



# Bruce McLaren Intermediate School

69 Bruce McLaren Road, Henderson • Tel. (09) 836-3175  
www.brucemclaren.school.nz • admin@bruceclaren.school.nz

## NEWSLETTER # 1

## 4 February 2021

*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

Welcome to a new year at BMIS.

It is exciting to see all the new faces of our Year 7s as well as our fabulous returning Year 8s.

#### MEET THE TEAM:

With a settled start to the school year I wish to introduce the staff:

Room 1	Tracey Burgess
Room 2	Gavin Chester
Room 3	Adrianna Yang
Room 5	Pamela Clydesdale
Room 6	Ethan Edmonds
Room 7	Selma Nicholson
Room 8	Brett McKenzie
Room 9	Hannah Whittington
Room 10	Helen Magasiva
Room 11	Christiaan Liebenberg
Room 12	Lagi Teokotai
Room 13	Brenda Sluiter
Performing Arts	Kim Provis
STEM	Geoff Emmitt
Visual Arts	Sarah Ormsby
Hospitality & Food	Stephanie Pye

Our school is operating five Whanau (teaching and learning teams) which reflect our five core values. Your child is a member of a Whanau.

Maanaki – Care; Atawhai – Courtesy; Mahi Tahī – Co-operation; Atamai – Common Sense; Manawanui – Commitment.

#### CHANGES FOR 2021:

2021 is seeing many changes at Bruce McLaren Intermediate School. To name a few – new staff, new learning opportunities, the introduction of new programmes, new furniture for classrooms, new technology for classrooms, updating of the Admin area, and the removal of excess fill from around the grounds, new gardens and painting of buildings. Growth and continued improvement keeps us extremely busy.

#### STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

Curriculum and pedagogy are key to student success. Therefore, professional development this year for staff is about enhancing programmes to ensure progress and achievement continues to accelerate student outcomes. We are proud of our teaching and learning journey to date.

#### CONTACT WITH THE TEACHER:

Should you have any queries about your child's learning, the class teacher is the first port of call. It is best to email the teacher directly to co-ordinate a meeting/discussion in person. Kanohi te kanohi (face to face) is the preferred method of communication so that any complements or concerns are addressed in person - accordingly.

#### COMMUNICATION WITH SCHOOL:

SkoolLoop is our primary method of communication with parents/whanau. Have the app downloaded to your cellphone.

The school website, electronic sign and emails are also methods of communication with our community.

**NEWSLETTERS ARE ELECTRONIC – SENT BY EMAIL** to your email address provided on the enrolment form. Should you need to check that your email address is up to date, please contact the School Office. These are produced once per fortnight and contain important information.

With newsletters going live, these being sent to your email, they can also be accessed on the school website at [www.brucemclaren.school.nz](http://www.brucemclaren.school.nz)

#### UNIFORM & STATIONERY:

It is important to ensure that your child is in correct uniform and has stationery. This should have been completed before commencing school.

#### OFF AT THE GATE:

Discussion with your child about OFF AT THE GATE is imperative. Students, when entering school, are to turn devices off as they enter the school gates and turn

them on again as they leave the school gates at the end of the day. Students, when entering school, are to get off bicycles, scooters, skateboards and skates at the school gate for everyone's safety. No helmet - no ride.

Please support the school in safeguarding everyone.

### **CORONAVIRUS UPDATE:**

Any information will be sent through via SkoolLoop, email, newsletter and website.

### **PIT STOP, SPORT & OPPORTUNITIES DAY:**

Pit Stop and school wide sport will commence in Week 3; Opportunities Day will commence in Week 5.

### **SCHOOL SWIMMING:**

School Swimming will take place on Thursday, 11 February at Henderson High School. Mr McKenzie is the TIC for this brilliant day. More information will be issued soon.

### **MEET THE TEACHER:**

On Thursday, 18 February from 6.00pm - 7.00pm, parents/whanau are invited to Meet the Teacher evening. This will commence in the hall followed by a visit to your child's classroom where you can meet the teacher. This is NOT a personalised meeting, it is a chance to put faces to names and hear about processes, practices and programmes your child will be immersed in. Come along and have a BBQ sausage while your child shows you around their school.

### **PERSONAL BEST LEARNING PROFILE MEETINGS:**

Our Personal Best Learning Profile Meetings will be held on Thursday, 8 April (Week 10) from 1pm - 8pm where parents/whanau will meet with the teacher to discuss your child's application to learning. **Please note that school will finish at 12.30pm on this day to allow for the meetings.** More info will be sent out closer to the time.

### **SCHOOL ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES:**

Teachers are in classrooms from 8:15am to welcome students to the new day. It has been observed previously that some students were arriving as early as 6:55am! This is a safety issue. There is no-one to supervise these students at this time as staff are working to prepare for the day.

Students should only be arriving at school AFTER 8am+ (this is still early!).

All students leave the school at 3.00pm. Any students waiting for parents/whanau are required to sit by the school hall. No student is to wait outside the school gate. It is wise to discuss a pick up point away from the school gate (by The Hub, along Corban Ave, Heremai Road, Hulme Place, Silverstone Place, ... not loitering at the shops, waiting!). **THE BUS BAY IS FOR BUSES ONLY.**

The car parks are for staff. Should you be wanting to

access the School Office, use the car park by the big palm tree. Please do not park on grassed areas.

We aim to keep all of our students and staff safe. Thank you for helping us do this.

With such a settled start to the year, it can only bode well for the rest of 2020. I look forward to meeting and working with our parents, our whanau and our wider community.

Nga mihi

*Liz Wood - Principal*

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### **WAITANGI DAY - NO SCHOOL:**

Just a reminder that there is no school on Monday, 8 February, as this is a public holiday.

### **SUPPORTING OUR STAFF:**

Any staff member of Bruce McLaren Intermediate School is here to assist your child with their learning journey. Staff are respectful of your child/ren and will do their utmost to ensure their experience at our school is positive. We ask that parents and whanau role model what respect for, by and with staff looks like also when interacting with us. Your support is gratefully received.

### **SCHOOL BUS UPDATE:**

Just a reminder that we share our school buses with Oratia Primary and Henderson High school. The Piha bus leaves school around 3.05pm but the Oratia Bus and the Opanuku Bus do not collect our students until around 3.30pm after school. We rely on Ritchies to let us know if buses are not running to schedule and if this is the case we will put updates on our Skool Loop App. Thank you for your patience.

### **ENROLMENTS:**

It has been an incredible start to the year with 20+ students enrolling within the last week. As you can imagine, a lot of time and hard work goes into class placements. Students learning, social, emotional and health needs are all taken into consideration. Sometimes students may not be placed with their friends, and may have been placed with a teacher that is better suited to their needs. As our classes are full, it is extremely difficult to move students. We encourage students to allow relationships with their teacher and fellow students to settle. However, if you have any concerns, please contact the classroom teacher.

## STATIONERY FOR 2021:

Stationery packs are available for purchase from the Henderson Warehouse Stationery, Cnr Pioneer & Catherine Streets, Henderson (09) 836-3893. **All students should have their stationery packs by Tuesday, 9 February.**

## COMMUNICATION:

For general school information we have many ways of informing our school community.

- We ask:
  - parents/whanau to have the SkoolLoop app downloaded onto your device,
  - check in with the school website,
  - read the fortnightly newsletter (usually out on a Wednesday) and attached to the website
  - electronic sign at school gate
  - email list (newsletter subscription found on website)

Should you wish to make contact with the school, your child's class teacher is the first point of contact.

## SUN SAFE:

With our Summer upon us it is important that our students utilise our four steps to ensure that we are a Sun Safe School.

1. Sun block is available in classrooms
2. Ample provision of shade structures and leafy trees under which students may seek protection
3. Education – the students are consistently reminded, and in assemblies, about the dangers of the sun and to take precautions
4. A school hat is a compulsory part of the Bruce McLaren Intermediate School uniform

## UNIFORM SALES 2021:

Uniform can be purchased either online: <http://www.schooluniformcentre.co.nz> or from the School Uniform Centre showroom, 588 Remuera Rd, Remuera. **All students must be in full and correct uniform, including PE gear and correct school shoes, by Tuesday, 9 February.**

## 2021 TERM DATES:

- T1:** Y7: Wednesday, 3 February - Friday, 16 April  
Y8: Thursday, 4 February - Friday, 16 April
- T2:** Monday, 3 May - Friday, 9 July
- T3:** Monday, 26 July - Friday, 1 October
- T4:** Monday, 18 October - Friday, 17 December

## SCHOOL FEES 2021:

Below is a list of costs that will need to be paid throughout the year. These costs can be paid in full, paid weekly, fortnightly, term by term - however is easiest for you! Additional events and activities will come up through the year specific to our learning programmes. Information regarding any events will be available in newsletters, on the website and from your child before the event.

Our bank account details are: Bruce McLaren Intermediate School, **12-3051-0471762-00** if you would like to start making payments towards any of these costs. Please use your child's name and what you are paying for as references.

<b>Specialist Subject Fees:</b> This covers materials used in specialist subjects, like Food Tech, Visual Art, etc.	\$80
<b>Beach Ed (Year 8 Experience - Part 1):</b> This is taking place in Week 5 and will need to be paid for by Friday, 19 February. Information and permission slip will be sent home shortly. This is for Yr 8 students only.	\$30
<b>Spelling Book:</b> This is a resource that supports a schoolwide spelling programme, and is not part of the stationery box	\$11
<b>Maths Buddy:</b> This is an individualised online maths resource integrated into our Maths programme	\$15
<b>Year 7 Camp:</b> This will take place in September. The cost will be \$300 per student. This amount can be paid off during the year but will need to be paid in full by Friday, 20 August.	\$300
<b>Year 8 Experience - Part 2:</b> This will take place in September. The cost will be \$270 per student. This amount can be paid off during the year but will need to be paid in full by Friday, 20 August.	\$270

## PIT STOP:

At BMIS we have Pit Stop. This is a refuelling station for our emerging adolescents. Students are able to access Pit Stop - this is FREE. Students and volunteers run Pit Stop - for students by students. Food that is accessible at intervals: fruit, weetbix, snackbars, cold milk and chilled water, bread & spreads with a focus on healthy eating. We do not have a school tuckshop.

### Open Everyday:

First Break (10:00am - 10:20am)  
and lunchtime (1:00pm - 1:20pm)

### Hot Lunches:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday (1:00pm - 1:20pm)

## SCHOOL PRODUCTION 2021:

BMIS is looking forward to presenting to our community a fun filled, action packed, fast paced school production in Term 3, 2021. This production is ambitious and exciting. The timeline for rehearsals, costume designing and making, backdrop construction, staging and student development has been mapped out, timed and rigorous. Due to such an undertaking, it is important that our community is aware that should there be any change in or to COVID Level 1, at any stage as from Wk1, Term 1, 2021 the Production will be rescheduled for 2022. Our fingers are crossed for nothing but a COVID free year.

## ATTENDANCE:

As part of our reporting to the Board of Trustees, we report against attendance. This is also shown on your child's school report.

The Ministry of Education outlines attendance rates as follows:

Absence Rates Across the Year			
Acceptable	96%	=	10 days (2 weeks of school missed across the school year)
A concern	90%	=	20 days (4 weeks of missed school, one month)
Critical concern	85%	=	30 days (6 weeks of missed school, over half a term)
Very serious	80%	=	40 days (8 weeks of missed school, nearly one term)

Another interesting, but scary fact - if your child misses one day a fortnight for various reasons, by the time they reach Year 10, they will have missed a whole year of schooling. Absences have a significant impact on a child's learning, please be mindful of this.

School starts at 8.30am each morning, and finishes at 3.00pm. Please make sure your child is on time.

## OFFICE HOURS:

The school office is open from 8.00am - 4.00pm every day except Thursdays, when it will close at the earlier time of 3.00pm.

# MEET THE TEACHER



**THURSDAY, 18 FEBRUARY**

**6.00PM - 7.00PM**

Meet the Teacher is a time to come along and put a face to the name of your child's teacher, meet other parents/whanau of students in your child's class and get to hear about how your child's class operates.

There are many opportunities to get involved with, to support your child's learning at our school.

**Meet the Teacher evening is on:  
Thursday, 18 February 2021  
6.00pm - 7.00pm**

We will all meet in the hall to begin with and then move to classrooms. Your child is encouraged to show you their Specialist Classrooms also.

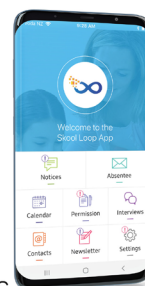
Everyone is invited to come along.

There will also be a sausage sizzle  
- first in, first served.

*Hope to see you all!*

Have you downloaded  
the Skool Loop yet?

- ✓ Events
- ✓ Notices
- ✓ Instant school messages
- ✓ Book interviews
- ✓ Absentee
- ✓ Newsletters
- ✓ Permission Slips



Available on the  
App Store

Get it on  
Google play



Simple free download: In Google play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose our school once installed.