

11 May 2022 Term 2 Week 2

Tena Koutou Parents, Caregivers & Whanau,

Welcome back to Term 2! We have such an awesome term in store for everyone. Staff are buzzing with everything that's coming up so please keep updated with events.

Schoolwide Learning. This term we are looking at several themes. Sustainability, Samoan Language Week and Matariki. These will be pockets of study over several weeks. We are also resuming Passion Hour as of next Monday.

Attendance. This term we are encouraging all whanau to get children to school after a long period of unsettled attendance. Research shows that frequently absent students are at a greater risk of a number of negative long-term consequences. Let's work together and make sure that this does not happen for our Vale kids. If there are any concerns, issues or obstacles, we want to know so we can support whanau getting to school.

Uniforms. Just a reminder that our school uniform has been prescribed and approved by the Merivale School Board. Any garments that are not regulation cannot be worn at school. All uniform items are available from the office to purchase. We no longer stock tracksuit pants however unmarked black tights can be worn beneath school skirts or shorts. If you have any concerns with the school uniform please feel free to contact me.

Monitoring & Isolation. As usual, we are again keeping to Ministry guidelines regarding our Covid approach. If your child or a household member tests positive for Covid 19, all household members must isolate for **7 days**. We have also sent out on our website and Facebook page a guide for parents and caregivers of what to do should your child become a positive case or be exposed to a positive household member. Please read through these carefully as they will give advice on whether your child should attend school or not. These can be activated through the following:

Merivale School website -
<https://www.merivale.school.nz/>

Merivale School Facebook page -
<https://www.facebook.com/merivaleschool/>

Orange Light Rules. As a government organisation, Merivale School must follow MOE rules so please do not be offended if asked to abide by them. They are as follows:

- Please keep children at home if they are unwell. Should they arrive at school unwell we will be contacting caregivers to collect them.
- Safe hygiene practices must be followed when at school - washing hands regularly, using sanitiser on entry to the

school and classes, coughing etiquette and distancing when possible.

- **All visitors**, including parents, caregivers and whanau, must check in on arrival. We are now allowing limited access to school by some of our external agencies.
- Face masks are to be worn by **all visitors on school grounds**.
- Students and staff **may** choose to wear masks when outdoors.
- When dropping off or collecting children, parents and caregivers must wait in vehicles or if on foot, waiting at the front entry of the school **maintaining a safe distance**. Masks do not need to be worn at these times, only when entering the office.
- If you have any concerns in regard to a child's return, we encourage contact with the office.

**Looking forward to an exciting Term 2.
Let's make it our best term ever!**

Mauriora,
Matua Tom

ROBOTICS

Mondays are going to be a special day for a group of senior students.

For the next 8 weeks they will be involved in a

Robotics group.

The group is being taken by Toni and Kaita from STEAM-ED Charitable Trust. The first session this week was enjoyed by all the students.



Sports news:

Basketball:

Friday 13 May
Seniors vs St Mary's
Memorial Hall 4.45pm

Tuesday 17 May
Juniors vs Pahoia
Memorial Hall 5pm

Netball:

Netball starts on 11 June.

Please make sure your child's permission slip is returned ASAP so they are able to play and a reminder that the fees need to be paid. It is fine to pay these off in instalments.

Cross Country:

This will be held on Thursday 26 May

THANK YOU –

A big thank you to a very kind sponsor who has purchased all these new readers for our juniors, we are so appreciative.

