

TE KURA TUATAHI O PAPAIOEA

CENTRAL NORMAL SCHOOL

Wahanga 2 Wiki 5

Whaia Kia Tutuki ~ Strive to your Potential

25 Haratua 2023

Kia Ora koutou, Talofa Lava, Ni Hao, Malo e lelei

Play Based learning is one of our school teaching and learning philosophies to support the growth and development of our tamariki. While the name sounds like 'just playing' - there is a lot of learning and development of core competency skills, such as: social skills, problem solving, risk taking, trial and error, analysing, evaluation and innovation.

On Wednesday, a group of tamariki from Akomanga 15, developed a fantastic tube and channel system to knock down a set of bowling pins. This demonstrated all the above skills - tumeke ngā tamariki!

Staff Absence

Our kura continues to be impacted by significant staff absence. As mentioned last week, we source relievers where we can to be in classes, but if we cannot source relievers - we split classes.

The shortage of relievers is also part of a bigger problem in Aotearoa, where there are less and less teachers and relieving teachers than what there used to be. Once upon a time, there was an abundance of teachers and plenty of relievers. Now, we are in a place of less staff and this is impacting on the operation of schools.

We continue to thank you for your understanding, as we manage our day to day classes as best as we can, during this period of staff illness and absence.

Staffing Update

Today is Ange's (in the office) last day at our kura. We sincerely thank Ange for all that she has done during her 12 years at Central and we wish her all the very best for her move to the Wairarapa.

We are pleased to share that through our recent teacher appointment process, Whaea Ella (Akomanga 6) won a permanent teaching position at our kura. We also appointed Kane Fawcett to the fixed term position to take over from Whaea Luana in Akomanga 4. Kane is currently teaching in Thailand and will return in June, ready to start at our kura on the first day of Term 3. Prior to Thailand, Kane used to teach at Awapuni School.



Kings Birthday - Monday 5 June (school closed)

Drop Off/Pick Up and Parking

Whānau, we have received many complaints in the past few weeks, about people parking across our neighbours driveways on Lombard, Aroha and Beresford Street. Neighbours have also made mention to us that they are very concerned about some of the dropping off and picking up behaviours, where children are getting out of vehicles in the middle of the road, with traffic approaching.

Please whānau, we ask that you are mindful of our neighbours and respect their access to their properties through their own driveways. Please also be mindful of safe practices when your children are getting out of or into your vehicle.

Structured Literacy

Last night on TV3, Paddy Gower was investigating the declining rates of New Zealand's literacy and seeking solutions to solve this problem. One of the key solutions to solve falling rates, and to improve our children's reading and writing, is the implementation of a Structured Literacy approach.

Our school is proudly a Structured Literacy school, where we implement an approach to the teaching of reading/pānui and writing/tuhituhi, through a researched and evidence based approach. Our kura has been implementing this approach for 5 years and we have seen significant positive benefits and outcomes for our tamariki, with their ability to decode and read with increasing fluency.

Relief Cleaner

We are still looking for a casual relief cleaner to fill in when one of our wonderful cleaners are away sick. The nature of the casual position would be that you would need to be flexible and available enough to come 'at the drop of a hat'. Typically we find out in the morning if one of our cleaners will be away, where we would then contact the relief cleaner to come in that afternoon. If you are looking for some additional, casual work, please email Matua Regan with your expression of interest: principal@centralnormal.school.nz All school employees are required to be police checked.

Fences and Gates

If you are new to our school, you may have noticed that during the day, we keep our fences and gates locked and the only entry into our kura is through the Office. This is something we have maintained since the days after the COVID Lockdowns. We keep our gates locked so that we can keep our tamariki safely within our school grounds and can monitor the people coming in and out of our school. Once upon a time, members of the public used to be able to walk through our school as a shortcut and we wouldn't know who was onsite. Now, we keep the gates locked to ensure the safety of our tamariki by ensuring people have to come to the office.

