

# **Bruce McLaren Intermediate School**

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

# **NEWSLETTER # 16**

# 8 November 2019

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

Week 4 catapults us to the middle of Term 4 already. As of Friday, there are only 24.5 school days left for our students until the end of term – when, only then, can they relax (and a whole lot more for our teachers before and after Christmas!). The Term 4 sprint is seriously underway. With so much learning and so many extracurricula activities in place, please ensure your child is getting plenty of sleep and hydrating to be able to keep up with the pace of intermediate life.

#### SCHOOL ATHLETICS DAY:

School Athletics Day was a huge success with so many of our students exceeding their own expectations. The sun shone, records were broken and even the late return of a bus from Douglas Track and Field could not deter our students from enjoying the day. Thank you to all helpers and whanau who supported our day. Results are included in the newsletter.

#### STAFFING UPDATES:

With rapid roll growth and retirements there have been positions to fill for 2020. We farewell Mrs Lander (Visual Arts), Mrs Mills (Soft Materials Technology), Mrs Earnshaw (R7 & ESOL) and Mr Emerson (R9). We thank each of these dedicated teachers for their input, energy and enthusiasm into educating our students.

We welcome Miss Ah Chong (Assistant Principal), Ms Nicholson (Teacher), Miss Leapai (Teacher), Mrs Ormsby (Visual Arts). We also welcome Miss Whittington (Whanau Leader), an ex-BMIS student!

More information about our rapid roll growth – from 7 classrooms in 2016 to 13 classrooms in 2020, we are exceeding all expectations. There has been a great deal of work on our kaupapa; our pedagogy, practice, learning and teaching through cultural responsiveness and building positive relationships with our school community. Our spirit of excellence is shining through as reflected in the end of year results of our students. Our teachers are the coalition of the willing, who ensure that we offer more opportunities for our students than larger intermediate schools. Visitors to our school are impressed when our students walk them around – commenting that our students are articulate, excited by their learning and proud of their school!

Continuing the theme of expansion, two brand new classes will arrive on site mid-December. The Ministry of Education has agreed that the school is a priority for these new classes due to the unexpected growth, noting the hard work and positive change in the school, in such a short time. YES! And we are looking at having small class sizes for the new year and decade.

As well as the growth, our ILE classroom developments continue with 4 of the classes getting a 'make-over' which will enhance collaborative learning. Painting continues which is so refreshing – clean lines and a corporate look.

It is all go here at BMIS.

#### SOCIAL MEDIA WARNING:

As currently being reported in the media, New Zealand is experiencing a surge in child victims being blackmailed into sending explicit images via social media. Detective Sergeant Heath Jones comments, "It's a far-reaching problem for anyone who has a device, therefore has unfiltered access to pornography, warped view of sex or peer pressure of the need to seek approval."

The process, known as catfishing, involves perpetrators using fictitious identities and multiple social media platforms to encourage children to send nude images of themselves. Without the right education, support and technology in place, your children are at risk of falling into these awful traps.

It is found that many instances of online harm, such as the sending of explicit images, happen outside of school hours. Sadly, the online dangers facing our school community are ever-increasing.

No social media is accessible at school through our school system, of which every student has a BMIS account and every student knows that this is the only account to be used at school. Any other access is prohibited and therefore, should your child access any material that is not for their learning journey while at school, has been gained through inappropriate and devious means.

There is a NETSAFE information evening that is open to parents/whanau:

Wednesday 13th November at 7pm at Oratia District School, Netsafe's Education Advisor Pauline Spence will be talking about the risks, challenges and opportunities of digital technology, and the practical ways we can all help young people to be safe online.

The session will look at how families and whānau can support children and young people as they navigate online opportunities, challenges and complexities.

To help us prepare for this event, can you please register your interest? This will take you 2 minutes to complete: <u>https://forms.gle/AJXtwK5PTB9s6T379</u>

We will continue to endeavour to keep our students safe. We ask that you do the same.

Have a fantastic fortnight – remember to check out our blogspot at:

https://brucemclarenintermediate.blogspot.com/

Nga mihi

Liz Wood - Principal

#### SKOOL LOOP:

Please ensure that you are aware of the dates for our end of year activities. SkoolLoop is our primary source of information for updates; information is on our parent info FaceBook page as well as in the newsletter.

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### SUNHATS & SUNBLOCK:

As it is Term 4, students are expected to have their school hats on and to apply sunblock to ensure they are sunsafe. Hydration is also important so a water bottle is encouraged.

### PRINCIPALS AWARDS:

Well done to the following students who received a Principal's Award at assembly:

Okusi Tatafu (R6) and Lezion Hall (R6)

### **BEST ATTENDANCE:**

Congratulations to **Room 8**, who had the best attendance for Week 1, Term 4 - well done!

#### NEWSLETTER RETURN SLIP:

Well done to the **Prakul Prasad** for winning the newsletter return slip prize.

## McLAREN AWARD PRIZES:

Well done to the following students who received a McLaren Award prize at assembly:

Savanna (R2); Judas (R2); Koha (R5); Liam (R9) Rihanna (R1); Shayden (R3); Lily (R8); Tina (R8); Maria (R6); Louise (R7)

#### ATHLETES AWARDS:

Well done to the following students who received Athletes Awards at assembly this week. These were our top athletes at our school athletics day.

Skylah Popata-Hennessey; Isabella Linkhorn; Jesse Boyce; Quinn Fausett; Finnley Cannon; Yadan Tautaiolevao; Liam Clarke; Liba Akbar; Emily Siofele; Blessing Falemoe; Pita Vaisagote; Montel Hall; Okusi Tatafu; Zowie Falaniko; Patrick Enosa.

#### UNIFORM:

There are no surprises with uniform now that we are in Term 4. Please ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform. Non-uniform items will be removed.

### HIGH SCHOOL ENROLMENT FOR Y8s:

All Year 8 students MUST now be enrolled in a secondary school. This is imperative. It is extremely rare that an intermediate school will have a second year, Year 8 on site! Congratulations to all who are enrolled AND have been accepted to a secondary school.

#### OFF AT THE GATE:

Interestingly enough - many schools have recently adopted this stance of which we have had running for some years.

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. Devices are stored in a class valuables box until 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.

## 2019 YEAR BOOKS - ORDER NOW!

The Year Book team have been hard at work all year to make this book amazing! This is such a great keepsake for students to look back on and remember their intermediate school years at Bruce McLaren.

Books are \$10 each and can be ordered from the school office. Year books will be distributed on the last day of school - Friday, 13th December.

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Kia ora, Talofa, Malo e lelei, Malo ni, Bula vinaka, Fakalofa lahi atu, Kia orana! Pacific greetings, Welcome!

## Fiafia Exhibition Night Kai and Cultural Event for our Community Thursday 21 November 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Fiafia is fast approaching and preparations for a night of celebration, performance, food and fun is well underway. Actors, dancers, performers and musicians continue to practise while others select interesting learning to share with you.

Please come and support our students. Not only will they bring our Kapahaka and Pasifika cultures to the stage with a true sense of identity and pride, but we have provided all akonga with an opportunity to display their mahi completed in 'Opportunities'.

If a child is proud of who they are and where they come from, and this is celebrated, their self-esteem grows and they believe they can achieve.

Tickets will be on sale from the school office from Monday 4th of November and are limited. The tickets are sold on a first come, first served basis. Tokens for the purchasing of food will be sold on the night - cash and eftpos are available.

We look forward to seeing you at this awesome school event and anticipate enjoying our Fiafia Exhibition night together.

Naku Noa

#### The Fiafia Team:

Should you have any queries please contact the school office on: 836 3175 or email Helen Magasiva, Tracey Burgess, Brenda Sluiter.

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Please complete & return slip to the office.

I have read the newsletter and discussed it with my child.

Child's Name:

Parent/Caregiver's Name: \_\_\_\_

Room: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed:

