



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 5 Newsletter 2025

Kia ora e te whānau, nau mai haere mai ki te pānui Wiki Rima - welcome to Term 4, Week 5.

We trust you've been enjoying the 'summer-like' days this week; a lovely change from last weeks' bitterly cold wind!

For the past two weeks we have been busy with completing 'Navigating the Journey' (Health programme), Term 4 academic assessments in Reading, Writing and Maths and Athletics sports. The assessment data is used to determine progress and achievement, is used for end of year reports to parents (these will come home on Thursday 11th December) and reporting to the Ministry of Education (Te Mahau) in relation to our school targets. The data is also shared with the college to support classroom placements. Most students have worked diligently on the assessments and can be proud of their efforts there is a flurry of applications for Honours after merit points have been earned.

Honours: if your child is working towards achieving Honours, I encourage you to visit the 'applying for Honours' information on our school website through this [link](#). There are two parts to Honours; earning the merit points and demonstrating our school values consistently throughout the year. They must apply for Honours; it is not an entitlement. Best wishes to all those students who have been striving for Honours - it is great to see the dispositions of EMPOWERED shining!

Uniform: Thank you for your support to ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform; in Term 4 this means:

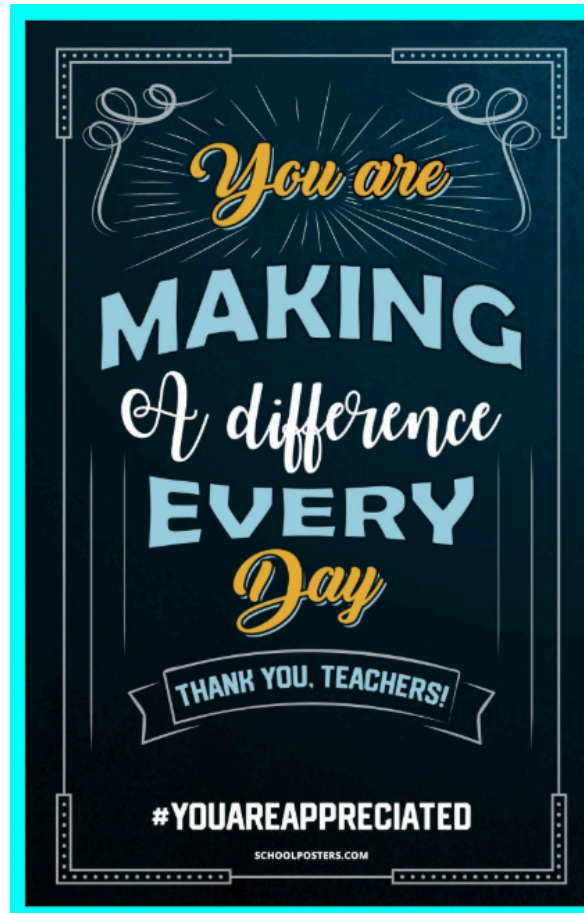
- Black roman sandals OR plain black shoes and plain black socks (we encourage sandals due to the warmer weather)
- No tracksuit pants (these are for only Terms 2/3)

Most students are wearing our uniform with pride; remember full formal uniform must be worn to / from school apart from Friday afternoons (PE uniform can be worn home after sports).

As you will be aware, teachers are in the middle of negotiations with the union in support of improving conditions (it is certainly not just about remuneration) for both teachers and learners. Teachers are raising concerns about heavy workloads, severe staffing shortages, and increasing demands such as extra pastoral care and rapid curriculum change.

The negotiations are not just about immediate salary, but about ensuring the teaching profession remains sustainable, supported and able to give students the quality education they deserve. We thank you for your support.

Last week it was 'Teacher Appreciation Day' which we celebrated on Friday. At MIS I can genuinely say we are extremely lucky to have such hardworking and committed teachers who go 'above and beyond' to provide a myriad of opportunities for your child/ren. Thank you!



"Ode to Our Empowered Educators"

At Morrinsville Intermediate they start each day,
Empowered minds to light the way,
With laughter loud and coffee strong,
They guide our rangatahi on.

They juggle plans, patrol the grounds,
Turn "Can't"s and "Won't"s to joyful sounds,
They mentor, cheer, and never rest—
Kia ū ki te pai — they give their best.

Through science spills and art room glue,
Through rainy sports and playground queues,
They teach with heart, with soul, with flair,
And somehow still have snacks to spare.

They code, they coach, they calm, they care,
They lift each child from "here" to "there",
And though the bell may end the day,
Their impact never fades away.

So here's to you—our fearless crew,
Empowered, steadfast, brave, and true.
Whatever you do, come what may,
You make the magic—every day

.... we appreciate you in every way!

Measles: In light of the outbreak of measles in New Zealand (largely Auckland and Wellington at the moment), we will send home information with your child on Monday 10th for those who we haven't yet received immunisation records for. As per legislation, we are required to have recorded proof for every student enrolled at our school, confirming their immunisation status. Immunisation certificates can be requested by you from your GP. For further information please visit this [link](#). Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

Finally, I want to say a huge congratulations to the 2025 Dux (Dekota Brew), Proxime Accessit (Ella Nicholls) at Morrinsville College, and the 2026 Morrinsville College Head / Deputy students. It is always a pleasure to see ex-students of MIS shining, being acknowledged and celebrated for their ongoing dedication and achievement. Congratulations.

Kind regards

Jenny Clark
Principal

Featuring in today's newsletter:

Rangatiratanga Award
Gold for Glory
Special Person's Day
Inter-Intermediate Softball
Health and Wellbeing Survey Summary
Sports, Cultural & Civic Photos
Year 8 Formal Social
End of Year Prizegiving
2026 Stationery List info
Noumea Trip
2026 International travel meeting
Gumboot Friday
MPDC Podcast Poetry Competition
Upcoming 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 Involvement in Week 4:

Congratulations to the following students from Week 4: Cooper P1, Ryan P2, Jack P3, Charlee P4, Skyla P5, Nirvana T1, Tyson T2, Rosie T3, Eesha T4, Cooper W1, Hailee W2, Bavan W3, Eric W4, Science: Anahera P2, Food Tech: Sophie P1, Hard Materials: Brax P1, Performing Arts: Liam W1, Art: Rebecca P2

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 recipients in Week 4 were Emeron and Reid for reffing / coaching the junior touch on Wednesday nights. Well done!

Special Persons Day:

As part of our values of Manaakitanga (doing the best for others) and Whakawhanaungatanga (doing the best for our community), our 'Special Persons Day' is being held on Wednesday 12th November. Your child/ren have been making invitations/writing letters/emails to someone they feel has had a positive impact on their life and hoping they will be able to come along to our kura (school) to spend some time seeing what we get up to. The schedule for the day is:

- 11.00 a.m. - special people arrive and will be taken to the relevant classroom
- They will join in a classroom activity and then be given a brief tour of our school
- 12.00 p.m. Kapa Haka will perform
- 12.30 p.m. Shared kai (students are asked to bring a small shared plate of finger food on a disposable plate)
- 12.45 - 1.30 p.m. mix n mingle and/or join in the lunchtime games

We are looking forward to seeing our 'Special People' on Wednesday 12th November. Please note, that we expect our students to remain at school for the afternoon unless prior arrangements have been made with the office.



Inter-Intermediate Softball:

On Tuesday, the MIS II Softball Girls and Boys teams participated in the Inter-Intermediate competition hosted by Peachgrove Intermediate at Resthills Park, Hamilton.

Both teams were placed in a pool of four, with games lasting 45 minutes in a round-robin format. The top team from each pool advanced directly to the finals. The Boys team lost their first game but bounced back to win the next two, finishing second in their pool and third overall.

The Girls team had a close first game, narrowly losing but earning a bonus point. They went on to win their next two games, securing a spot in the final against Peachgrove. The final was a thrilling match, and with time on our side, the girls clinched the victory!



Both teams demonstrated excellent teamwork and sportsmanship both on and off the field. A huge thank you to Ms Lee, Shaun Jamieson, Julie Langley, and Rachel Robb for their coaching and scoring support.

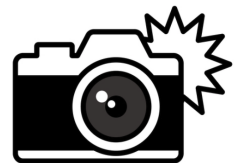
2025 Health and Wellbeing Survey Summary:

Both parents and students from the 2025 surveys recognise the same top three topics as important: Navigating the Journey, Mental Health, Smoking, Vaping, Drugs and Alcohol Education. This survey showed the parents were supportive of our Morrinsville Intermediate School Health and Well-being programmes and initiatives.

Parents and students' top feedback emphasised accessible wellbeing support for our students (e.g. mailbox system), student input opportunities for Health topics, staff PD, inclusion of neurodiversity, and a potential Wellbeing/Hauora Hub being developed. Life Education has been rebooked for 2026 to address health education priorities.

Sports, Cultural & Civic Photos:

Photolife will be in school on Thursday 13th November to take team and group photos. Clean and tidy PE gear is required for all sports photos and full school uniform for all other photos such as Kapa Haka, canteen monitors etc. Families will have the opportunity to order photos online, direct from Photolife once the proofs have been completed.



Year 8 Formal Social:

On Wednesday 10th December, we will be holding the Year 8 Formal Social in the school hall from 7.00pm to 9.30pm. This is always a special night for our Year 8 students and a chance for teachers and students to celebrate their two years together at Morrinsville Intermediate.

All children attending are required to wear 'tidy' clothes e.g. a skirt, a dress, a collared shirt (button-up or polo), suitable dress trousers or tidy chinos / jeans (preferably not blue and without rips), and suitable shoes for dancing. A tie or bow tie is optional. We do not expect parents to spend a fortune on expensive hair-dos or designer clothes. Please remember, this is a social not a ball.

If your child is struggling with what to wear, we have some pre-loved clothing at school that would be suitable to borrow. Please ask your child to see Miss McCracken if they need help, or give our office a call.

The cost is \$12.00, which goes towards catering supper, decorations and organising the music for the evening. The entry fee can now be returned to the office. If parents would prefer to pay online the school bank account number is: 06-0369-0928976-00. Please use your child's full name and 'Yr 8 Social' as the reference.

At the end of the night, students must be collected from the school hall at the completion of the social at 9.30pm. Students will not be able to leave unaccompanied. Parents / Caregivers you are all invited to arrive at 9.20pm to have the last dance with your child.

End of Year Prizegiving: Our prizegiving will take place on Monday 15th December from 11.00am in the school hall. Families are very welcome to join us and help celebrate the success and achievements of our students. All efforts will be made to in the next few weeks contact families to advise you if your child is receiving an award. Following prizegiving any children with parents in attendance may be signed out for the afternoon.

Stationery Lists: Stationery lists for 2026 will be included in your child's End of Year Report envelope. Stationery packs will be available from Paper Plus Morrinsville from late January; they provide excellent back-to-school prices. The stationery list will also be available on our school website.

Noumea Cultural Trip:

Two of our students, Caitlin Rae and Thomas Ford, are currently enjoying a seven day cultural experience in Noumea with a group of students and staff from Berkley Normal Middle School. Our students were given the opportunity to take part in this trip with Berkley earlier in the year. We look forward to hearing all about their experiences next week when they return!



International Travel Meeting:

On Tuesday 18th November at 5.30 p.m. there is a meeting for anyone interested in applying to travel to either Samoa or Japan in 2026. Notices have gone home in relation to this (please note the change of date and location of the meeting); we will meet in the W1 and W2 classrooms on Tuesday 18th.

The meeting will give an overview of the purpose of international travel and then we will break off into those wanting to travel to Samoa or Japan.

Gumboot Friday TOMORROW (koha required): We are supporting Gumboot Friday with a non-uniform AND gumboot day tomorrow. Dust off your gumboots and **bring a koha in support of getting free counselling in schools.** Students may wear non-uniform but MUST also be wearing gumboots. Alternatively, students are to wear full school uniform.

MPDC podcast poetry competition: Well done to students who entered the annual poetry podcast competition run by local libraries. The competition was open to all ages and involved writing and recording a poem, and submitting it via a link on the library's website. Congratulations to Adelaide who placed 1st and Isla who placed 3rd (both from P4). Adelaide's poem is below and we will publish Isla's poem in the next newsletter.

Anxiety - by Adelaide

*As you try to speak,
I scratch at your wounds with my talons of fear.
The wounds seem deep,
bottomless like the blue ocean beneath.
I step on top of your once upon a time confidence,
waiting for you to break.
My voice whispers tales of uncertainty in your ears,
frightening you, and taking away that little speck of faith.
The ice-cold feeling of fear you give you is breathtaking,
but also at the same time making your whole body ache.
While you try to ignore the darkness of my echoing voice,
deep down you know that escape is only a fantasy.
I am the canopy of darkness that swallows you whole,
the darkness is suffocating, with death in its grasp.
My shiftiness poses as untamed terror,
sending shivers down your curly spine.
Reaching for the nonexistent light at the end of the tunnel
I am anxiety.*

Term Four Calendar events:

Friday 7th November	Gumboot Friday
Monday 10th November	Japan Meeting for 2026
Wednesday 12th November	Special Person's Day
Thursday 13th November	Photolife (sports, cultural, civic photos)
Tuesday 18th November	International Travel Meeting (W1-W2) 5.30pm
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	Whole School Fun Day
Wednesday 10th December	Year 8 Formal Social 7.00pm to 9.30pm
Thursday 11th December	End of Year Reports go home
Monday 15th December	Prizegiving 11am to 1.30pm
Tuesday 16th December	Last day of school



Last Day of Term 4:

The final day of school for 2025 is Tuesday 16th December and school will finish at the earlier time of 12.30pm. The school buses will also run at this earlier time.

2025 Teacher Only Curriculum Days:

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

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

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)

2026 Teacher Only Curriculum Days

1. Tuesday 28th April (day after Mondayised ANZAC Day)
2. Tuesday 27th October (day after Labour Day)

