

## Week Three Term Two Friday 19 May 2017

"When pure sincerity forms within, it is outwardly realized in other people's hearts."

Lao Tzu

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Our theme this week is *Sincerity*- This theme asks our students to look at how they respond to others and challenges them to be kind and respectful in their interactions. It is always nice when people respond to us kindly and are genuinely interested in what we talk about or share with them. It a great skill for us all to practice.

This week we have undertaken all of our mid-year assessments and look forward to sharing the results with the students, you; the parents and the Board of Trustees. Teachers have been busy marking the assessments and the collated data will soon be prepared. The information teachers gain from the assessments is two fold -1) it allows them to see what progress a child has made in any given area and 2) it gives them great insight into what the next steps for each child are. Once all of the data is complete teachers will begin to write their interim reports to share with you.

Thank you so much to the 102 families who responded to the survey. We were pleased with the response. So what did it tell us?

- 1) Our parents have both time and work commitments that make it difficult for them to meet face to face with teachers.
- 2) 83% of parents who responded would like to receive regular emails from teachers about their child's learning, achievements and successes.
- 3) 77% of parents who responded would like to have the written report emailed home.

We know that it is so important for student success that there is a real partnership between teachers and families, we also know that having a full time job and many after work activities challenges us to find new and more reliable ways to keep in touch. The Totara whanau have already begun to email parents regularly and the response to this form of communication has been very positive. Students feel great when the email is sent, parents are able to read and respond to the email at a time that is convenient for them and teachers find it a great way to stay in regular contact with parents.

This year we are going to trial this communication and connection and at the end of the year we will come back to you to ask you for your feedback.

It is important to remember that teachers are available to meet with you if there is any issue you wish to discuss face to face. The emails are all available on the school app and due to their busy days this is the best way to contact them.

Have a great weekend Sue Jury

### Our next two weeks in view:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
22	23 Yr 5/ 6 Futsal	24	25	26 Year 4- 8 School Cross Country
Ms Jury Absent	(Mr Mac)	Kapa Haka 1.30		
29 Theme:	30 Yr 7/8 Interschool X Country	31	1	2 Year 1-3 Cross Country
Confidence	Country	Pasifika 1.30pm		Country
	BOT Meeting 6.30pm			

#### **SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY:**

It is a shame we had to postpone this event today – whilst the sun is actually shining outside the track was too wet and muddy for us to be able to use. We know that so many students have worked so hard on their sponsorship and are so appreciative of your support:

The event is now planned for Next Friday 26 May. That can give people more time to gather their sponsors. The Junior Cross country will be held at school on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June.

We have been so impressed with not only the level of training our students are doing but also their enthusiasm in terms of the fundraising. The funds will be used to develop new outdoor interactive areas including completing our bike track, building a fitness circuit and a sandpit. We know the students will love these new additions to their outdoor playing areas.



## THANK YOU SO MUCH



# **Upside Down!**

Capital E, 4 Queens Wharf, Wellington

Friday 19 May 2017 – Saturday 27 May 2017 9:30am – 3:30pm



Where: Capital E, 4 Queens Wharf, Wellington

Restrictions: All Ages, Free

Our world has been turned inside out and upside down! Join in on exploring our fun wonky universe and explore, experiment and construct in new ways.