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Kimi Ora School

April, Term 1 2018

The end of the golden weather!



Last day of Term 1: Friday 13th of April

Term 2: Monday 30th April - Friday 6th July

Queen's Birthday: Monday 4th June

Term 3: Monday 23rd July - Friday 28th September

Term 4: Monday 15th October - Thursday 20th December

Next BOT meeting:

Tuesday 1st May 6.30pm in the staff room at Base.

Reminder:

In an Emergency, eg. Earthquake. Please make sure you check the school website and Facebook page for any information that we need to get to you eg. If school is open or closed.

Change of address:

If you have a change of phone number or address please notify the office at Base or Evans Bay as soon as you can. Thanks

What an amazing summer we have had! We have loved getting out and about in the sun, enjoyed playtimes soaking up the warmth with shorts and t shirts all round!

The last few days have been FREEZING! As the weather gets colder, please make sure you let your child's teacher know if your child has any extra requirements in the colder months such as blankets on in the taxi or staying inside during lunch times. It would also be really handy if you could swap their spare summer clothes in their bags to winter clothes - thank you!

Term One has been incredibly busy at all Kimi Ora sites. A lot of time has been taken getting to know new students and staff and building relationships with each other. Thank you to all our wonderful staff for their hard work, ensuring our students have had successful starts to their school year. We are incredibly lucky to have a passionate, knowledgeable and fun loving staff who put 120% into all that they do during their day at school.

We're very proud of all our students and their wonderful achievements over the last ten weeks. No day is the same at Kimi Ora and we are constantly blown away by our amazing tamariki and what they manage to pack into their school day. It is heartwarming to walk around all four sites and see the progress that our children are making. From developing their ability to attend to a task, to learning to take independent steps, to making progress within Literacy and Numeracy. Every achievement, no matter how small, is a milestone we celebrate daily at Kimi Ora.

We hope you all have a relaxing term break, enjoy the last of the sun (hopefully it comes out again!) See you in Term Two!



Ya has been working on her balance and coordination in the Playground at Evans Bay Intermediate - Go Ya!



Australasian Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Development Medicine Conference 2018

We were lucky enough to have three of our Physiotherapists attend this conference last month. It was well worth the trip to Auckland and the feedback has been fantastic. Our students will benefit from all they learnt at the conference. Here is some feedback of their highlights from the conference from the Physiotherapy team:

This was a conference for all health professionals involved with care of children and adults with cerebral palsy and developmental medicine. We heard about lots of up to date research on orthopedics, physical therapy, neurology, ethics and causes of cerebral palsy.

Some highlights of the conference included:

- The importance of fitness for our students. The guidelines for physical activity in the non-disabled student population is minimum 60 mins a day. And only 20% of children meet this minimum amount. They asked us to question how much do the children we work with get in terms of physical activity. That really got us thinking on how important it is to encourage physical activity and fitness with the students at Kimi Ora.
- Finding out about the Australasian Cerebral Palsy Clinical Trials Network. A centre for research excellence that was only established last year with the vision of 'bringing about a decline in the rate of cerebral palsy, improve health outcomes and enable children with cerebral palsy to participate fully in society'.
- 'F words in childhood disability'. These are: fitness, function, friendship, family, fun and future. This is something we have started hearing more about and it is a really exciting way to think about meeting the needs of children with disability. It is quite a big topic in itself. Here is a link with some info if you are interested: <https://www.canchild.ca/en/research-in-practice/f-words-in-childhood-disability>
- It was a brilliant networking opportunity with many members of the Wellington pediatric team there and the wider Australasian and American Cerebral Palsy societies. It was great to see we are managing to keep well up to date with our practices here at Kimi Ora School

Ideas for accessible activities in the school holidays:

- There are heaps of activities going on at Hutt Libraries and rec centres, find out about them here: <https://library.huttcity.govt.nz/cgi-bin/spyidus.exe/MSGTRN/OPAC/AprilHolidays2018>
- Staglands: Entry is free for people in a wheelchair and their caregiver.
- Laughalots Lower Hutt: Free for Kimi Ora students and \$3.90 for a caregiver (who will also get a free tea/coffee!)
- Te Papa has many free kids shows and concerts over the holidays: <https://www.tepapa.govt.nz/visit/whats-on/events/free-school-holiday-kids-activities>
- Circa Theatre are holding a 'relaxed performance' of their children's show 'Messy Magic Adventure: Kitchen Chaos! A relaxed performance is designed with the needs of children and young adults with disabilities in mind. We have taken students to one in the past and it was awesome. <https://www.circa.co.nz/package/the-messy-magic-adventure-kitchen-chaos/>



Tim and Dave playing 'Crazy Chair Polo!'

To all our amazing students who have one 'Student of the week over the last month!

Shuai'b - *For alerting a staff member when another student had a seizure in the playground.*

Abbie - *Amazing eye contact and clear communication throughout the school day.*

Ava Cregan - *Continually wowing us with her physical progress. She is now consistently walking with a floppy support (eg soft toy) or just a hand!*

Zaxton - *Awesome work in hydrotherapy.*

Morgan - *Returning to school post surgery like a legend!*

Malaya - *Amazing first swim post surgery!*

Vanessa - *Walking around Harvey Norman and Pet Centre in her pacer independently.*

Lucan - *For the courage to get into the pool for the first time and having a total blast!*

Keelan - *Really clear choice making in iPODD shuffle group using the big symbols to change what was happening with the music. Great participation too.*

Tim H - *Being a hardworking staff member at his work experience placement in Pac n Save*

Vinny - *Showing excitement and delight when playing and engaging with another person*

Board Talk

Our second board meeting of the year was held on 20 March in the staffroom at Kimi Ora School, Naenae at 6.30pm.

ERO

The Education Review Office will be visiting school for the week beginning June 25th. Members of the leadership team have been to a briefing on what the focus for this years review of schools which will include ensuring the appraisal process is in place and that we have a proven focus on student achievement.

Education Review

Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education, is holding summits in Christchurch and Auckland as a part of the nationwide review of education. There are limited places and Shirley has put her name forward to attend. We hope she is selected and is able to give voice supporting quality education for those with severe learning disabilities.

Business

Our 2016 accounts were still with the Auditors as of this Board meeting due to continuing issue with how Novopay records data. The Ministry of Education (MoE) has now been able to give the auditors the necessary confirmations, we hope our audit from 2016 can soon be completed.

Analysis of Variance

Our Analysis of Variance for 2017 has been submitted to the MoE. Kimi Ora School uses the Expanded English Framework and the Expanded Mathematics Frameworks (Fuel/Launch), produced by the Central Region of Special Schools to assess progress and plan next steps for each student.. Each student's skills are mapped out using indicators from the framework and data is collected on progress. The summary of progress against goals is what is included in the Analysis of Variance report.

| Charter Goal | Improvement in performance Indicators with standards: 'introduced to almost achieved', almost achieved to achieved' | Target, % of students | Result | Mitigating factor |
|--------------|---|-----------------------|--------|--------------------|
| 1 | One literacy indicator | 95 | 92.3 | Ill health/surgery |
| 2 | Eleven literacy indicators | 50 | 36.5 | Ill health/surgery |

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|---|----------------------------|----|------|--|
| 3 | One numeracy indicator | 92 | 66.7 | 82.4% of students moved at least one indicator in geometry and measurement. 78.5 % of students moved at least one indicator in statistics. Numeracy is the most challenging area of maths for students. Students with no movement had ill health/surgery |
| 4 | Six numeracy indicators | 35 | 29.4 | |
| 5 | Eleven numeracy indicators | 15 | 11.8 | |

Goals are also set and agreed through the Individual Education Plan (IEP) process and students then work with a trans-disciplinary team to achieve these. IEP goals are written and assessed using the Goal Achievement Scale.

Health and Safety

With the new legislation the Board must be informed when restraint has been used with a student. At present any students who might require restraint have a student plan that is developed in conjunction with the family/caregivers. Restraint can only be used if a student is endangering themselves or others. David Speden, (Therapy Team Leader) has attended a course provided by the Ministry of Education and will be training staff in supportive holds as and when required and on an ongoing basis.

Next Meeting

The next Board meeting is on the 1stMay at 6.30pm in the Staffroom. You are welcome to attend.

The Board is responsible for school governance and the Principal for school management. If you have any issues you think are governance issues, contact Shirley or myself, pwood.nz@gmail.com or 021 1655329.

Nga Mihi,

Philippa