

A GREAT School for You! Ngongotaha School KIDZONE

TERM: 2 ISSUE: 4 DATE: 15/6/2023

Term 2 is drawing to an end and teachers are busy completing their Mid Year Progress reports ready to be sent home on the 29th of June. You will notice a new template in use this year. Gone are the dozens of tick boxes that many parents said they didn't read or understand, instead we have added several different areas to make the reports clearer to read. You will now have an indication of where your child sits academically in relation to their age group as well as the effort they put into each subject. We have bullet pointed what they can do in relation to reading, writing and maths, as well as what they are still working on and ways you can help at home. The General Comment remains, as does the section on the back page with photos of your child enjoying their time here at school. I am sure you will enjoy this new and improved report format, I'd love to hear your feedback.

I watched the show 'Paddy Gower Has Issues" on TV3 the other day. He had a story based around bullying and violence in New Zealand schools. I was disgusted in what I saw, but unfortunately, not surprised. All students have the right to attend school without fear of being assaulted. We take bullying very seriously here at Ngongotaha School and will act swiftly and harshly on every incident we are aware of. The show also highlighted the issue around mobile phones, social media and how these things increase the problems. The internet is a wonderful thing but it really has changed the way our kids are growing up. Life is very difficult compared to when I was a 10 year old. According to the data presented on the show, 65% of New Zealand 11 year olds have a smartphone. Many of the issues we see with our senior school students early in the week are based around problems on social media that happened through the weekend. There is a reason why most social media sites have a minimum age of 14 years. Our primary school children's brains aren't developed enough to deal with the issues social media throws at them. I urge you, please restrict your child's use of social media while they are primary school aged and, if you do allow them to use it, check it regularly to see what they are doing. It is a very, very different world to be growing up in these days.

On a more positive note, we will be holding our first ever Matariki Breakfast on the morning of Wednesday 28th June. Our teachers and support staff will be cooking breaky for our school community from 8 till 8.45am. We are not asking for any donations of kai or for any money. This is our time to do something for you. If you are available, come along and have breakfast with us and your tamariki to celebrate Matariki. I promise you, my pancakes are well worth being late for work.

And finally, I want to say a huge THANK YOU to RoomMate Cabins. Although not directly something to do with school, RoomMate Cabins have sponsored the Ngongotaha Rugby club and provided every single JAB player (over 100 of our school students) with a new hoodie to wear on Saturday mornings, keeping our kids warm and looking sharp! Thanks, guys.



Craig McFadyen "Iti rearea teitei Kahikatea ka taea" "Aim High, Stand Proud"

Have you got the school app? It's the way we spread the majority of our information. Download it free from app stores.





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This week in Room 2 we have been writing **reports** and giving **presentations** on the planets. Also creating **scale** models of them!

Bentley





Room 3 have been exploring warm and cool colours to create these off the planet pieces of art.









Room 4 Catfish Killas













Thank you to Linda and Joy from Eves for sponsoring our VisTab.







GREAT G-Growth R-Respect E-Equality A-Achievement T-Trust