



NEWSLETTER

Wednesday, 13 March 2019

Week 7, Term 1, 2019

Kia ora, ni hao, malo e lelei, talofa lava, kia orana, namaste and greetings to everyone.

Newlands School Strategic Goal regarding Attendance

Every year all schools set their **strategic goals in line with the school charter and the needs as identified by assessment or other data. The goals are set to improve the learning outcomes for students.** The Ministry of Education has taken an increasing interest on **the importance of school attendance**, and there is sound research that points to a **close relationship between school attendance and progress and achievement in learning.**

When Newlands School investigated our attendance data we were a bit taken aback. Here are the statistics for last year.

NEWLANDS SCHOOL ATTENDANCE STATISTICS 2018

Note: *acceptable attendance level is set at 90% or more—set by the Ministry of Education*

As at Term 3 2018 (Data provided by Every Day Matters, MOE)

Attendance rates - All students 74.3%, Maori students 56.1%, Pasifika students 75%, Asian students 73%, European/Pakeha 77.4%, Male students 70.6%, Female students 77.8%

In Term 4 2018: (Data analysed from Newlands School Student Management System)

Of the 14 students with 80% or less attendance who were not absent because they were overseas, 9 or 64% of them were priority learners and 6 or 43% were Maori.

Of the 12 students with 80% or less attendance who were absent because they were on extended term time holiday 6, or half, were priority learners.

(Priority learners are those learners who are not progressing or achieving at a level consistent with their age)

Trends: (Data provided by Every Day Matters, MOE)

The attendance trend between 2016 to 2018 has been reasonably steady.

European/Pakeha attendance rates varied between 82.09% and 81.3% over a year.

Maori student attendance rates varied between 63.3% and 61% for the year.

The most common reason for non-attendance at school was illness.

Students with poor attendance had the highest proportion of unjustified absences.

European/Pakeha students had the highest proportion of justified absences, with the most common being illness.

Asian students had the highest proportion of absences due to extended term time holidays.

Consequently, **the strategic goal this year is to aim for all students to have 90% attendance.** The board understands that this is aspirational, but believes it is a worthy goal to set to help improve student learning and achievement levels.

We wish to promote good attendance in a positive way and ensure the community understands that consistent school attendance really matters right from the start to achieve good progress and achievement.

Paper copies of the newsletter being phased out

From Term 2 onward **all school newsletters will be sent out electronically.** We can send the newsletter electronically to as many whanau members who need it. Let us know if you would like us to add a new email address to your contacts so the school newsletter gets to those in your family who need the information.

BOT Elections June 2019 – Information evening – Tuesday 19 March at 6.30pm Newlands School Hall

NZSTA, The New Zealand Schools Trustees Association, is running an information evening in the Newlands School hall for people in the Newlands community who are interested to find out about becoming a school board of trustees member. The triennial board elections are coming up in the middle of this year with the opportunity to become involved in your local school at governance level. This community meeting, open to all Newlands schools' communities, will be run by NZSTA who will speak about trusteeship. There will be existing board members who will share their experiences, and there will be plenty of opportunities to ask questions as well.

Policy Review for Whanau and Parents Term 1: ALCOHOL/DRUGS AND OTHER HARMFUL SUBSTANCES

The Board of Trustees invites all parents, whanau and caregivers to review the school policy, **Alcohol/Drugs and other Harmful Substances**. The process is easy and it is really important that everyone has their say about the policies of the school. The opportunity to review the policy is open until the end of Term 1.

Visit the website www.schooldocs.co.nz and click on 'search for your school'.

Type in Newlands School.

Enter the username (newlandsprimary) and password (harakeke).

Click on 'current review' tab.

Follow the link to the relevant policy as listed.

Read the policy.

Click the red 'under review' button at the top right-hand corner of the page.

Select the reviewer type "Parent".

Enter your name (optional).

Submit your ratings and comments.

Happiness Day Wednesday 20 March

Newlands School will be celebrating **Happiness Day next Wednesday**. Classes are busy planning the day and are especially thinking about what makes them happy.

Tawa Class came up with a great way to help celebrate Happiness Day. And we all agree that a mufti day next Wednesday would be a great way to feel happy. Wear some favourite clothes which will add lots of colour to our Happiness Day. So please wear mufti next Wednesday!



Athletics Day Results

The results from our Athletics Day are available on our website. Please click the link below to access these results:

<https://newlandsprimary.school.nz/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Athletics-Day-2019-results.pdf>

Northern Zone Football yesterday

Wow! What a fantastic day we had. It's been great to see so many of our tamariki grasping the sporting opportunities here at Newlands School. Yesterday, the sun wasn't shining, but our 2 Football teams shone well and truly. We competed against various teams from 16 other schools at the Northern Zone Football Tournament. We won most of the games and lost a few by a close margin. A massive thank-you to the whānau who supported us with transport and managing teams throughout the day.



**FREE HOLIDAY ACTIVITY AT NEWLANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE
FIRST AID FOR KIDS: TUESDAY 23 APRIL**



Session 1: Junior Children (Aged 5-8) 1:00-2:00pm
Emergency Ready: responding to an emergency and injury prevention

Session 2: Senior Children (Aged 9+) 2:00-3:15pm
Emergency First Aider: responding to an emergency, injury prevention and clued up camper

Bookings essential—contact the Centre on 04 477 3724 or email newlandsc@wcc.govt.nz

UP AND COMING EVENTS

The following are the up and coming events for the next month.
[Click here](#) to go to calendar on website:

- TUESDAY 19TH MARCH**
6:30PM BOT ELECTIONS INFO EVENING
 - WEDNESDAY 20TH MARCH**
HAPPINESS DAY—MUFTI DAY
 - WEDNESDAY 20TH MARCH**
BOT MEETING AT 7PM
 - THURSDAY 21ST MARCH**
BOOKCLUB ISSUE 2 CLOSURES
 - THURSDAY 28TH MARCH**
PRACTISE EVACUATION DAY
 - WEDNESDAY 3 & THURSDAY 4 APRIL**
GOAL SETTING INTERVIEWS
 - FRIDAY 12 APRIL**
LAST DAY OF TERM
- IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:
- MONDAY 3 AND TUESDAY 4 JUNE**
QUEENS BIRTHDAY WEEKEND—
SCHOOL CLOSED
 - THURSDAY 27 JUNE**
TEACHER ONLY DAY—SCHOOL CLOSED

Community Hub Emergency Exercise – Newlands School Hall - Sunday 25 March 11am to 1pm

All interested people in the Newlands community are invited to participate in an emergency exercise to **find out how this community can work together after a disaster**. The exercise will take place at the Newlands School Hall where there is a Community Emergency Hub. Come along and meet your neighbours and others from your community, find out how the hub works and how your community can respond to the challenges of an emergency, and finish with a BBQ! Chris Moore from the Wellington Region Emergency Management Office (WREMO) will be running the exercise.

Paid Union Meetings – Next Tuesday and Thursday

Newlands School teachers are participating in paid NZEI meetings next week, over two afternoons. **The school will not be closed** as classes will be buddied up to allow teachers to attend the meetings but most importantly allow the learning to continue.

Community Notices

For details on the activities and events detailed below, click [here](#) to visit our website.



Kotuku & the Moon—Carter Observatory Saturday 16 March	Westpark School Gala 16 March 2019	Marsden Open Morning for Year 7 girls in 2020 — Wed 20 March	Newlands Junior Rugby Club Registration Event - Wed 20 March
Paparangi School—Gully Gutbuster 31 March	Yvonne Godfrey—Raising Resilient Kids— 15 April 2019	ASB Bank—supporting success in your school	Free Parenting helpline details