

# MEREMERE SCHOOL

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Term 1 Week 5  
4 March 2022

## SCHOOL VISION:

Believe Achieve Succeed

## SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Success through Achievement. Achievement through Education.

Kia ora Whanau,

Autumn is upon us. But what a wonderful Summer we have had!

## KHAN FAMILY

We welcome Marwa and Muhaz back from a holiday in Pakistan. They had to do a stint in quarantine before returning home to Meremere but had a great holiday with their extended family.

## LOCAL MP VISITS

Our local MP Andrew Bayly visited the school last Thursday to speak to the principal and again this Thursday to attend the BOT meeting. Andrew is looking for ways in which he can support the school. Andrew had visited a couple of years ago; he loved the school even placing a photo of himself with our children on his home page.

## MEREMERE GRADUATES

It was wonderful to hear that Te Kauwhata College are very happy with our graduates Zunoon and Tairan. They have been very impressed with the high levels of learning that they both achieved at Meremere School in Literacy and Mathematics and their confidence and respect

We are proud of the accomplishments of both of our boys who have moved onto Te Kauwhata and include their farewell letters to the school in the newsletter this week.

## WHAEA FAYE

Sadly, Whaea Faye fell off a step ladder the Sunday before last. She broke her leg and badly gashed the other. She finally had an op last Thursday as Middlemore is so busy, unfortunately she will be incapacitated for months. We wish her all the very best with her recovery. She will be replaced by Whaea Susan a great teacher/reliever who we had in the

school two years ago. Whaea Susan used to teach at Bombay School where she had a great reputation as a strong teacher. She is now an accredited MOE Maths facilitator.

### VISITORS TO SCHOOL

We need to keep the school, children, and staff as safe as we possibly can as Omicron ramps up, so we are reducing all visitors including whanau into school. Please ring the school on 09 23 26 712 first, if you believe a visit is urgent.

### ALL PLD

Last year I applied for a MOE course called Accelerated Literacy Learning and the application was accepted. This is on-going for the year with PLD Professional Learning Development delivered in Hamilton by the facilitator who will also visit the school to observe and model practice. This will greatly enhance the 1-1 we provide for children and ensure that children's learning accelerates to where it should be. Although the school was acknowledged in the last ERO report regards our ability to accelerate children this PLD will further enhance our skills.

Please note that last Friday Danielle and I were both at the University in Hamilton for the first PLD.

### POKENO LIONS

Last Wednesday I had a meeting at school with two members of the Pokeno Lions who are looking at ways to support the school. We appreciated the gifts and support for our school.

### GROUNDS

Getting on top of the grounds is our goal and we are slowly making progress with both the lawns and the gardens.

### ROLL

Our roll has dropped but Meremere School historically has always been impacted by transience ie people shifting in and out of the village. We have been conducting a Self-Review of the roll for the last two years and the greatest number of children leaving the school left the village to live in other parts of the country. 85% of the children leaving the school have either left the village or gone to High school. Families have shifted right across the country from Masterton to the bottom of the South Island and locally to Huntly. During 2020 and 2021 only one child left for Mercer School as it was known then. Since Feb 2020 and today, a relatively small number [14 %] of the children on our roll have gone to Te Paina, for a range of reasons including for sporting opportunities.

With small numbers currently, we can give the children lots of support and one on one attention. We thank families who have emailed us to acknowledge the progress and achievement their children make here. We know from our consultations that this is the most important thing for parents, consequently we make this our first priority. We also value those whanau who come in and talk to us honestly and openly face to face about concerns. We sincerely and wholeheartedly thank our families for championing the school in recent events. The school and BOT remain committed to addressing any concerns.

Please remember if you do have any complaints or concerns, please follow our simple process which is to talk to teachers first, then the principal and failing that a letter to the BOT.

We love working with our families and want to assure you that we are doing everything possible to ensure your children are receiving the best education and care possible to enable their success in the future.

### COMPLAINTS TO THE BOT

Please be aware that if you have a concern or complaint that has not been addressed by the school after you have spoken to the teacher or principal then you are able to submit a written complaint signed and dated to the BOT.

When this is considered by the BOT the principal is excluded from the In-Committee meeting. The principal is not party to the discussions or the vote which determine any outcome.

### BOT PROCESSES

Our BOT like hundreds of other BOTs in the country subscribe to School Docs. They provide all the schools policies which we then tailor to suit the school.

### COVID IN THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

We have had five children absent with possible links to Covid this week. We all hope for the best outcome.

### HOMEWORK GROUP

Whaea Alison will be back next week running this.

### PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

The Public Health Nurse has now talked to the Year 7 & 8 children about their triple vax [NOT COVID] and has taken the senior girls and boys for separate puberty talks. Thank you to those families who have returned the triple vax consent forms already.

### SPORTS

With the children playing compulsory Sports at lunch time their Softball skills have improved. All the children are now able to give the ball a decent hit.

We have still been learning cricket skills in our Monday class sessions and have had the cricket coach once to the school. They have two more visits and as it is outdoors in the fresh air and they coaches are wearing masks I am happy for that to continue.

### WET WATER DAY 3 MARCH

The children voted yesterday to delay the Wet Water Day while their absent friends are home. We intend doing this next week.

Next term we are planning another Wet Water Day. We will hire a bus and take the children into the Pukekohe Rec Centre for a fun day with pizzas for lunch. When the day comes you will be welcome to join us.

### CHROME BOOKS

All children at Meremere School are fortunate enough to have a personal chrome book issued to them for individual use if they are Year 3 and above. Our tech person has now visited, and all children are now set up with their own computers. At many school's whanau must supply these and in other schools they are shared between classes. Sometimes children may only get to use these once or twice a week. We are delighted that Meremere School children have access to their own chrome book every day for Reading and Maths and topic research. They have free choice with these on wet day morning and lunch breaks. Please be assured that because we belong to the MOEs screening network N4L [Network for Learning] they cannot access any inappropriate sites.

### A QUICK SURVEY

Thank you to all whanau who completed the quick survey and returned these to school.

### WEEKLY ASSEMBLY PRIZE WINNERS

#### Term 1 Week 3

#### **Senior Role Models**

Demetrius, Aroha

#### **Group Points**

3 Musketeers

#### **Teachers Caught Being Good**

Chloe, Demetrius

#### **Year 6 Caught Being Good**

Dylan, MJ

#### **Sports Certificates**

##### **Room 3**

Ian

#### **Learners Prizes**

##### **Room 3**

**Reading**

Chloe

**Writing**

Demetrius

**Maths**

Daz

#### **Principal's Award**

##### **Room 3**

Aroha

Thankyou

Maxine Stensness  
Principal

✂(Cut here and return to school)

\_\_\_\_\_ ✂

I have received and read the newsletter.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Child's name \_\_\_\_\_