



MORRINSVILLE

Intermediate School

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



24 Elizabeth Avenue
office@mi.school.nz
(07) 889 6629

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

Newsletter

Term 4 Week 9 Newsletter 2025

Kia ora e te whānau, nau mai haere mai ki te pānui Wiki Iwa - welcome to Term 4, Week 9 and the final newsletter for 2025! Our last day of school is Tuesday 16th December; school will finish at 12.30pm. with buses running as normal.



As you will be aware, there has been a lot of publicity, particularly on social media, regarding the recent government announcement by Minister Stanford to **remove the statutory obligation for school boards to "give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi"** from the Education and Training Act. As a board, we discussed this at last week's board meeting and compiled the following response:

Kia ora koutou

The Morrinsville Intermediate School Board of Trustees acknowledges the recent announcement regarding the change to the legal requirement for boards to give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

The Board has unanimously agreed that this change **will not alter our direction**. We will continue to be guided by the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Our commitment is deeply embedded in our strategic plan, ensuring every student and whānau is valued, catered for, and supported. This is visible through:

- **Partnership (Mana Tangata):** Working collaboratively with **Ngāti Hauā** and our **whānau** to improve outcomes for emerging adolescents in Morrinsville.
- **Protection (Kaitiakitanga):** Actively promoting and protecting **Māori language, culture, and identity (Te Ao Māori)** within our curriculum and school environment.
- **Participation (Rangatiratanga):** Ensuring equitable opportunities and outcomes for all students by implementing **culturally responsive practices**.

The Morrinsville Intermediate School Board of Trustees

We've had another rewarding term this year, but the last day is looming rapidly, with still a lot of learning and fun to be had. Well done to those students who are giving 100% effort and demonstrating Kia U Ki Te Pai - whatever you do let it be your best, through to the final bell.

I encourage all students to attend daily as we round out our fundamental learning programmes at the end of Week 10, and gear up for our end of year festivities.

These include our:

- **Monday Fun Day** on the 8th December. This is a reward day for our students for all their efforts throughout the year. It comprises three blocks of fun: a movie (or board games) block, a water sports block at the town pools, and a block of fun activities (including water slides) on the field. MIS provides a sausage sizzle lunch on the day at no cost.
- **Year 8 Social.** This will be the last opportunity for our current cohort to spend time together 'dancing the night away'. As part of the PE and Health programme they have been busy practising the myriad of dances, so they can have fun on the night. Tickets are \$12 and available from the office.
NB: more detailed information is provided below
- **End of Year Prizegiving.** This is our grand finale where progress and achievement is acknowledged and celebrated. We have many students who have earned recognition for their efforts and it is a lovely way to wrap up our second to last day. Families/whanau are welcome to attend; we love sharing our successes with the community - all efforts are being made to notify parents/whānau if your child is receiving an award. At the end of assembly, students with parents in attendance are given permission to sign out early. Assembly starts promptly at 11.00 a.m. on Monday 15th December and runs through until approximately 12.30 p.m. Because of our growing roll, we have limited inside seating so please be early to ensure you get a seat (we do put additional seating in the foyer, and outside under the verandah).

I want to say a big thank you to all parents/caregivers/whānau who have supported us in various ways throughout the year; coaching/managing sports teams, school trips, attending camp, providing transport etc. No matter what your input has been, we appreciate your active involvement. Thank you! Our partnership with you is highly valued and appreciated. As a T.E.A.M. (Together Everyone Achieves More) we are able to work together for the benefit of all. We look forward to our continued partnership in 2026.

Farewell to our Year 8 students who are embarking onto their secondary education; all the very best for your future I hope you will take your learning, values and vision from MIS and apply them to your new school. To any families who have had children at our school spanning several years, whose 'baby' is now heading to college we thank you all for your support and contributions to MIS.

Finally, I want to acknowledge all our amazing staff - each and every one of them work tirelessly to support our tamariki (children) and I value and appreciate your hard work and dedication. Enjoy your well-deserved break! Thank you also to our Board of Trustees who have worked hard in the background to ensure our school is safe and well equipped for our students. Thank you for your input and support; we appreciate your time and effort.

Merry Christmas to you all - have a safe and happy summer break.

Kind regards

Jenny Clark

Principal

Featuring in today's newsletter:

Rangatiratanga Award

Gold for Glory

Attendance award

Honours Awards

2025 Achievement Data

MIS X-Factor

Year Book orders

Fun Day

Year 8 Formal Social

2026 Stationery List info.

Christmas Hamper Raffle

Mandarin Learning Assistant

Upcoming dates

2026 Open Day

2026 Term Dates



Merry Christmas from the MIS Team!

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 Creativity in Week 7:

Congratulations to the following students from Week 7: Koby P1, Kendal P2, Spencer P3, David P4, Bridee P5, Laura T1, Amaia T2, Jennifer T3, Charlotte T4, Scarlett W1, Natalie W2, Baran W3, Trey W4, Science: Kyle W3, Food Tech: Williams T3, Hard Materials: Sadie P3, Performing Arts: Nyjah W2, Art: Rebecca P2

Congratulations to the following students from Week 8: Lily-Rose P1, Kendal P2, Spencer P3, Clara P4, Lena P5, Talullah T1, Embree T2, Layla T3, Leon T4, Vihan W1, Alex W2, Tia W3, Kimberly W4, Science: Thomas P1, Food Tech: Cai W3, Hard Materials: Dom T3, Performing Arts: Robert W2, Art: Eva 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 7 were Fletcher, Filimino and Ashton. In Week 8 the recipient was Cooper P1.

Attendance Award: Congratulations to Nathan and CJ from W1 who were the recipients of the \$10 attendance vouchers. All students who were present for the week 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 Awards:

Congratulations to our Honours recipients who were awarded during assembly in Week 7. All students who achieve Honours do so by making the most of opportunities available and by working hard to achieve their goals.

Well done to all of you!

Rosie Soffe: Double Sports Excellence, Civics Excellence, Academic Merit.

Kendal Maunder: Cultural Excellence, Double Civics Merit, Academic Merit.

Kyte Waterson: Civics Excellence, Academic Excellence, Sports Merit.

Rico Hirama-Hunuhunu: Cultural Excellence, Sports Excellence, Civics Merit, Academic Merit.

Mandus Verrycken: Civics Excellence, Academic Excellence, Cultural Merit.

Sofie Graham: Academic Excellence, Civics Excellence, Cultural Merit, Academic Merit.



Congratulations to our final Honours Students for 2025, who were presented their Honours certificates last Friday during assembly. Well done to you all, with special mention to our Double Honours recipients - Eesha and Ethan, outstanding!

Lakshya Singh Tholia: Civics Excellence, Academic Excellence and Cultural Merit.

Eesha Murti - Double Honours: Civics Excellence, Academic Excellence and Sports Excellence.

Adelaide Rhodes: Civics Excellence, Sports Excellence and Cultural Merit.

Ethan McKenzie - Double Honours: Double Civics Excellence, Cultural Excellence and Double Sports Merit.

Caitlin Rae: Civics Excellence, Sports Excellence and Academic Merit.

Rachel Goile: Civics Excellence, double Academic Merit and Cultural Merit.



2025 Student Achievement:

Below is a summary of the entry/exit data for 2025. As you can see, there are some awesome gains, along with some areas of concern; these will form our 2026 targets. Please note that the benchmarks shift from entry to exit meaning students have to progress in line with curriculum expectations.

The data reflects pleasing progress in Maths across all cohorts, but our boys are not making the expected rate of progress in Reading and Writing. We encourage all students to read for sustained periods (at least 20 minutes) every night at home to ensure they are exposed to a range of vocabulary, genres and concepts which support writing processes.

2025 Curriculum Area	Whole School BoY	Whole School EoY	Year 7 Girls		Year 7 Boys		Year 8 Girls		Year 8 Boys	
	Y. 7 (EL. 3ii - L3ii) Y. 8 (L3ii - EL4ii)	Y. 7 (L3ii - E4ii) Y. 8 (E4ii - L4ii)	Entry (EL. 3ii - L3ii)	EoY (L. 3ii - E4ii)	Entry (EL. 3ii - L3ii)	EoY (L. 3ii - E4ii)	Entry (L3ii - EL4ii)	EoY (E4ii - L4ii)	Entry (L3ii - EL4ii)	EoY (E4ii - L4ii)
Reading	224/361 62%	235/361 65%	66/96 69%	77/96 80%	43/89 48%	48/89 54%	50/74 68%	54/74 73%	65/103 64%	56/103 55%
Writing	196/360 54%	209/360 58%	69/96 61%	77/96 80%	33/88 37%	37/88 42%	50/74 68%	51/74 69%	54/103 53%	44/103 43%
Maths	215/361 60%	239/361 66%	56/96 58%	70/96 73%	48/89 54%	53/89 60%	45/74 61%	49/74 66%	66/103 64%	67/103 65%

Staffing Update:

I need to inform you that Trish Thurston, Food Technology teacher, has made the decision to resign. We wish her all the very best in the next chapter of her life and thank her for her contributions to MIS over the past eight years. We are currently in the process of recruiting a new teacher for 2026.

MIS X-Factor:

Our X Factor Finals were held on Friday afternoon and what an amazing line up of talent. Well done to the 11 acts, you were brilliant to watch and displayed creativity, courage and passion. Congratulations to the winners Kyle and Zayden, followed by Wri and Aarushi in 2nd place, then Thomas in 3rd. A huge thank you to Mrs Baxter for your organisation and Grace and Abby for being our awesome judges. See our Facebook page for photos.

2025 Year Book orders:

Students can now order a 2025 Year Book which will be printed, bound and distributed after the Year 8 Social. Orders are taken from the office and the cost is \$10.00.

Fun Day Organisation:

Next Monday the 9th December, we are holding our annual Fun Day as a celebration of an awesome year together. A newsletter has come home this week outlining the finer details of the day and an opportunity for whānau to support us as helpers on the day by returning the form. The students will get to participate in a carnival block with hired amusement park attractions, visit the local pools for a swim via bus and watch a team movie where they can enjoy treats they have brought from home. The school will provide a lunch including a sausage sizzle, drink and bag of lollies. A lot of money and time goes into putting this day together for the students and staff and so we encourage all those who are able to attend because of their regular attendance and positive behaviour choices to make the most of the day together. Those students who are not able to participate in the day due to poor attendance that has been within their control, or poor behaviour choices, will be informed this week and be given an alternative programme for the day.

**Year 8 Social:**

Next Wednesday we will be holding the Year 8 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. 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.

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 is also available on our school website under the tab 'enrolment info'.

MIS Christmas Raffles:

Thanks to everyone who has supported our Christmas Hamper Raffle by way of donating goodies and selling tickets. A reminder that all raffle money and books (sold or unsold) are now due back to the office. The raffles will be drawn on Friday 12th December. Proceeds are going towards the enhancement and beautification of our outdoor spaces at school.

Literacy Centre Prizegiving:

Well done to all our students involved in the Literacy Centre programme this year, today they celebrated their progress and success with a prize giving and end of year celebration lunch.

Thanks to Mrs Mac for all her work, ensuring our students are supported in the Lit Centre and for organising the prize giving celebration today.



Mandarin Language Assistant - Farewell Ming:

For the past two years, our Mandarin Language Assistant (MLA), Ming, has passionately shared her language and culture with our students. Her dedication has truly enriched their lives.

The MLA program is a collaborative initiative between the Ministry of Education and the Confucius Institute and brings Chinese postgraduate students to New Zealand schools to assist teachers in Mandarin language classes. They support Mandarin learning by providing cultural insights, modeling pronunciation, and giving students opportunities to practice with a native speaker.

Our teacher, Robyn Wilson, (teacher in charge of language) has worked closely with Ming over the past two years and recently attended her recent farewell and prizegiving in Auckland (photo to the right). Ka kite anō, Ming – we wish you well on your next journey!

 MIS Calendar: FB/Newsletter Click the link on the left to access our school calendar.

Term Four Calendar events:

Monday 8th December	Whole School Fun Day
Wednesday 10th December	Year 8 Social 7.00pm to 9.30pm
Thursday 11th December	End of Year Reports go home
Monday 15th December	Prizegiving 11am to 1.30pm - all welcome
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.

Open Day:

We will have an Open Day in the new year for 2026 students (new and current). Please feel welcome to pop into school on Wednesday 28th January, 2026 between 1.30pm and 3.00pm to meet your teacher, have a look around your classroom and drop off your (named) stationery. No appointments necessary.



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 Tuesday 15th December (12.30pm finish)

2026 Teacher Only Curriculum Days:

1. Tuesday 28th April (day after Mondayised ANZAC Day)
2. Tuesday 2nd June (day after King's Birthday)
3. Tuesday 27th October (day after Labour Day)