



# MORRINSVILLE

## Intermediate School

**Kia U Ki Te Pai** Whatever You Do, Let It Be Your Best



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**Empowering Learners to Succeed**  
Hei whakamana nga ākonga  
i te whai ao

# Newsletter

## Term 4 Week 1 Newsletter 2025

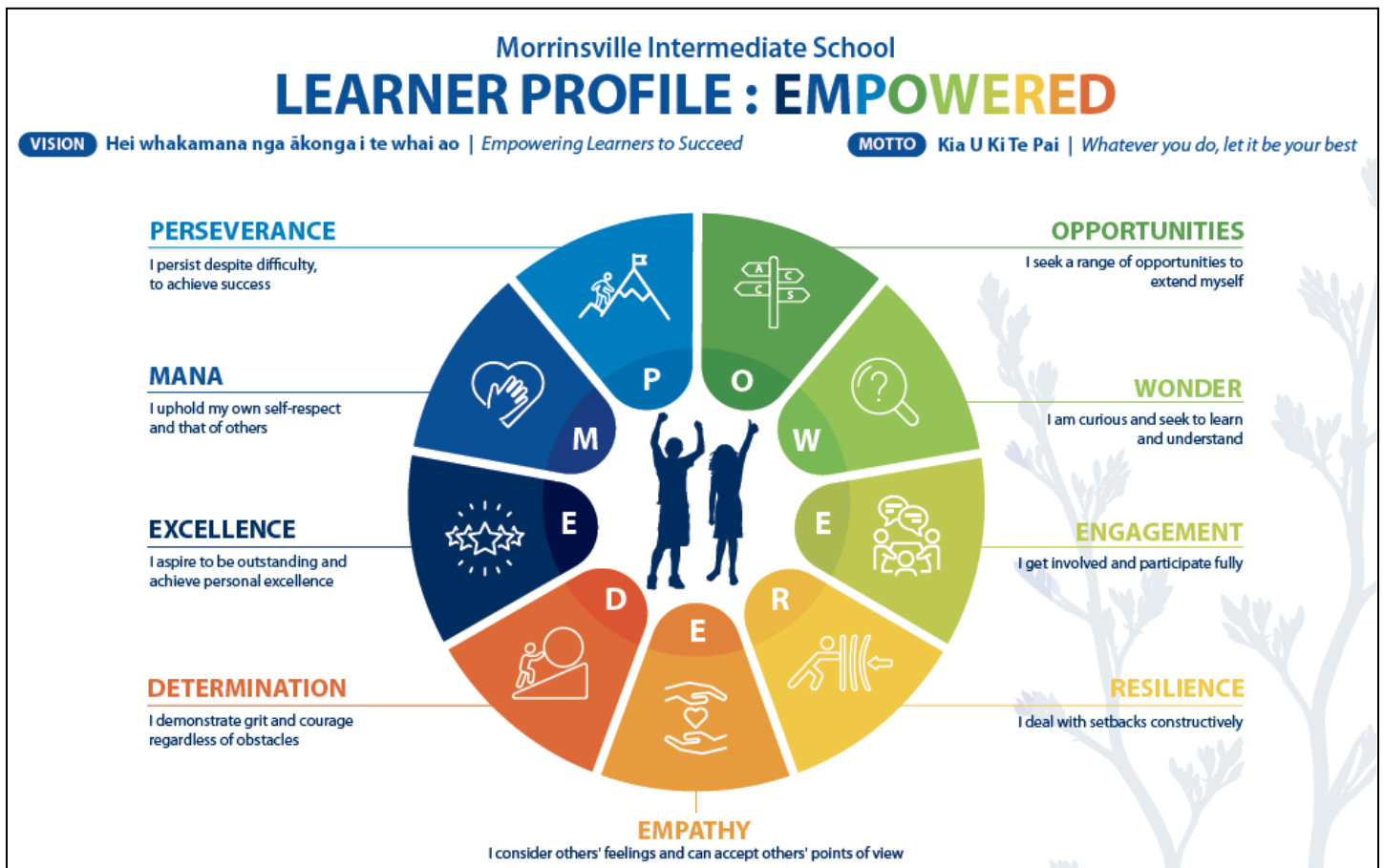
Kia ora e te whānau, nau mai haere mai ki te pānui Wiki Tahi - welcome to Term 4 and to our first newsletter.

We trust you had an enjoyable break and were able to spend some time with your child/ren and wider whānau and friends. Unfortunately the weather wasn't too kind for chunks of it but it is spring afterall!

For the last week of Term 4 and the first week of the school holidays I was fortunate to be travelling in Japan with a group of eight students from MIS and, collectively, 60 students in total from seven intermediate schools in the Waikato. It was a great experience for our ākonga (learners) to be immersed in Japanese culture, living authentically with host families for almost two weeks. We are very grateful for this opportunity and know that many long-lasting friendships were forged, along with a myriad of special memories made. In March we look forward to hosting up to 25 students from Shibuya Makuhari Junior High School and also returning to Japan in September. I am holding a meeting with any interested students tomorrow and ***expressions of interest / application forms*** will be going home; a parents meeting will be held on 18th November at 5.30 p.m. in the Hall.



With less than ten weeks of the school year left I wanted to draw your attention to our Learner Profile: EMPOWERED. To ensure our tamariki (children) are set up for success we need to ensure that 'EVERY DAY COUNTS AND EVERY MINUTE MATTERS'. We are proud of the culture we aspire to achieve at MIS and work hard to enable our students to achieve personal excellence through the myriad opportunities afforded to them. As staff, we can't do it on our own. We would appreciate it if you could discuss the learner profile with your child (i.e. the skills and dispositions needed for success as both a student and citizen) and what this may look like for them.



We look forward to a great term ahead with your ongoing support ... we held an assembly on Monday reiterating and clarifying the expectations we have of our students and making it very clear that we want a positive and engaging term with everyone feeling happy and demonstrating good choices and values (including in their learning and behaviour); poor behaviour will not be tolerated! We have many privileges on the horizon including our annual Fun Day and Y. 8 Social and it would be sad to have to exclude students from these events due to poor behaviour that impacts not only themselves, but others.

As a school we work really hard to develop a positive culture for learning where everyone feels safe and valued; all tamariki are expected to demonstrate our school vision, motto, values and learner profile (essentially the Key Competencies) consistently. Any students being stood down or suspended will likely be excluded from the Fun Day or Social which we deem to be a privilege and celebration .... something to be earned.

As you will be aware, today was our Livestock Day, following on from Craft Day yesterday. I want to congratulate all students who got involved in these activities as they require a lot of internal commitment, perseverance and determination. Once again the Hall was decked out with amazing creativity, and the fields filled with much loved, and well cared for animals. Despite it being many moons ago for myself, I still look back on Livestock Day with fondness and can attribute many skills learnt through rearing calves as a youngster, including determination and resilience!

Thank you to all the mums/dads and whānau who supported our tamariki to 'make it happen' for them.

Finally, you may/may not be aware of the pending strike action by NZEI Te Riu Roa Union Members (New Zealand Education Institute). Please read the blurb below regarding **possible school closure on October 23rd.**

Kind regards  
**Jenny Clark**  
**(Principal)**

Featuring in today's newsletter:

Rangatiratanga Award

Gold for Glory

Attendance Award

Honours Student

Term 3 Kia U Ki Te Pai Award

Writing Achievement: Podcast competition

**STRIKE Information for Communities**

Attendance

Board news

Special Person's Day

Canteen

Property updates

Policy Reviews

Term Four Calendar

Term Dates



**Rangatiratanga Award (doing the best for yourself):**

During Friday Assembly one student per class is acknowledged for demonstrating Rangatiratanga, specifically one of Key Competency indicators. The focus was Responsibility in Weeks 9 & 10:

Congratulations to the following students from Week 9: Zahnay Eve P1, Kitara P2, Daytona P3, Indie P4, Grace P5, Grayson T1, Jahleea T2, Chloe T3, Meadow T4, Dylan W1, Mikayla W2, Kyle W3, Chad W4, Science: Charlotte T4, Food Tech: Skye W3, Hard Materials: Lakshya P2, Art: Sofia W2, Performing Arts: Mishka P5.

Congratulations to the following students from Week 10: Karlah-Jane P1, Mason P2, Daytona P3, Indie P4, Adam P5, Paesyn T1, Mia T2, William T3, Paige T4, Helaena W1, Sam W2, Baran W3, Eleana W4, Science: Savannah, Food Tech: Skye W3, Hard Materials: Abagial W3, Art: Savannah.

**Gold For Glory:** At each assembly students are recognised by the principal for showing initiative, or going the extra mile by demonstrating our school vision, motto and values. The recipient in Week 9 was Prince T4 and the Cooper P1 in week 10. Well done!

**Attendance Award:** Congratulations to Zayden W3 who was the recipient of the \$10 attendance voucher. All students who were present for all of Week Nine were in the draw.

Please remember it is important for students to have days off only for justified reasons (illnesses, bereavements; not shopping, haircuts, long weekends, birthdays etc please). Thanks for your support.

#### **Honours Student - Cash Sheehan:**

Congratulations Cash, you have worked diligently to achieve your merit points enabling you to apply for Honours; you are an inspiration!. 'To achieve you have to believe' ... well done for believing in yourself and for 'making it happen'. You set a goal to achieve Honours as a Year 6 student so well done on persisting and demonstrating the skills and dispositions of an EMPOWERED learner.

You have gained your: Cultural Merit, Academic Excellence and Sports Excellence. In addition, you are also only one point away from achieving your Civics Merit. Miharo mahi (awesome work)!



#### **Honours Student - Dylan Hunt:**

Congratulations to our final Honours Student for Term 3 - Dylan Hunt!

Dylan has gained his Civics Merit, Academic Excellence and Double Sports Merit and Sports Excellence.

Dylan has made the most of a wide range of opportunities and has pushed himself out of his comfort zone. His personal growth and confidence as a Year 8 student is a real credit to the hard work he has put in during his time at MIS. Well done Dylan, what a great role model you are!



#### **Kia U Ki Te Pai Term 3 2025 recipient:**

The Kia U Ki Te Pai award is a prestigious award given out once per term to a student who displays our motto Kia U Ki Te Pai in everything that they do. This is in every aspect; learning, in friendships and behaviour. Each student who is awarded this trophy exemplifies our school values and can be very proud of themselves for being an outstanding role model to others.

Congratulations to Kendal Maunder who was our Term 3 recipient! Kendal is a well deserving student who has been noticed by many across the school for being a positive role model towards her peers. She is extremely hard working, super helpful to everyone and displays a lot of initiative.

Well done Kendal!

#### **Writing Achievement: Podcast competition:**

Our talented students have once again showcased their creativity and skill in the Matamata Piako District Council Poetry Podcast Competition. In August, four of our students entered, and we're thrilled to announce that Adelaide Bradbury took 1st place with her powerful poem 'Anxiety,' while Isla Scott secured 3rd place with her heartfelt piece on 'Siblings.'

We are incredibly proud of all our participants and encourage more students to express themselves through poetry and other creative outlets. Congratulations girls .... it is great to see you making the most of opportunities available to you.

## **STRIKE Information for Communities: 23rd October = school will be CLOSED (to be confirmed closer to the time)**

*You may have heard that NZEI Te Riu Roa members recently voted to take strike action on 23rd October. Many of our teaching and support staff (as well as myself as principal) are NZEI Te Riu Toa members and will be joining the strike. I want you to know this decision was not made lightly.*

*Throughout our collective agreement negotiations (where we negotiate for improvements to our working terms and conditions) we have raised several issues that would make a big difference to support our students' learning, but we don't feel that the Government is listening to us or is understanding what schools and students really need. This includes recognising that our learners need more support, including a teacher aide for every classroom.*

*We're also asking the Government to value all school staff for the work they do. We want to attract and retain great people in our classrooms, rather than seeing them leave for Australia, or beyond.*

*A strike means a day without pay, but that is a sacrifice we are making to try and get the Government to hear us and give us what is needed to support all students.*

In summary, the board, due to having insufficient staff to adequately operate the school, have made the decision that MIS will close for the strike day on 23rd October. If the strike is called off prior to the 23rd we will notify you as soon as possible.

(Mike Garrud, Presiding Member, 6th October 2025)

## **Today's learners are tomorrow's leaders – attendance is the first step to learning**



### **Attendance:**

Congratulations to the students who were able to attend regularly (i.e. 90%+ in Term 3) ... there were 220 (58%) of you, including 20 students who attended 100% of the time.

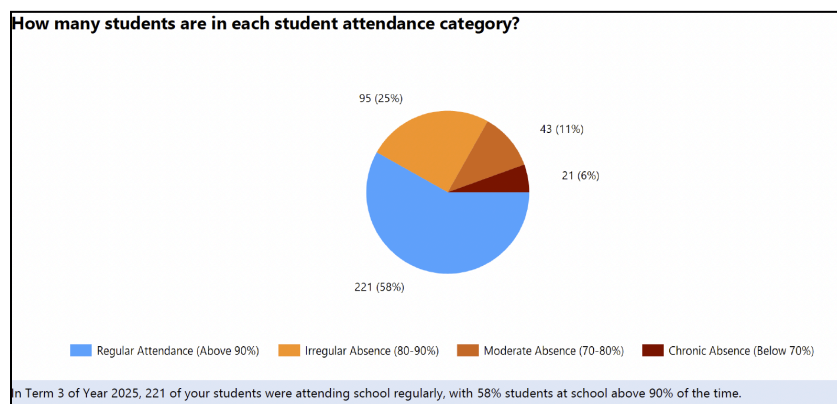
As you will be aware, there is a goal for 80% of all students to be attending school at least 90% of the time in New Zealand by 2030. 90% equates to having five days off per term which seems reasonable.

We started off the year doing really well, with 76% of our tamariki achieving this. Unfortunately, Term 3 saw a real tumble in statistics with only 58% of our students attending regularly, and only 80. This can be attributed mostly to some terrible viruses and illnesses doing the rounds which are unavoidable.

However, there were other factors that impacted, including students staying home because:

- it was wet, or too cold
- not wanting to do sport
- Friday/Monday
- family holidays or long weekends
- not wanting to attend school trips/activities
- the last day of term
- they didn't have any food
- their uniform was in the wash

The above reasons are categorised as unjustified ... if you need any support from us to assist your child to get to school please reach out to us; we do have spare uniform and food available for those who need assistance.



We have to report to the Ministry of Education annually on our attendance. Our goals include:

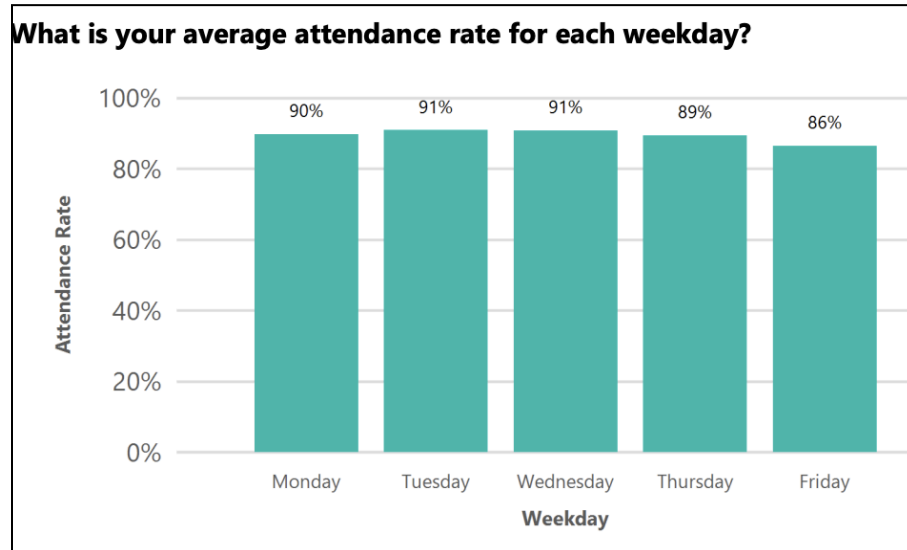
- **Target # 2:** Reduce unjustified attendances across the school

We currently have 2% unjustified attendance which we would like to reduce to < 1.5% by the end of Term 3

- **Target # 3:** Reduce the rate of absences on Mondays and/or Fridays by  $\geq 5\%$

As you can see from the graph below, Mondays and particularly Fridays are our days of lowest attendance for Term 3.

Last year we had just under 88% attending on Fridays so Term 3 has slipped below this.



### What can I do to make sure my child is going to school?

To make school a priority, there are things you can do at home, and things you can work alongside the school on:

- talk to your children about why it is important to go to school every day – ask them what they want to be in the future. Their education is the key to doing well in life
- be positive about school
- set good habits about going to school from day one
- prepare your children the night before for school – have they done their homework, do they need to take anything along tomorrow?
- have a consistent good morning routine, so it's not too rushed and they have time to get everything they need
- don't let them have the day off just because they would rather be at home
- don't keep them at home when you know that they may be nervous about school – talk to your child and talk the school about how they are feeling
- check in regularly with your child, listen to what they are telling you or not telling you - this may make it easier to pick up on any worries they have
- keep family holidays outside of term-time, every day at school is an opportunity to build their knowledge and skills, and repetition is critical for learning – especially for primary school children
- don't overload them – school may be exhausting for some children so make sure they have some downtime after school to relax and have a break.



### Morrinsville Intermediate school board - casual vacancy for a parent representative:

As previously advised, a casual vacancy has occurred on the school board for an elected parent representative. The board decided to fill the vacancy by selection.

As there were no requests from eligible voters to hold a by-election, the board has elected Mrs Teresa Higham by selection, with immediate effect. Teresa is an experienced school board member with valuable connections to both our school and local community. Thank you Teresa for your expertise and continued support.



### Special Person's Day:

Our school's annual 'Special Person's Day' is being held on Wednesday 12th November starting at 11am. Students will invite someone special in their lives to join them on this day to enjoy cultural performances by various groups within our school, a career themed activity in class with them, a shared kai and the opportunity to stay on and play games with them at lunchtime in the playground. More information will come closer to the time but for now we would love it if you could talk with your child about who they would like to invite and perhaps get them to pop the date on their calendar.



### Canteen:

It has been noticed that a number of students have been bringing \$20 and sometimes \$50 notes to spend at the canteen. Unfortunately we find it difficult to give change for these denominations so ask that nothing bigger than a \$10 note is sent to school as we do not keep large quantities of cash on site.

We do have eftpos in the canteen now so students are able to bring debit/eftpos cards to school as an alternative.

### Property Updates:

We were a hive of activity over the holidays with two major projects on the go:

1. Our classroom refurbishments which are now coming to the end of Stage Two (of three stages, due to finish at the end of Term 4).
2. Our newly re-clad PE shed - thanks to Semmens Homes, Sylvester electrical and Kim Edgecombe Painter.



### Policy Review:

Policy Review is an important component of our school organisation, and consultation process. We are a SchoolDocs school which means we work with SchoolDocs to provide us with a comprehensive set of policies which have been well researched and follow the Ministry of Education National Administration Guidelines. The policies and procedures are tailored to our school, and the school supplies specific information such as our charter, and procedures for behaviour management, reporting to parents, etc. Please visit our site at: <http://mi.schooldocs.co.nz/>

Username: mi

Password: mis

Regular review takes place and we alert the community to the review when scheduled. Not all policies are required to be reviewed by the community. The Term Two policies that can be reviewed by the community are:

- *Stand-down, Suspension, and Exclusion*
- *Staff Wellbeing and Safety*



SchoolDocs

### Term Four Calendar events:

Thursday 9th October	Livestock Day and Top Team Challenge - involves whole school
13th-31st October	Navigating the Journey taught in class
Monday 13th October	Out of Zone Ballot for 2026 enrolments (if required)
Wednesday 15th October	Year 8 immunisation
Thursday 16th October	National Shake Out
Tuesday 21st October	II Vibrant Voices Competition
Wednesday 22nd October	Morrinsville Group Day
Wednesday 22nd October	Board Meeting 6.30pm
<b>Thursday 23rd October</b>	<b>STRIKE Day - school closed (to be confirmed closer to the time)</b>
<b>Friday 24th October</b>	<b>Teacher Only Day</b>
<b>Monday 27th October</b>	<b>Labour Day - Public Holiday</b>
Wednesday 29th October	School Athletics Day - all day rotation event, parents welcome
Friday 31st October	School sprint finals - after lunch, parents welcome
Thursday 30th October	II Music
Tuesday 4th November	II Softball
Thursday 6th November	II Kapa Haka
Monday 10th November	Japan Meeting for 2026
Wednesday 12th November	Special Person's Day
Thursday 13th November	Photolife (sports, cultural, civic photos)
Tuesday 18th Tuesday	II Lacrosse and II Ultimate Frisbee
Friday 21st November	X-Factor finals
Friday 21st November	Last day for Honours applications
Tuesday 25th November	II Athletics
Wednesday 26th November	Board Meeting 6.30pm
Wednesday 3rd December	Year 6 and Year 8 Orientation visits for 2026
Monday 8th December	School Fun Day
Wednesday 10th December	Year 8 Formal Social 7pm to 9.30pm
Thursday 11th December	End of Year Reports go home
Monday 15th December	Prizegiving 11am to 1.00pm
Tuesday 16th December	Last day of school 12.30pm finish



**LEVEL 1 AND LEVEL 2**  
**6 WEEKS IN TERM 4**  
**MONDAYS**

**3.25 - 4.25 PM**

**NOV 10<sup>TH</sup> - DEC 15<sup>TH</sup>**

**Coaches:**  
Jess Fabling &  
Vonny Marsh

**Cost:** \$60

Is this level for me?

Yes! All players in this age group (yr6-8) range will fit into either L1 or L2!

**Get in early**  
**REGISTER NOW**



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MORRINSVILLE NETBALL ACADEMY



morrinsvillenetballacademy@gmail.com

### 2025 Teacher Only Curriculum Days:

Term Two:	Tuesday 3rd June (after King's Birthday)
Term Four:	<b>Friday 24th October (before Labour weekend)</b>

### 2025 School Term Dates:

Term One:	Monday 3rd February to Friday 11th April
Term Two:	Monday 28th April to Friday 27th June
Term Three:	Monday 14th July to Friday 19th September
Term Four:	Monday 6th October to Tuesday 16th December (12.30pm finish)

### 2026 School Term Dates:

Term One:	Monday 2nd February to Thursday 2nd April
Term Two:	Monday 20th April to Friday 3rd July
Term Three:	Monday 20th July to Friday 25th September
Term Four:	Monday 12th October to Monday 14th December (12.30pm finish)