

# TE UKU SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

*e x p a n d i n g   h e a r t s   a n d   m i n d s*

**Te Pānui o Te Kura o Te Uku 11/16**

**5 Haratua 2016**

Tena koutou e te whanau o Te Uku

Welcome back to a new term. We hope that everyone managed to get some family time and opportunities to enjoy the glorious autumn weather! The teachers had two successful professional learning days on the first two days of the break. We worked with James Anderson, a consultant from Mindful By Design, to further develop our understanding and strategies for enhancing a growth-mindset learning environment.

Welcome to our nine new students who started on Monday. Two children are new entrants who have older siblings already at school. The remaining seven children are from three families new to our school. Three of the children have gone off on Discovery Three's school camp to Te Kauri Lodge. A great way to get to know their new classmates.

## **Staff News**

On Monday, Discovery Two was informed that their teacher Ms Victoria Cooper is pregnant and will be taking Parental Leave at the end of the term. The Board is currently advertising a fixed term teaching position for the 12 months Victoria will be on leave. The new teacher will start on the first day of Term Three (25<sup>th</sup> July).

Rachel El Kamraoui is currently on leave; she will be back at work on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May. Welcome to Mrs Hansi Bennett who is working in the Office while Rachel is away.

Lisa Wheeler is currently on leave. Welcome back to Mrs Amy John who is teaching with Catherine in Discovery One.

## **Student Led Conferences**

Great to see 58 children have SLCs booked for next term. We would love to see another 97 bookings for the remaining children. Instructions for online booking can be found at the end of the newsletter.

## **ANZAC Writing Competition**

Congratulations to Ashley who achieved First Place in the RSA competition held for local schools at the end of last term. Ashley received a \$500.00 scholarship for her secondary school education. The results are:

Ashley Bruce	\$500.00	Te Uku
Jack Edwards	\$300.00	Te Mata
Ingrid Regnier	\$200.00	Raglan Area School
Conner Marquand	\$100.00	Waitetuna

Ashley wrote a very moving and descriptive account of life in the trenches...

ANZAC essay written by Ashley Bruce: It comes down upon me with a crushing weight that makes me feel like shrinking into the smallest corners of my mind, but even with that I can't hide from the darkness and self-pity creeping into my entire being. Bombs land and shrapnel flies. My ears ring from the constant screams and banging that fills the air. My tears spill making a shiny trail through gore and dried blood that seems to be everywhere, as I think of my past life and what I could have done with it. It's like hell has landed, turning the once beautiful poppy field into a place of horror, despair and death. My parched throat screams at me for the water I'd drained from the bottle just an hour before. My tummy growls but the thought of gnawing on one of the bland teeth cracking biscuits makes my mouth go sour. I heft my gun into place, no time for dreaming now I instruct myself as I drift into survival mode. I look around. People live and people die, but when I look into the hard eyes of those who lived to tell the tale I see that in war there are no survivors.

## **ANZAC Wreath Competition**

Te Uku School was selected as runners up in the ANZAC day wreath competition for which we received a \$50.00 cheque. The Committee does not normally award a runner-up prize but they said that "the school's effort in creating such a wonderful wreath deserved recognition". A big thank you to those students who designed and put the wreath together as well as those students who attended the ANZAC parade in Raglan. The students are thinking of ideas for spending the money on something that everyone can use.

Nga mihi ki a koutou, **Rachel Allan**



## **School Photos**

School Photos will be taken next week on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May. You would have been sent out an order form last term. If you would like to order a class photo, or an individual photo please fill in the form and return to school before Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May. Sibling photo packs are also available at the office. There are also spare photo order forms at the office.

## **Fundraising Committee**

The fundraising committee would like all the soap money back into the school so that it can be processed. Thanks.

## Measles Notice

This week we are putting in the newsletter an update from the Waikato District Health Board. This explains what measles is and the steps needed to be taken if the outbreak spreads to the Raglan district. It is really important that we have up-to-date information about your children's immunisations.

## BOARD'S NEWS AND VIEWS

**TRUSTEE ELECTIONS:** As you will now be aware, the School Trustee Elections are being held this year, and we need you to get involved. Our school is governed by a democratically selected group of people called the Board of Trustees. These trustees make important decisions about our school's strategic direction, student progress, management, school culture and more.

Being a trustee is an important and rewarding role. Parents, caregivers and people from the wider community can all be trustees. We're looking for a range of people with a variety of skills and experiences, who believe in making a positive difference to our children's learning.

Should you wish to become a Board member please ensure you are nominated; our Returning Officer will call for nominations from May 6, 2016. Should the Returning Officer receive more than 5 parent nominations, an election will be held at which time, eligible parents will then vote through an election process. Likewise, should more than 1 member of staff be nominated by staff, an election will be held for staff to vote in a staff trustee.

### Timeline:-

Friday, May 6, 2016	nominations called for
Friday, May 20, 2016	nominations close at noon
Wednesday, May 25, 2016	voting papers sent by this date
Friday, June 3, 2016	voting closes at noon
Thursday, June 9, 2016	count votes
Friday, June 10, 2016	Board takes office

If you would like to know more about being a Board Member, you are welcome to chat to either **Brenda Carter** (027 310 4945) or myself. Regards **Katherine Parrott**, Board Chairperson, 0276 225565  
National Election Day is 3 June 2016.

## BUILDING PROJECT

The building work in Rooms 1 to 4 is scheduled to start on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Foster Maintain is the Construction Company who will be doing this work.

## **Bus Fees**

Fees are now due for Term 2. Please make these payments by **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May** at the latest. Alternatively, contact the Office if you want to set up an AP. Our Account Number for internet payments is **03 1558 000954300**; the reference is your child's name.



## Forthcoming Events

Discovery Three School Camp – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> to Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May

Board of Trustees meeting – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May

Student Led Conferences: **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May** and **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May**

Option One: Book online - <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz>, enter the code **r2sna**, follow instructions.

Option Two: Ring or see someone in the Office to make the booking for you.

School Cross Country – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May

Kapa Haka with Shelley-Moana is starting up again – Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May

Interschool Cross Country – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May (Waitetuna School)



## **Do you want to make a difference in a child's life?**

Child, Youth and Family are currently looking for people in this area who can offer safe, caring, stable homes for young people in need of short term care, time out over weekends and/or holidays, or a home for life. Our team will support you to understand and manage the challenges of fostering a young person, and we will be there with you to celebrate the successes.

You may be surprised; you could be just the right person to offer your care to a young person who needs you! If you are interested in finding out more, or know someone who may be interested, or if you think you might be able to help in some other way then we would love to hear from you!

Please call Johnson Taoho, Care Services Manager, on 07 957 4740 or email [johnson.taoho001@cyf.govt.nz](mailto:johnson.taoho001@cyf.govt.nz).