FRASERTOWN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 4, Wk 7, 2026

PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We have had a very busy fortnight with lots of activity at the school. The mihi whakatau for our new principal Julie Scandrett was wonderful, she and the many people who came to support her were appreciative of the warm welcome they received. The children were great throughout the mihi.













Then on Friday 20 Nov the Frasertown School annual pet and flower day was held. The weather was beautiful that day, sunny, warm and clear blue skies. The floral art the children created was stunning and the parade of pets in the afternoon was great, a lot of fun was had by all. Many thanks to all the people that helped and supported this – the judges, the bake sale providers and helpers, all the parents and whanau who brought in lovely flowers and blooms, the staff who did an awesome job at organising the day and the many people who came along to support and enjoy a lovely time together. The day has featured in this week's Wairoa Star newspaper.

Then to top off that busy week, the Year 6 group went up to Lake Waikaremoana to have a 2 day camp on 23 and 24 Nov. Lots of fun activities were done, including boating, hiking, swimming and exploring the stunning area that Waikaremoana is. Special thanks to teachers Jo Gray and Nicky Bailey and camp leaders - parents Mike Wilson, Eisha Blackler and Tina Bulled for all their hard work with putting the camp programme together. The children appreciated it and will have wonderful memories of that activity in the years to come.



ASHLEA WEBBY



Whaea Ashlea has been on parental leave since May having her lovely baby twins. As she is now a qualified and registered teacher she has resigned her teacher aide position but we're pleased she will be doing some part time teaching and day relief teaching for us in 2027. Nau mai haere mai ano in 2027 Ashlea.

SKOOL LOOP

We use this app as the main communication tool with families. If you haven't done already can you get it from the apps store, load it on your phone, select Frasertown School and then select the groups to belong to. The General one and the class group(s) your child(ren) are in would be good to start with. Then you'll get a notification of notices when they are sent – so you are kept up to date with things.

SWIMMING TIMES NEXT 3 WEEKS

The maintenance and water testing is set to start this week. The pool is managing the load at the moment. Swimming day afternoons for the next three weeks (23 Nov to 11 Dec) will be:-



Mon afternoons Kahu
Tue afternoons Kereru
Wed afternoons Tui
Thu afternoons Kotare
Fri afternoons Piwakawaka



If the children in these classes bring their togs on their swimming day that would be great.

We will look to offer keys to local families in the next week or so as long as the pool systems can cope with additional use. We will write a notice about this. It is an important health and safety requirement that the pumping, filtration and water quality is monitored and ok for use. It's an old pool and needs to be treated gently so that can be kept going into the future.

TOWN BUS

I'm disappointed to have to write that we continue to have ongoing issues with some children's behaviour on the town bus.

On 19 Nov I received this email from the Go Bus supervisor:-

The driver (Koro Puata) messaged me last night as he was very upset and disappointed with the noisy behaviour of the students on yesterday afternoon run. Coming into town he said it was unbelievable, at times unbearable to concentrate on driving, looked in the mirror and some kids were blocking their ears due to the noise which included yelling above one another.

He stopped at the first stop and spoke with the students at the back of the bus. He advised them their noisy behaviour and throwing rubbish around will not be tolerated, if it continues, he will not be wanting to pick the Frasertown children up.

This is a safety issue and needs to be addressed immediately. If you can find out which students are causing all this commotion and stand them down and hopefully, they will be more respectful to the driver and the other students who deserve to have a safe and peaceful trip into town.

I know you will be disappointed and concerned too with the behaviour of these few students who cause such a disturbance on the ride to and from school and the safety.

We have had teachers riding the bus on occasions but that is not sustainable as they arrive late in the morning and have no time to prepare for their teaching day and then have to leave early and are unavailable for the meetings and work we need to do after school.

Unfortunately, if the driver reports unsafe, disruptive behaviour by a student(s) we will have to ban them from riding the bus for 1 day in the first instance, 1 week for a 2nd offence and if there was a 3rd occasion the student would be banned for the rest of the term. We will refund the money their parents have paid for this school chartered service.

We don't want to have to do this as it would seriously inconvenience parents who would have to bring their child to school each morning and pick them up each afternoon.

If there are parents who could help us by riding the bus to school every now and then in the mornings (the empty bus returns to town and the driver said he could drop a parent supervisor off where their car is) that would be helpful. If you could help on the odd occasion like this please let me know at principal@frasertown.school.nz

Most of the 70 children who use the town bus behave themselves sensibly and well – we cannot have their safety put at risk by some who can't behave appropriately for what is a short 15 minute ride.
We appreciate parents help with this. It is not the 'first rodeo' with this as I have come across letters back to 2014 re town bus 'issues and problems'.



THIS TERM'S INQUIRY TOPIC – THE SOLAR SYSTEM

All the classes shave been studying the science topic 'space and the solar system' this term. This is fascinating for many of the children. Here are some Kereru class learners designing and creating models of planets as part of their studies





PRIZEGIVING ASSEMBLY

This is on Friday 11 December 11.30am to 12.30pm. Parents are welcome to attend.

We will email parents of children who will be receiving trophies and badges so you will know if there is an award their child will be receiving.

More details will follow on skool loop and Facebook. Each class teacher will be awarding 3 badges this year one each for the 3 values the school has – respect, responsibility and resilience

How these can be achieved and shown can be found at Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L) on the school website.

STAFF MOVEMENTS

At the end of the term we will be saying haere ra, ka kite ano to:-



Lisa Baxter - Whaea Lisa will be moving 'home' to Taupō – where she was based before moving to Wairoa around 7 years ago. Lisa has been a great teacher aide and all round 'Jill of all trades' at the school - doing all sorts of different jobs. She has worked closely with Kereru and Kahu children this year. Lisa worked in schools when she lived in Taupō so we imagine they will 'snap' her up again when she moves back over.



Renèe Morin - Renèe has been one of our Specialist Literacy teachers this year working with children who have benefitted from focussed support teaching in reading, writing and oral language. She also plays the ukelele at whanau hui and has added much value to our work in special needs. Renèe will be doing part time work each morning at St Joseph's Wairoa next year and will also be doing private SPELD tutoring.



Hemish Chandra - Mr Hemish is moving to a teaching position in Hastings at Kowhai Specialist School from the beginning of 2027. Hemish moved from Fiji to Frasertown in 2023 and taught here for 3 years before a move to Tokoroa. We were pleased he returned to help us out in Term 2 this year. Hemish is looking to do postgraduate studies in special education as this is a particular area of interest for him.



Jo Gray - Mrs Gray has had a busy year teaching here, job sharing with Nicky Bailey and then has worked part time at Te Mahia School. We were very grateful she returned to help us out from Term 3 when we needed a teacher here. Jo and her partner are moving to Gisborne to be closer to mokopuna there. Gisborne schools will be pleased that Jo is in their neck of the woods and she's bound to be busy with teaching work.



Liz Patara and Colin Tarr - finish their 2 term relieving stint here at Frasertown on Friday 11 Dec to journey home to Papakowhai in Wellington. They have enjoyed their 6 months with Te Kura o Te Kapu children, staff, Board and community and are delighted that great appointments have been made to the principal and senior teacher positions at the school for 2027. Having Julie and June on board, alongside the great staff, Board and parent community will ensure the school goes from strength to strength. They are looking forward to returning to retirement and enjoying travel and adventure - next trip on the bucket list will be Vietnam, Hong Kong and Japan.



LAST DAY OF SCHOOL YEAR

This is Tuesday 15 Dec. School finishes at 1pm on this day.

The town bus will leave at 1pm arriving at their stops between 1.10pm and 1.20pm.
Please ensure you are there to meet your children.

The village children will be walking home from 1pm.

The country buses can't be brought forward so if parents could pick them up between 1 and 2pm that would be great as we wouldn't want to have them waiting until 3.15pm for the country buses.

