



**Fergusson Intermediate School**

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*"High expectations for all"*



Newsletter Friday 9th March, Week 6, Term one 2018

Kia ora Koutou / Hi everyone

Wow, what a week!

Thanks to all of you who have emailed in feedback, popped in to see us and let us know how your child / children, and yourselves are experiencing Fergusson Intermediate. I am incredibly proud of our team here and the way we respond to the many demands that arise when working with 493 students and their whanau.

I am sure you are hearing about all the great stuff that is going on at Fergusson, and there is a lot, but I am also aware that you will be hearing stories about a few of the not so positive incidents we have had involving a small number of students. As in all schools there will be a small number of students from time to time that have difficulty meeting expectations or looking after themselves and / or others. All of these incidents are dealt with quickly, and in consultation with all families and whanau and if needed the appropriate outside agencies, and at times the BOT. I am incredibly proud of the way our team responds to incidents and does everything humanly possible to address issues, implement preventative strategies, communicate and follow up in a timely and professional manner. This was something ERO picked up as a strength and something we will continue to build on as we reflect on the complexities of working with close to 500 students from diverse backgrounds and with a huge range of individual, social and adolescent needs.

Thank you to the parents and whanau who have approached me to pass on their thanks for the great work the team is doing, it is very much appreciated. Thanks also to those of you who have offered to help and asked how you can support the school. The best thing you can do to support us is keep the communication open and frequent with your child / children and their teachers. Discuss any concerns, talk about the reality of living in a diverse community and help them be confident to share any concerns, issues or questions with their teacher. We are all in this together and genuine relationships are the key to successful outcomes for all our kids. As a busy Dad I know that it can sometimes be hard to get information from our kids about their day but it's so important that they are able to share, with us at school or with you at home, anything that may be impacting on their well being and ability to learn. I can promise you that anything we are aware of we will act on asap.

**Waiho i te toipoto, kaua i te toiroa.**

Let us keep close together, not wide apart.

Have a wonderful weekend

Simon Kenny

Principal

## **Road Safety**

As you may have read on our Facebook page we had a student hit by a car on Tuesday this week. Luckily, she was okay although she had some very nasty cuts to her knees and legs and her Mum, along with the driver, were understandably very shaken. The council has re-painted the yellow lines and we have had local Police come and monitor the area from time to time. The safety of our students is all of our responsibility. Please do not stop in the bus stops. Please do not stop on yellow lines. Please do not ask your child / children to wait for you opposite the school gates as you can not stop there. We need to work together to ensure all our kids get home safe and sound.

## **Upper Hutt Cluster News**

The Upper Hutt Cluster has worked closely together for a number of years and on a number of initiatives. The purpose of this collaboration has always been to ensure the best possible outcomes for students across our valley. In recent times we have honed and unpacked our vision "*Shaping our future with students at the heart*" and our mission "*Grow capability, through collaboration and innovation, to enable success for all learners in our community*" to produce a shared strategic plan for our cluster.

In **2015** It was decided that a priority for all Upper Hutt schools, in order to achieve our vision, was that of student engagement. Last Thursday and Friday lead teachers and Principals met to review and build on our strategic plan for 2018. We will again be holding professional development sessions after school for all teachers shortly and as per previous years they will be forming professional learning groups based on the areas of practice they want to develop. These areas branch out from the core focus of student engagement and agency which led one of our group to coin the new uniquely Upper Hutt phrase "*Engagency*"

We also had a representative from the Ministry come to speak with us around our project and the documentation we shared with them. They were incredibly complimentary about the work we are doing and talked a lot about the "richness" of the collaboration and the "depth of capability that was home-grown". They were also impressed by the trust and transparency shown by the cluster when sharing data and practice to identify trends and work together on solutions and celebrate success.

Part of our strategic plan is to ensure we keep our community informed of the fantastic stuff our students, teachers and leaders are doing across our cluster. We are incredibly proud to be in such a collaborative, hardworking and innovative cluster and we know our kids across the valley are benefiting from the dedicated and united approach to student well-being, achievement, engagement and outcomes.

## **Kāhore taku toa i te toa takitahi, he toa takitini**

We cannot succeed without the support of those around us

## **Key documents**

Over the past few months I have been working with staff and the BOT to get all our important paper documents and policies online so you can access them as and when you need them. I feel that we can make this link public at this stage with the understanding that there is a lot of work to do and this online area will be added to over time. All our policies are available and kept in a ringbinder in the office but we are slowly taking these, reviewing them and adding them to the database online. You can see the progress [so far here](#) or by visiting: <https://sites.google.com/fergusson.school.nz/ourkeydocuments/home>

Any typos or errors are totally my fault :) Please let me know and I'll amend as soon as I can  
[skenny@fergusson.school.nz](mailto:skenny@fergusson.school.nz)

## **Fergusson Athletics**

Students have been taking part in Athletic events over the last week, with some still to go due to injuries etc. Results will be published on the Facebook Page and school website once they are complete. While it has been a bit chaotic fitting everything in, once the events started the completion time was shortened as a result of having only those students who were passionate about that particular event take part.

These students can be really proud of themselves and the effort they put into each event. The students who met the standard as set out by Wellington Athletics will be notified about the upcoming Inter-Intermediate competition.

## **Fergusson Netball**

Trials will be held this weekend if the weather is friendly to us. These will run on Saturday from 10-3 at Fergusson and students will be told at the end of the day if they are required to come back on the Sunday.

Should the weather not be good we will put a notice in the news section of the school website as well as notifying people via facebook. If weather is bad on Saturday but looks like it will be good on Sunday then we will simply transfer the trial to the Sunday. If for some reason your child can not make it on the Sunday please don't panic.

## **Student well being**






We have had several people reporting concerns about incidents involving students cutting themselves. All classes have discussed the supports available and ways to handle pressure and look out for each other in a positive way. We have also made it clear to students that our process is to inform parents straight away if an incident comes to our attention and ask them to come in and discuss the situation. If anyone would like to access additional advice or support a good first step is to make an appointment with the family GP who will be able to refer to the appropriate service. Please feel free to contact us if you have any concerns.

## Fergusson Intermediate School on 5th April 2018

We will photograph portraits of all students as well as class photos.

**You do not order/pay for your child's portraits or class photos until AFTER PHOTODAY.**

You will receive an order envelope featuring a photo of your child after photoday. (Packs available below)

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Pack A \$40.00</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Pack B \$35.00</b></p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Packs include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>☐ Pack A: 10x8, 2x 5x7, Postcards, Wallets, Calendar and Class</li><li>☐ Pack B: 2x 5x7, Postcards, Wallets, and Class</li><li>☐ Pack C: 1x 5x7 and Class</li><li>☐ Pack D: 2x 5x7, Postcards, Wallets, but no Class</li><li>☐ Pack E: Class only</li></ul> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Complimentary Packs A-D include portrait file voucher. Email the code on the included voucher to us, and we send the file by return. A,B &amp; D include complimentary 8x5x7's.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Pack C \$29.50</b></p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Pack D (Portraits) \$20.00</b></p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Pack E (Class) \$15.00</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Pack prices (do not pay now)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A = 40.00</li><li>B = 35.00</li><li>C = 29.50</li><li>D = 20.00</li><li>E = 15.00</li></ul>
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**Siblings(In School only) Photos:** Order form is on reverse of advice note which your child will bring home. Order form **MUST** be returned to school office before photoday for photo to be taken.

**Staffing changes**

It is with mixed emotions that we farewell Karen Van Arsdale not only from Fergusson Intermediate but from Aotearoa. Karen is relocating to Europe and we know that this will be an exciting adventure for her. We are incredibly proud of Karen as she will become a fully registered teacher at the end of this term and we feel she has developed much of her excellent practice at Fergusson Intermediate, mentored by Linda Gendall and working alongside a range of great teachers including the current collaborative pairing with Brigitte Ferguson. We have advertised Karen’s position and despite the teacher shortage are confident of attracting a quality teacher to work in this exciting space. Karen will leave our school at the end of Week One next term.

**Paid Union Meeting - Tuesday 13th March**

The Teacher’s Union (NZEI) is planning to hold a paid union meeting in the afternoon of Tuesday 13th March from 1:30 -3pm. We have decided as a school to only offer the one date for the meeting to avoid disruption over a number of days. We have also coordinated this with our local Primary schools to try and make it easier for our community to arrange care if possible.

All primary union members are expected to attend these meetings. We will have some teachers attending this meeting.

The staff who are non union members or who are unable to go will be remaining behind to look after the students. In order for this to happen and continue to allow the school to remain open we will need to split classes.

We would like to request that if you are able to have your child at home for the afternoon this would reduce the numbers of children that the remaining staff would have to supervise. We would appreciate it if you are able to support us by collecting your child / children at 12:30 (lunchtime)

If you are unable to collect them. Please fill in the form below and return it to school asap so we can be assured of who we need to provide supervision for.

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**Paid Union Meeting**

My child / children **will be staying at school** and needs supervision until 3pm.

Child / childrens name/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent / Caregiver)

Dear Parents & Caregivers

### **Mike King Presentation – I AM HOPE**

We have accepted the wonderful opportunity to host the I AM HOPE TOUR presentation on Monday 19 March at 1pm.

AMP New Zealand is proud to be partnering with the Key to Life Trust for their I AM HOPE TOUR, an important initiative being led by Mike King in support of the thousands of Kiwis who struggle with mental health issues every day.

Mike has been spreading his message of hope in dozens of schools across New Zealand for several years. The I AM HOPE tour is a way for him to reach even more Kiwis, especially young people, to help address the high incidence of depression and suicide in New Zealand. The I AM HOPE concept is simple – it is a commitment that we can all make to be open and to listen to anyone who needs to talk. The feedback Mike has received from schools and students he has visited has been overwhelmingly positive and it's clear his message of hope has changed the lives of thousands of young people for the better.

Started at the beginning of March 2018, Mike and his team are riding from Bluff to Cape Reinga on scooters painted by famous New Zealand artists, delivering their message to schools and communities along the way.

Due to time and space restrictions, parents and caregivers are unable to attend this event. Alternatively, I encourage you to attend a community event Mike is holding at 7pm on the evening of Monday 19th March at Trust House Recreation Centre, 2 Dixon Street North, Masterton.

If you do not wish your child to attend Mike King's presentation, we respect your wishes. Could you please return the form below.

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### **Mike King Presentation**

I **do not give** permission for my child \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_  
to attend the Mike King presentation on 19 March.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent / Caregiver

## Chaos Outside our school gate – are you contributing to the problem?



### Location of Bus stops

### Where not to park (NZ Road Code)

You must not **park or stop** your vehicle:

- **on a marked bus stop** (*there are marked bus stops outside the school*)
- in front of, or closer than 1 metre to, a **vehicle entrance** (*there are lots of driveways along Hukurangi St*)
- alongside another parked vehicle – that is, you must not **double-park**
- on '**no stopping**' lines (**broken yellow lines**) (*these have been repainted along Hukurangi St*)

***Do Not Stop to drop off your child/ren (for a very brief time) in these places is against the law***

### Areas where **you can** drop off your children

- Hukurangi St on the school side from Merton St up the beginning of the yellow no stopping lines (these start around 66 Hukurangi St) and after the no stopping lines and marked bus stops
- Merton St ( be aware that the broken yellow lines extend from Hukurangi St around slightly into Merton St)
- Holdsworth Ave, there is a back entrance to the school off Mitre Grove

### **HPV Vaccines**

The HPV Vaccine parent consent forms are due back to the office now. Please return these even if your child is not having the vaccine.



