



Bruce McLaren Intermediate School

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NEWSLETTER # 18

30 October 2018

Greetings, Kia Ora, Fakalofa lahi atu, Malo e lelei, Talofa lava, Taloha, Kia Orana, Ni hao, Buenos dias, Ciao, Malo no habari, Dobar dan, Bula vinaka, Anyeonghaseyo, Nameste, Sawatdi

From The Principal's Desk:

Kia ora koutou katoa

It is great to start the week with a 'hiss and a roar'!

PRINCIPALS' CONFERENCE:

Firstly, I would like to thank our BMIS Board, staff, Management Team and acting Assistant Principal, Mr



Arun Ganda, for their

support and superb work in leading the school while I attended the New Zealand Principals' Federation Conference in Wellington over the course of the short week.

The theme of the conference was "Creative Leaders. Flourishing Futures".

There is no doubt that to ensure our students are to be prepared for the future, schools must focus upon ensuring our students are adaptable curious, creative and resilient students. I am confident that here at Bruce McLaren Intermediate School we have a responsive curriculum that has direction to focus upon what matters in developing our students as learners for the future.

As educators, our continuing challenge is to measure what is important. The latest research expresses that there is **no correlation between high test scores and high attainment in life** – but we already know that! While artificial intelligence can increasingly do almost anything, being a successful human being is to have meaning and fulfillment in life and to be contributing to humanity.

We need to ensure that our NZ Curriculum Key Competencies are explicit to develop creative problem solving and the skills of active citizenship.

Thinking critically and creatively

Relate to others and have effective collaboration

Use language, symbols and text to effectively communicate

Manage self and show character

Participate and contribute as a local and global citizen.

The ability to work as a member of a team has again been reiterated throughout the conference with isolation seen as the enemy of innovation and improvement.

NZEI NEGOTIATION UPDATE:

As you are aware schools are facing a teacher shortage crisis, with a 40% drop in people training to be teachers; and a growing number of school-aged children. In term three, 50% of schools reported that they did not have enough teachers. Schools are struggling to attract teaching staff, and that problem looks set to worsen. There is also a desperate need for more support for children with additional learning needs. Yet, the Government has a bumper surplus of \$5.5 billion, more than enough to fix the issues in primary education (\$0.9b).

New Zealand's principals and primary teachers have just voted about what to do to get government action on the current crisis in recruiting and retaining teachers. We're agreed - we can't in good conscience accept the Government's latest collective agreement offer because it does not begin to address the crisis. We have therefore voted for an unprecedented second strike, to be held next month.

There will be nationwide rolling strikes over a week, and our region will be striking on Monday 12 November. Our school will be closed on that date.

While we regret the inconvenience we know this will cause, we need to send a clear message to the Government that we are standing strong for our students. Already children's education is suffering because of the difficulty in recruiting teachers and relievers, and we must take bold steps to turn this around. The Government recently announced a

\$5.5 billion surplus, so there is no reason to make our children wait while the situation deteriorates further.

Through our union, NZEI Te Riu Roa, we are asking for:

- Smaller classes, so our children can get more one-on-one attention
- More resources and staffing to adequately support children with additional learning needs – this will benefit all children because teachers will be freed to spend more one-on-one time with every student
- A significant increase in teachers' salaries so that they are properly valued for their qualifications and responsibilities, and as a country we can recruit and retain teachers.

We appreciate and thank you for your continued support on this important issue.

Find out more at <https://campaigns.nzei.org.nz/time>

UPCOMING FORTNIGHT:

There is much to focus on in the ensuing fortnight: Supercars @ Pukekohe, Athletics Day at Douglas Track and Field, Cultural weeks, Fia Fia night practices, high school testing for Year 8s, adventure playground development, hall floor replacement, WZ sports teams competing, as well as using our Inquiry topic of "Communication" to gain new knowledge.

Nga mihi

Liz Wood - Principal

ATTENDANCE WINNER:

Congratulations to Room 2 for beating all the other classes at having the best attendance and the least late arrivals for Term 3. You have won \$50 to spend as a class on your learning. Well done!

PRINCIPALS AWARDS:

Congratulations to the following students who received Principals Awards at assembly this week. Well done!

CJ Wing (Room 1)

Mustafa Alsadoud (Room 1)

Cheyenne Walker (Room 2)

Amethyst Wiperi-Tane (Room 2)

MERIT AWARDS:

Congratulations to the students who received Merit Awards at assembly this week. You have been

recognised for being in the right place, at the right time, doing the right thing. Well done!

2019 ENROLMENTS

If you have a Year 6 child who will be attending Bruce McLaren Intermediate School next year, please return your completed enrolment form to the school office asap.

All Year 8 students should now be enrolled for High School next year.

BOTTLE TOPS

We are still collecting coloured bottle tops to create a Bruce McLaren car mural. Please bring your rinsed tops to the office each morning and place them in the container.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Week 2 Rowing NZ in

2 Nov 50 students to Pukekohe Super Cars

5 Nov BMIS Athletics Day @ Douglas Track & Field

(Have you returned your permission slip and money?)

8 Nov WZ Touch Tournament @ Kelston Intermediate

12 Nov School closed today due to nationwide rolling strikes

13 Nov Hearing & Vision Testing

22 Nov Fia Fia Night @ at Sunnyvale School
Tickets now available from the school office - limited seating, don't miss out!

23 Nov Waitakere Cultural Festival @ Henderson Intermediate

29 Nov Auckland Athletic Champs

10 Dec Reports home

11 Dec Year 8 Graduation @ The Hub

12 Dec Sports & Service Prize Giving

14 Dec Formal Prize Giving @ Henderson High School (9.30am - 11.30pm)

14 Dec Term 4 Ends (12.30pm)



Monday, 5 November

Douglas Track & Field Centre *(Trust Stadium Fields)*

Another great Bruce McLaren Intermediate day is just around the corner! This is a school wide event where 100% participation is expected. Parent help is always welcomed at Athletics Day. This is a fabulous day for all who attend, so if you are able to support your child, please feel free to do so.

An Athletics Day letter has been given to your child with all of the information outlining the day. An assembly has been held regarding Athletics Day so your child will be well informed about the event.

Students are required to compete in at least one track event and three field events to gain a 'Participation' certificate and an 'Athlete Certificate' will be awarded to those who achieve a first, second or third placing in a final event for at least three events.

Trainers/sneakers are to be worn by all students. NO spikes are to be worn by any students - this is a school day, not a national track meet.

The cost of this event is \$8, which covers the hireage of the grounds and the buses. Some families have already paid for this - please call the school office if you would like to check on your account.

Douglas Track and Field Centre (Trust Stadium Field) is an all weather venue so we will be going rain, hail or shine. The staff will have a team ready for the relay races (yet to be discussed), so a parent relay team is always an option - happy training!

Any inquiries, please feel free to contact Mr Ganda at aganda@brucemclaren.school.nz



Technology is always adapting and it's here to stay, but many do not think about the safety risk in terms of Cybersafety.

An online study revealed a startling figure: 74% of parents are in the dark about their kids' online activities. The most important way to keep your kids safe online is to have frequent, open and honest discussions with your children about their lives.

Child safety with mobile phones and apps:

1. Always ask a parent before downloading a new app. Not all apps are safe and many exploit kids with
2. In-app purchases that get expensive really quickly.
3. Do not give your phone number to strangers or post it online.
4. Tell a parent if you receive something that makes you feel uncomfortable.
5. Do not answer a call or text message from an unrecognizable number.
6. Think about the messages you send. If you wouldn't say it in person, don't send it.
7. Follow any rules that your school sets for smartphone use in class or during school hours.

Set a personal example for your child. Don't bring your phone to the dinner table, and don't text and drive. You can also set up a charging station in a central location in your home. Phones should stay out of your child's bedroom so they won't be in use late at night.

Sausage sizzle
and drinks for
sale!

Fiftio Night

Limited
Tickets

Thursday, 22 November 2018 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Adults - \$5 School age - \$2 Under 5 - FREE
Sunnyvale School Hall - 34 Ribblesdale Rd

Tickets on sale at

Bruce McLaren Intermediate School Office

Tickets are now available from the
Bruce McLaren Intermediate school office.