

Tena koutou katoa,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and enjoying the slightly longer days and little hints that spring is coming. Our kura is busy and this newsletter is an update on the many exciting activities and achievements that have been taking place. That said there are many that we still have not highlighted: kapa haka, table tennis, indoor bowls, chess- the list goes on. It is brilliant to see so many of our rangatahi involved.

Trips and Adventures: We welcome back our intrepid skiers! Thank you to Peter Varey and Damien Price for your support and to Travis Lapointe, Shane Hooks and Andrea Ferris. These sorts of trips are a massive undertaking and could not be done without staff and whanau support.

Countdown to Aims Games: We are in the midst of the build-up towards the upcoming Aims Games. Our athletes have been training and are getting ready. The Aims Games represent not only a platform for healthy competition but also an opportunity for personal growth and whanaungatanga. We have exactly two weeks until we leave.

Emphasis on Student Behavior: The safety and well-being of our students are of paramount importance to us. We have been working hard to foster a positive and respectful atmosphere both within the school and while commuting to and from school. A small group of our tamariki have needed reminders of our expectations on the Lytton and Ormond. We encourage anyone who sees unsafe or dangerous behavior on our buses or from our students to contact us immediately. A photo is often a huge help in terms of identification. Please note that the buses now have cameras on them so that we can monitor and identify those who are unsafe. Unfortunately for the odd one or two - they do not realise the privilege they have of riding our free bus until it has been taken away.



Welcoming New Faces: We are thrilled to introduce a valuable addition to our school team, from Whanau Oranga- Attendance kaiawhina - Denise Walker. Denise will collaborate closely with whanau and students to address any challenges that might hinder consistent school attendance.

Thank you to all of you who have reached out to our whanau who lost their home last week. They are very thankful for the aroha and support. We will update you in they are in need of any particular items.

Ngā mihi nui

Megan Rangiua  
Tumuaki/Principal



## Some words from our school counsellor

Nikki O'Connor

### Helping our young people with their emotions



Tamariki can experience complex feelings just like adults. Sometimes they don't have the vocabulary to talk about those feelings, or they don't know positive or constructive ways to manage those feelings. Here are a few tips to help the young people in your life develop emotional literacy to support healthy behaviors and attitudes.

1. **Listen:** This one sounds simple right? ... But it can be harder than it sounds to truly listen. Give your full attention and allow your young person to talk about what they are experiencing and how it is has presented (maybe they feel something in their body, maybe they can't shake a thought, maybe they can't focus). Sometimes we just want to make their challenging feelings go away ... but resist the urge to minimise or dismiss their feelings. Instead, acknowledge the feelings will pass, and help them to express the feelings in helpful ways and/or problem solve where needed.

2. **Name feelings and normalize talking about emotions:** Labelling different emotions is a way to support emotional vocabulary. Emotions serve a purpose in our lives. Try to avoid using the language of 'bad and good emotions'. Instead acknowledge that some are more uncomfortable than others but that they are all giving us messages. Emotions help us figure out our feelings about situations and make choices. A book like *How Do I Feel?* by Rebekah Lipp and Craig Phillips is a great starting point. An understanding of a variety of feelings helps us identify and express them more easily.



**3. Tune into the young person's cues:** Notice body language, the tone of what they are saying, and observe behaviors. Help them to figure out how they are feeling.

**4. Identify feelings in others:** When reading together or watching TV/movies, talk about how the characters might be feeling and why. This helps them recognise cues and supports empathy.

**5. Help them identify alternatives to expressing feelings:** If a feeling is coming out in a destructive way, help them identify alternative ways of expressing that feeling.

**6. Role model through words and actions:** You could try some of these things where appropriate ...

- talking aloud as you identify your own emotions and how they are presenting (in your body, actions, words),
- acknowledging feelings pass and ponder their causes and/or messages
- explain what you will do to manage the feelings in a constructive and positive way

## Introducing our School Kaiawhina



**Ko wai ahau?**

**Ko Hikurangi te maunga**

**Ko Waiapu te awa**

**Ko Ngati Porou te iwi**

**Ko Denise Walker ahau**



This is my first month as Attendance Kaiawhina for  
Ngati Porou Oranga

My role is to encourage and support tamariki and their  
whanau on their education journey.

I am looking forward to making this year and the next a  
great one!

## Graduation for Mrs Phillips & Miss Simmons

Congratulations to Mrs Phillips from Room 4 and Miss Simmons from Room 10, both graduated earlier this term with a Bachelor of Teaching (Primary). Kei runga noa atu korua!!



## A letter from the Nepia-Anderson Family

### Results from our BMXers

Unfortunately, the Aussie's beat the NZ team but what a fight our team put up. Asher and her team were amazing and fought the Aussie's all the way to the end. All of Asher's hard training showed: she was fast off the gate and was looking the strongest she's ever looked. There were near-crash moments, but she managed to stay on. In her first race the Aussie's tried to take her out as they knew she was the strongest, toughest rider in the team but that totally backfired on them.

One of the Aussie girls came straight across on her from the gate and hit her, but Asher just held strong, and the girl just bounced off her like a brick wall and took herself and another Kiwi out while she was falling. Asher lost her pedal but stayed on and fought her way from last place to 3rd! Amazing racing to watch, and all the kids showed real courage in all their battles. Our 2023 NZ Mighty 11's team really did do their country proud; it was just a shame they didn't get to bring some trophies home because they really did deserve it.



Reave got to race one race on the Saturday event and had to sit out the Sunday event. On her 2nd race two girls crashed right in front of her taking her out with their crash. I had to pull out of my racing for the day to take Reave to the hospital where x-rays showed she had broken her right hand! We were so gutted for her, she had trained so hard and had put so much into preparing herself to face the Aussie 13-year-old girls, it really broke our hearts. In her first race she came 3rd, and she was looking so good, she really had a good chance of making a podium finish. It's so sad but unfortunately, it's the reality of BMX racing but that doesn't make it any easier as a parent to see. Jax doesn't get placings, but he got 1st's, 2nd's and 3rd's all weekend and buzzed so many people out with his skills and massive personality. Justin rode well and in his age group, took 2nd place on the Saturday and 1st place on the Sunday. As I had to pull out of racing Saturday, in my age group I went from 1st equal to last but came back Sunday and took 1st place

One of our proudest parent moments we got to experience was watching our girl get presented her Mighty 11's NZ Test Team Uniform and Race Plate. It was such an epic moment to have been able to be a part of.

Once again, we just want to thank you Ilminster for your support with the koha for Asher and the support you give our girls.

Thanks so much,  
Sherilyn and Justin



## Kaipānui - Reading for others Service-Learning Group

This term we kicked off our Kaipānui Service-Learning group. The concept of service learning involves combining academic study with hands-on experiences that address genuine community needs. By participating in service-learning projects, our students gain a deeper understanding of social issues, develop empathy, and contribute positively to society. Service learning not only benefits the community but instils valuable life skills and empathy in our students.

Kaipānui are a group of our students who are collaborating with the Blind Low Vision NZ group to support individuals in our community with low vision or blindness. Our students underwent training with Carol from Blind Low Vision and now get together every other Friday to record themselves reading local news articles from the Gisborne Herald. This service allows individuals to call in and listen to the local news at their convenience. So far, the feedback we have received on our recordings have been very positive.

The benefits from participating in this type of learning project can be great. Our students will develop a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by individuals with visual impairments and gain a great appreciation for the importance of inclusivity. They will enhance their reading skills, public speaking abilities and communication techniques as they engage with diverse content from the Gisborne Herald. Hopefully, they will also experience the joy of making a tangible difference in the lives of others and witness the impact their contributions can have on the community.

"I believe that individuals with low/zero vision deserve to have access and opportunities to interact with the world around them. Being able to read text is informative as much as it is entertaining so offering my time and enthusiasm to this venture has been an incredibly rewarding experience."  
Madison

We look forward to continuing to build further Service-Learning project opportunities for our students. - Kōka Andrea





## Connections

### **New method of Connections reporting for 2023**

This year the Connections team is piloting a different approach to 'reporting' on student work. Historically our parent community and students have received a summative report comment from each Connections teacher at the end of the year.

We believe that seeing samples of the learning your child is engaging in (as they are doing it) and seeing the written feedback each teacher is providing to them is a more informative and timely method of sharing information about learning with you. This also provides you with the opportunity to discuss work with your child at home, and to contact us for further conversations if you have questions about what you see in the work of your young person.

In order to facilitate this type of sharing, we have set each student up with their own Ilminster edublog site that they post their Connections work to. By visiting the blog of your child, you will have the opportunity to see what they are doing and what their next steps are for improvement in each of the subject areas. An important consideration as you are viewing the blog is that some of the work may be in 'draft' or 'work in progress' form.

Please expect an email this week with the blog link of your young person. As this is a new venture for our Connections team, we welcome any feedback and thoughts from you.



## Cooking with Mrs Gaskin

With eggs being in short supply, students have been exploring a range of recipes that do not require this sought after staple. Fresh vegetables are a key focus of cooking and students get an opportunity to use a variety to encourage 5+ a day.



## Science with Koka Andrea

Students with Science as their Connection have just completed their first rotation where we have been investigating the idea of density. Why are some substances more or less dense? What happens to density when we add heat? Why? Why is it easier to float in the ocean than in freshwater? What *is* density? All questions our Maturanga scientists might be able to explain to you at home!



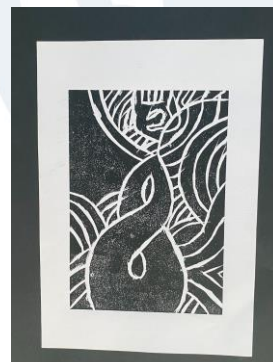
## Music with Koka Anda

Beautiful tones and plenty of volume has been flooding out of the music puoro room this term. The ukulele traces its roots back to Portugal and has since been adopted and modified by the Hawaiian people, giving its name Ukulele which translates to jumping flea. Students have been learning our beautiful songs and waiata on the ukulele.



## Art with Mrs Jarratt

What better way to celebrate the arrival of our new printing press, than with some incredible new prints. Our young creatives have been carving it up in art, inspired by other cultures, incorporating their own unique interests.





## Hine Hoia Performance – Koka Anda



Hine Hoia was a beautiful, thought-provoking story that covered issues of temptation, greed, love and the choices we may make that will lead us down a certain path in our lives. It was a lovely outing that left everyone excited and inspired by the narrative, dance, circuit arts and music that was performed by the talented artists of Aotearoa. Thank you, Chamber Music New Zealand, for this wonderful opportunity.



## Art Master Class – Ms Jarratt



### **Go Figure**

Want to learn how to draw more than just a stickman? Explore how to capture the human form in different poses. Looking at shape, scale and composition. You will be using a range of mixed media to create a series of interesting, animated poses.



### **Carve it up**

Back by popular demand! Exploring traditional techniques of woodblock carving. Students understand symbols and patterns, learning the importance these play throughout other cultures. Taking inspiration from around the world, design and develop your own symbol used to describe you.



## Instrumental groups – Koka Anda

It has been amazing to see the commitment, patience and positive attitude from our students when it comes to learning a musical instrument. Week by week we are advancing our skills and knowledge on the keyboard, violin, cello and guitars.



## Bands – Koka Anda

A very warm welcome and thank you to Ricky Boyd for coming onboard to help bands get ready for the upcoming Rockshop Bandquest! We have four passionate and talented bands working hard to take stage on the Saturday 26th of August at the War Memorial Theater at 7pm.

Here are some of our tamariki from bands Lozertown, Back2Front, Iron Babies and Mt JCE.





## BOP Winter Sports Tournament

We were fortunate enough to take our Hockey, Football, Y7 Netball and Y8 Netball teams to Tauranga to represent our kura in the BOP Tauranga Winter Tournament. Our Boys/Girls Basketball teams traveled on the Sunday to Rotorua followed by the BOP Cross/Country competitors leaving on the Thursday. An experience our rangatahi will remember.

A big mihi to Kelly Wyllie, Nick Land and Lawrence Mulligan for getting our rangatahi safely to the tournaments.

### Basketball – Matua Tom



Both teams travelled through to Rotorua in week 3 for the Bay of Plenty Basketball tournament. Our players have trained extremely hard this year and the results proved that.

The girls were up first playing against last year's champs, Mount Maunganui at 8.00am. Ilminster girls jumped out to an early lead and were able to keep it, winning 15-10.



The boys first game started off sluggish, with a tough loss against Taupo, 20-10. Then the girls had another win, beating Whakatane 15-4. The boys bounced back with a 19-18 win against Whakatane as well.



Next up the boys had an epic win against their long-time rival, Kaitao, with Ilminster coming up trumps, winning 33-9. The girls had an impressive win against Taupo before losing their final game against 2nd place finishers, Rotorua. With 9 teams total in the Girls grade, Ilminster finished 4th. Very impressed. The Boys finished 6th overall, playing extremely well. We are very proud of all those who participated. They were amazing both on and off the court.

#### **Girls**

Ilminster W 15-10 v Mt. Maunganui  
Ilminster W 15-4 v Whakatane  
Ilminster W 31-10 v Taupo  
Ilminster L 12-31 v Rotorua

#### **Boys**

Ilminster L 10-20 v Taupo  
Ilminster W 19-18 v Whakatane  
Ilminster W 33-9 v Kaitao  
Ilminster L 12-45 v Tauranga  
Ilminster W 38-14 v Mokoia





## **BOP Hockey** – Koka Andrea/Koka T



What a great opportunity for 10 of our hockey players to travel to Tauranga and compete against some very experienced and talented teams!

The Ilminster BOP team was selected from across our two school teams and represented themselves very well, especially given the limited opportunities that had to practice and compete together prior to this tournament.

Ilminster Hockey placed 6<sup>th</sup> in their pool and are looking forward to 2024.

## **Year 7 & Year 8 BOP Netball** – Koka Donu/Koka Ani



Coached by our beautiful sisters Koka Ani and Koka Donu

What an amazing group of students to take and represent our kura.

Both teams fought their way through the tournament. An eye opener for rangatahi who had never been to a big tournament before.

Both teams came 9<sup>th</sup> in their pool and are looking forward to competing next year.

## **BOP Cross-Country** – Mr Lapointe



The Bay of Plenty Cross-Country competition this year was fierce, and although we didn't come home with any medals, we were proud of all the students. It was a pleasure to travel with the group and spend the night prior in Awakeri.

I still can't believe a few of them coming to breakfast through the frost in their shorts and bare feet, HEARTY! A big thanks to our parent chaperone Kelly for the support and organizing our kai.



## BOP Football



Well done to our Football boys who represented our kura smartly. Not the result they were after, but this team never gave up. The experience was definitely an eye opener for our team. Bring on 2024!!!!

## U16's Indoor Bowls – Mrs Ewe



Congratulations to Jaykwan Casey & Souta Preddey for this remarkable triumph at the Tauranga Indoor Bowls Tournament.

Both represented Poverty Bay Under 16's Indoor Bowls and demonstrated their prowess and outshined the competition claiming victory in a display of true sportsmanship and dedication to the sport.

Ka mau te wehi korua!!!!

## Ski Trip – Mr Lapointe

### Stats:

- **30 students - 19 snowboarders/11 skiers**
- **24 first timers**
- **More than half had never been to the snow**

An EPIC trip to remember! Despite marginal weather on the first day students persevered and made awesome progress.

Their instructors on Day 2 were impressed with their improvement and their grit to make the most of the day. We all warmed up in the Tokaanu Thermal Pools after the first day before a good sleep. A two-course breakfast and we were back out there for a 'bluebird' second morning. A few of our stronger skiers had the opportunity to go up higher on the mountain, but we enjoyed some epic views of the maunga covered in fresh snow. We only skied the morning on the third day but for all but a few that was more than enough to tire them out and make for a quieter return trip.









**Āwhinatia tō hapori kia whakaputaina ngā whakairo  
Help your community have their say**

The 2023 General Election will be held in October, and we want every eligible New Zealander to enrol and vote.

Voting starts on Monday 2 October and finishes at 7pm on election day, Saturday 14 October.

We'd like your help to get as many New Zealanders as possible to have their say. Let's work together to make that happen.

You can help by [sharing information with your community](#) about enrolling and voting in this year's General Election.

On our website [vote.nz](#) you'll find information and links to resources you can download or order to share in a variety of ways – on social media, on your website, in newsletters or direct communications, or as display materials at your workplace, marae, library, or community centre to help spread the word to your friends, whānau and community.

Resources are available in [different languages](#), [te reo Māori dialects](#), and [alternate formats](#). We'll continue adding new resources to share as the election approaches.

We value your support in helping us make information about enrolling and voting available to your community and encouraging their participation in the 2023 General Election.

**Enrol. Vote. Be Heard.**

For more information:

➤ Visit **vote.nz**

☎ Freephone **0800 36 76 56**



# Calendar of Events for Term 3, 2023

<b>Week 1:</b> 17-21 July	<b>Week 2:</b> 24-28 July	<b>Week 3:</b> 31 July – 4 Aug	<b>Week 4:</b> 7-11 August
<b>Mon 17 July</b> * Term 3 starts	<b>Thur 27 – Fri 28 July</b> • BOP Winter Sports Tournament (Hockey, Netball, Football) <b>Sun 30 – Mon 31 July</b> BOP Basketball Tournament	<b>Thur 27 – Fri 28 July</b> BOP Cross country	
<b>Week 5:</b> 14-18 August	<b>Week 6:</b> 21-25 August	<b>Week 7:</b> 28 Aug – 1 Sep	<b>Week 8:</b> 4 Sep – 8 Sep
			<b>Sat 2 - Fri 8 August</b> * AIMS Games - Tauranga
<b>Week 9:</b> 11-15 Sep	<b>Week 10:</b> 18 Sep – 22 Sep		
<b>Mon 11 – Fri 15 September</b> * Maori Language Week in Matauranga	<b>Wed 20 September</b> • Teacher Only Day  <b>Fri 22 September</b> * Term 3 Ends		

