

22 June 2022 Term 2 Week 8

Tena Koutou Parents, Caregivers & Whanau,

Matariki takes pride of place this week and for the past few weeks this has been our focus at school. With a raft of activities and events happening within our kura, our community and beyond, it is heartening to see our nation embrace this very special occasion for Te Ao Maori.

Matariki ki te kura o Tutarawanaga. Tomorrow, students will be involved in several activities at school including unveiling of Matariki artwork, performance and kai. Although we do have some external guests joining us tomorrow, unfortunately, due to orange level settings, we cannot allow whanau in to school to share in the celebrations. We appreciate your understanding and consideration. A reminder that this Friday 24 June we observe Matariki as an official public holiday.

Illness. Over the past few weeks there have been several bugs and nasties within our community. Please ensure students are kept at home if they are unwell and make contact with the office to let us know. Any concerns, please contact the school.

West Cluster Cross Country. Congratulations to those students who took part in this event last week. In particular to those students who competed at Western BOP Cross Country yesterday.

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.

Have a great short week everyone.

Mauriora,
Matua Tom

MODULAR CLASSROOMS:

We have finally seen some progress from the council this week so the excitement is building that the work will soon be under way to get the new classrooms ready. It has been a long wait so it will be amazing to see them open and ready to use.



Sports News:

Basketball:

DUE TO THE MATARIKI LONG WEEKEND THERE WILL BE NO BASKETBALL ON FRIDAY THIS WEEK

Netball:

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Sports Permission Slips & Fees:

*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

Congratulations to Rangimaria Puaha & Amethyst Wallace for representing the West Cluster at the Western BOP Cross Country yesterday at Waipuna Park. This was a great achievement by these girls.

