

Upcoming Events

Monday September 13

- BOT meeting.

Friday October 1

- Last day of term 3

Monday October 18

- First day of term 4

It has been wonderful to see so many of the children and their families back on the school grounds. I thank you for following the guidelines we have in place and have included the recent update to parents with this newsletter.

In response to my discussions with some parents, I draw your attention to the section on the wearing of face masks. These guidelines are set by the Ministry of Health in consultation with the Ministry of Education.

Face coverings are not required to be worn in school. The Director General of Health has recommended that children 12 years+ wear a face covering at school – just as older children are required to wear face coverings in some other places. The decision to wear a face covering is up to you and your whānau, whatever your decision, it will be respected.

I ask that you respect the choices of all whanau and staff. If you have any questions related to the current Alert Level 2 procedures at Manakau School please speak to me directly.

This is a very new space for all of us, and I ask that you are mindful of this as we work together to ensure the best outcomes for your children and our community.



Welcome back Mr Singer Lorne has re-joined the Huia team and we are very pleased to have him back. **A big thank you to Mrs B**, who was the relief teacher while Lorne was recovering.

A highlight of this term for me was also being the teacher connected to Huia. The children in this space are a credit to their families and to our school. During the lockdown many of these children really stepped up with their learning. Connecting online, problem solving and asking questions to clarify when they were unsure. Some of our hui sessions were trying out new apps, specific teaching, and general catch ups. It gave us an opportunity to connect in a different way, and often meant we could learn new things about each other and our families.

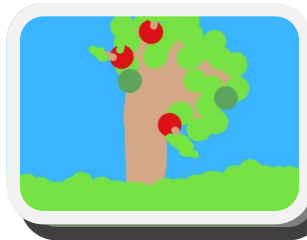


In the Kereru teams, Mr P and Mrs Dear had regular online sessions and were very impressed with the respectful way that the children interacted with each other.

Team Korimako received home learning scrapbooks filled with learning tasks for families to complete together. Activities on the seesaw app were also accessed by many of the Korimako families.

I have included some photos of the tasks children on this page.

Deb Logan



Excerpt from Huia Block teacher, Mr Singer, over lockdown...

Hi all, after starting to read some of your task boards and reading up about David Brown from the U.S.A (Fastest blind male athlete in the world, record holder and defending Champ from Rio Paralympics) I'm inspired to quickly share my involvement (albeit brief) in this sport.

In 1994 I had the experience of being a guide runner for the (then) fastest blind male athlete in the world and world record holder Winford Haynes. Winford approached me at the end of my track season in New Mexico, U.S.A where I ran what was to remain my quickest time for the 100m.

We didn't use a tether (rope) like David does, but rather I placed my hand under his elbow after we burst out of the blocks. It was quite an art trying to run with someone else's rhythm at full speed, but we were an unlikely duo (I was 18 and Win was in his 30's) who experienced some great success during our short stint together.

I thoroughly enjoyed my time as a guide runner. Winford was also a blackbelt in Judo and a sensei and won silver in this at the Paralympics too. What a legend! I last caught up with

Winford in 2001 when he hopped on a bus I was on outside the Roswell UFO Museum. You could imagine his surprise when I said "Giddyay mate" as he got on! I was travelling on a bus from New Mexico to Seattle, Washington (48 hours!) after all flights were grounded following 9/11. After we bid farewell at the next stop or so, another passenger hopped on board and talked to me about the scientific properties of pine cones for 3.5 hours (she was a dendrologist - look that up!) As a young man with limited knowledge of pinecones I recall that all I was able to offer to the conversation, was that in NZ we had a mighty rugby player by the name of Pinetree Meads...his son was Pinecone and Pinecone's son was Pineneedle. I was also thinking of offering up that they are great to get the fire started too, but her blank stare indicated to me that I'd better keep listening to my lecture! I'll have to dig out a photo of Winford and I at some stage. End of Mr Singer's reminiscing for the day :)



**Don't wear
headphones while
vacuuming...
I've just finished the
whole house and
realised the
vacuum wasn't
even plugged in.**

