

**2nd Teachers' strike – Monday 12th November 2018**

Dear whanau,

Despite ongoing negotiations with the Ministry of Education, the teachers' Union has not been able to secure a more acceptable collective agreement for teachers that would address the severe teacher shortage, as well as the lack of funding and support schools receive. Therefore, the teachers' union has decided to go on a second strike to support our claims of the seriousness of these issues, and the urgency needed to address them.

The strike will take place on Monday 12th of November. The Board has carefully considered the availability of teaching staff on that day, and since all teachers at our school will be adhering to the strike, we have decided to close the school during this strike. It is important that you make alternative arrangements for the care of your child/children as there will be no staff on site on the day of the strike.

We understand this is inconvenient for parents and students alike, but please be assured that student safety is our main concern. Thank you for your understanding, and please contact the school if you have any queries relating to this decision.

Kind regards

**Mr Piantelli**

Swanson School Principal



## Upcoming Events

### November 7

Working Bee 9am -3pm.

### November 9

Whole school athletics day, Held at Trust Stadium.

### November 19 - November 26

Tread Lightly, Mobile classroom.

### November 22

Nano Girl show, STEAM day.

### November 30

Student leaders end of year trip.

### December 5

Pohutukawa trip to Westwave.

### December 7

Totara Graduation assembly.

### December 7

Reports go home.

### December 11

Parent helper's morning tea, 11am.

### December 13

Koromiko final awards assembly, 11:40am.

### December 13

Nikau final awards assembly.

### December 14

Last day of school, finish at 12:30pm.

### Pohutukawa...

We have a busy few weeks ahead in the Pohutukawa Team. The children are really enjoying gymnastics and it is great to see them all having a go on the equipment. We are also busy training for athletics day. During our sports rotation we are learning about discus, shot put, long jump and sprints. We are also looking forward to learning about music and musical instruments. We will be making our own instruments from recycled items. In Week 8 we are travelling to West Wave for a fun morning of swimming.

Another exciting activity this term is our author study. Each week we are focusing on stories from a popular author, such as Magaret Mahy and Lynley Dodd. Ask your child who the author is this week – hopefully they can tell you some of the stories we have been reading.

As always, we want to thank our amazing parent helpers who are working each day in the classroom, helping children with their learning goals. It is much appreciated by all of us in the team.

### **Kowhai...**

At the end of last term Kowhai children choose their own topics of inquiry and are now enjoying working on their selected activities. They are using the skills that they have been practicing within our STEAM education throughout the year. This covers areas of science, technology, engineering, art and math. We have started training for our school wide athletics day at the Trusts stadium later this term. We have also been participating in the gym kid's programme that came to our school. Our team will be having a final assembly on Friday 7th December. After this event we would love for parents to join us for a shared lunch. A letter will be sent home closer to the time.

### **Nikau...**

Nikau is heading into the last term of the year with enthusiasm. We have a busy programme ahead of us and we are lucky to have four student teachers working in our team. Two of these student teachers are local Aucklanders and two are from Wisconsin University in the USA.

We have conservation on our minds and we are looking forward to two visits from outside organisations who will help us focus on how best we can 'save our planet'. A working bee is also scheduled for Wednesday, 7th November. Come along to help if you can.

We have Athletics on Friday of week 4. Ask your child what House they are in so they can wear a Tshirt to support their house on the day. In Week 9, we will have our final assembly followed by a shared morning tea. More information will be given about this closer to the date.

### **Koromiko...**

Koromiko are inquiring into social poverty this term, what happens in our society and initiatives already in place to help people in need. Students will be coming up with their own ideas to put into place over the next few weeks.

Two touch teams went over to Waitakere College last week and competed against a range of schools from the Henderson cluster. Both teams had a great day and each had wins which always makes the day more enjoyable.

Koromiko's end of year assembly will be on Thursday the 13th of December at 11:40am.

### **Totara...**

Up and coming in Totara:

- Everyday Theatre performing arts sessions on 1st/2nd Nov
- Gymnastics
- Spanish lessons
- Kapa Haka
- Athletics practice and zone meets
- Ongoing classroom programmes and learning
- ASB get wise sessions
- Tread Lightly caravan
- St John's first aid training
- Graduation and end of year celebrations - 7th Dec 2pm.



## **In the Community**

### **Nano Girl/STEAM Day...**

On Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> of November we are combining with six local schools to host a show by "Nano Girl" a kiwi nanotechnology scientist. Alongside the show there will be stalls from each school showing STEAM activities and a trash to fashion show. We are expecting over 1800 students and teachers here on the day. Parents are more than welcome to attend.

### **Athletics day...**

We will be holding our school athletics at the Trust Stadium again this year. It's on Friday the 9<sup>th</sup> of November. All parents are welcome to come along and support for the day. We will be selling food and snacks at the stadium for lunch.

### **Office Dates...**

- School finishes this year on Friday 14th December 2018 at 12.30 pm. Please make arrangements for your child to be picked up at this time.
- First day back next year is Tuesday 29th January 2019.
- The school office will be open between 9.00 am and 4.00 pm 23rd, 24th and 25th January.

### **School Contact**

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