be given to students unless their parents are present.

Some key information from Turuki regarding the Covid-19 vaccination is as follows:

- People are encouraged to have at least 3 Boosters, but you can have additional doses regardless of the number you have had already.
- However, you must wait at least 6 months since you have had the COVID-19 virus or at least 6 months from receiving a COVID-19 vaccine. If you are unsure, or have more queries, here is a link for you to access with further information.
<https://info.health.nz/immunisations/vaccines-aotearoa/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-vaccine-boosters/>
- If you are unsure of when you last had the covid-19 vax, the Turuki staff will have access to an online vaccine portal on the day to advise you when it was last given.

If you would like to take up this opportunity to have a flu vaccination free of charge and/or a Covid-19 booster please **complete the slip below and return it to school on Tuesday 4th June.**

Year 13 Students

Our Year 13 students only have 17 weeks of school life left. Therefore, it is imperative that they attend school everyday and ensure that they are staying on top of and ideally, ahead of curriculum tasks/assessments. As their Principal, I am extremely concerned that some students act like they are already enrolled in tertiary education where they can wake up and turn up whenever they're ready. This is not the case! So far this year there have been too many students arriving late or being absent from school. As such, I implore whānau/parents to help us keep the

pressure on for these last 17 weeks. My teachers are working extremely hard to ensure that everyone student reaches their potential but they can't keep dragging kids across the line. With all of the time, effort and energy being poured into your children – there is no excuse for failure!

Whānau Hui – 7pm Monday 17th June

We would like to inform you that we have our next full Whānau Hui at 7pm on Monday 17th June 2024 in Hoturoa. It is important that every child in our school has a parent/caregiver/guardian in attendance at this parent meeting.

National Kapa Haka Hui – 6pm Monday 17th June

There is a compulsory meeting for the whānau of all students in the Nationals Kapa Haka team. If your child is travelling to Nelson you will need to attend this final hui. Could you please bring your child with you so that s/he also hears the information being shared with you.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the office on Ph: 551 6161 or via info@ngatapuwaeschool.nz

Ngā manaakitanga,



Arihia Stirling
Principal

VACCINATION REQUEST

Please fill out the following if you or members of your whānau would like to receive the Covid-19 Booster and/or the Flu Vaccination at 3pm on Wednesday 5th June 2024

Name of person wanting the vaccination	Covid-19 (✓)	Flu Vax (✓)

My contact number is: _____

Sign: _____ Date: _____
(Parent / Guardian / Caregiver)