## CELEBRATING SUCCESS



Congratulations to all our certificate recipients!

Tau kē!!

#### **SWIMMING AND SUNSMART IN TERM FOUR**

We are very lucky to have our own school pool and class swimming will begin next week. To save any confusion, please ensure your child has their togs and a towel **every day**.

We are encouraging all students to wear a hat and this will be **compulsory from Monday 1st November.** Students will not be permitted to play in open areas unless they are wearing a hat. Many students will still have their school issue hat and we are currently looking to purchase more. For the time being, a cap or bucket hat from home <u>is allowed</u>.

We also encourage you to provide your child with a named water bottle and apply sunblock to your child before school on hot days. Sunblock will be available in classes and we will constantly be promoting a sunsmart message school-wide.

### **NEWS & KEY DATES**

#### **UPCOMING TERM THREE DATES TO ADD TO YOUR CALENDAR**

Monday 25th October - Public Holiday; Labour Day
Wed 27th - Fri 29th October - Life Education on site
Friday 5th November - TEACHER ONLY DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED
Mon 15th-Thu 18th November - Year 7/8 Tech; Ōpōtiki College
Friday 3rd December - Tough Guy and Gal Challenge

### CALF CLUB/GROUP DAY

Having considered our options, and to comply with current covid-19 regulations, we have decided to cancel our school Calf Club Day. We are encouraging all willing participants to take part in the Ōpōtiki Schools Group Day which IS GOING AHEAD next Sunday 31st October! This event will be held locally and more information will be available to you ASAP.



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Find us on Facebook

#### THE NUKUHOU NEWS - T4 W1

Kia ora Parents and Whānau,

Nau mai hoki mai! Welcome back!

I hope you enjoyed the recent school holidays and made the most of the break. I always enjoy term four, a great time for the kids to get outside and make the most of our Eastern Bay weather! Things always feel better in term four. For our year 8's, the countdown to is now done in 'weeks' as they return for their final term with us. How time flies!

#### COVID-19

It is fair to say that whilst covid-19 might not be directly affecting our school community as far as cases are concerned, the recent vaccination mandate for education providers has meant that there are more changes and challenges ahead for all of us. School principal's had expected to receive greater clarity from the government and the Ministry of Education this week regarding vaccination for volunteers, at present we haven't received this. What I do know is that the expectations for all school staff are clear, we will all be vaccinated. I do also know that this will very shortly extend to our volunteers and parent helpers. It is simply a case of exactly when that will be. What this means at the moment is there isn't clarity or consistency for schools and I know that for parents and whānau this can be frustrating, I acknowledge and understand any confusion or frustration you may have and as soon as I have clear answers you will be the first to know.

As a staff we share your sense of frustration. Staff are putting significant time into planning trips, camps and outdoor learning experiences only to be told they can't happen. This of course filters down to our tamariki who are constantly being told 'sorry, that isn't happening anymore'. Frustrating. So we are all in an unknown time where things aren't always clear, or fair, but we are in it together and when everything is said and done, all we can do is keep going forward as best we can within the rules that are in place - and that is exactly what we will do. Continue to adapt, continue to support, continue going forward - for our kids! Kia kaha tātou - stronger together!

# SAFE VACCINATION MESSAGES

Vaccination has become a 'hot topic' in recent times. It is likely something that is being discussed in your whānau/household and that is a positive thing. I do ask that you be mindful of the messages our students might be hearing at home. Most of our kids are too young to understand the vaccination issue and I know that sometimes we think our kids aren't listening, particularly when you ask them to do the dishes, but I assure you they will be listening to, and adopting the messages they are hearing at home around this topic. They bring these to school. As a school we don't want our tamariki feeling judged or divided because of the decisions their parents and whānau are making.

Like anything, we acknowledge that people will have different views but we accept those. Please support this when your tamariki might be within listening distance. Some of our senior students are of an age where they to can, and are, being vaccinated against covid-19, as is their right. We are all currently making decisions that we feel are the best for ourselves and our whānau, please be mindful of the messages our students are hearing at home so that all our students feel safe moving forward.

### LIFE EDUCATION

We look forward to having Life Education on site next week. Many of us will remember Harold the Giraffe and the Life Education team when we were at primary school and this kaupapa has remained a mainstay in New Zealand education.

The range of topics our students will encounter next week will include:

- what's inside our bodies?
- why is sleep important?
- why do we need different kinds of food throughout the day?
- what are feelings?
- empathy and kindness for others

