

8 February 2023
Term 1 Week 2

Tena Koutou Katoa,

Ka mihi nui ki a koutou ki te kura o
Tutarawananga i tenei tau hou.
Nau mai, haere mai!

Welcome back everyone!

In particular, I wish to extend a very warm
welcome to all new whanau and staff who will be
joining us on our Tutarawananga journey in 2023.
It was particularly rewarding to pohiri whanau on
our first day last Thursday in line with the
expectations of our local iwi, Ngati Ranginui.

We also observe tikanga and taha Maori practices
by students referring to adults by their first names
but respectfully using the prefix of Matua or
Whaea e.g Matua Owen or Whaea Jan

Our motto is Matuatia Te Ako - Learning First.
This is significant to Merivale School,
not only for our tamariki but our staff, Board and
whanau as well.
Because at the end of the day,
we are ALL learners.

For those new to operations, the newsletter will be
issued every Wednesday.
We cover the priorities in our weekly newsletter
but at times communication may be sent in a
singular notice.
Please ensure that you keep updated.

Merivale School Board:

The Board for 2023 are:

Kellie Kioa - **Presiding Member**
Bryan Papalii, Maria Anderson, Tiria Maunder -
Parent Representatives
Darren Kiwi - **Staff Representative**
Jan Honey - **Board Secretary**
Tom Paekau - **Principal**

Merivale School Staff. The staff for 2023 are:

NGA HAU E WHA (Rumaki)

Te Awaiti Kaiako- Hita Foster / Losaria Harimate-
McGruer

Te Awanui Kaiako - Tania Urwin

Kaiawhina - Tre Mathews, Sarge Williams

AURAKI (Mainstream)

Room 1 Kaiako Bonnie Heberton

Room 2 Kaiako Emma Henshaw

Room 3 Kaiako Melissa Hope

Room 4 Kaiako Shirralee Hohaia/ Lesa Hall

Room 5 Kaiako Eva Gibson

Room 7 Kaiako Paora McGruer

Room 8 Kaiako Owen Hohaia

Nga Toi Kaiako Elaine Cullen

Kaitiakitanga Kaiako Mike Gullick

Teacher Assistants Bex Stephen, Toni Taylor,
Bryan Papalii, Jess Richardson, Ana Naqarase,
Helena Fredericks

Administration Jan Honey, Karen Thompson

Caretaker Richard Williams

Deputy Principal / SENCO Heather Langley

Deputy Principal Losaria Harimate-McGruer

Principal Tom Paekau

We also have several external agencies and
services that work with our kura who come in
throughout each term.

Tūtara wānanga Curriculum.

Localised curriculum has become the hot topic in
education and many schools are only just starting
this journey with the incoming Aotearoa Histories
Curriculum. We decided early that this was where
we were headed so for the past 5 years we have
been working on a curriculum that best suits our
people and our environment. We have named it
our Tūtara wānanga Curriculum and most of our
existing whanau have been involved with its
implementation. We have almost completed it in
its entirety and cannot wait to put it fully into
action. Watch this space!

Passion Learning. One focus of our localised
curriculum is our Passion Learning programme.
Over several years we have conducted passion
learning into hour blocks. While this will continue again
in 2023 for our juniors (Y1 to Y3), we will trial a day of
passion learning for our seniors (Y4 to Y6) each week.
A detailed notice regarding this was sent home
yesterday to inform whanau what passion day will look
like. If you did not receive this notice, please contact
the office. If you wish to discuss any issues or
concerns, please contact me directly. Passion learning
for everybody resumes next **Monday 13 February**.

School Houses. Congratulations to Tuatara who were
winners of the House Trophy in 2022. Next week our
school House Competition kicks into gear again.
Whaea Mel and Whaea Eva are in charge of houses
this year.

House Captains/ School Ambassadors. This Friday
our House Captains and Ambassadors will be selected
for 2023. These Year 6 students are our school
Manukura (leaders) and will be role models for all of our
students. We have a very tough job on our hands as
the Year 6 cohort is outstanding in 2023. All the very
best to those students who would like to take up this
challenge. Names of our new Manukura will be posted
in next week's newsletter,

Uniforms. These are compulsory for all students and
can be purchased at the office. Hats are also
compulsory in Term 1 and 4 for shadeless work or
play. For an invoice, please ask Whaea Jan or Whaea
Karen in the office. If you have any concerns regarding
uniforms, please contact me directly.

School Stationery Packs. All stationery is to be
purchased through the office. The stationery packs,
depending on classrooms, are between \$20 and \$30
which are significantly cheaper than other options.
Again, should you require an invoice, please contact
Whaea Jan or Whaea Karen. If you have any
concerns, please contact me directly.

Have a great week everyone.

Mauriora!
Matua Tom