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**Te Kura o Hau Karetu**

He waka eke noa: *We’re all in this waka together*

32 Hillside Drive, Māoribank, UPPER HUTT 5018

Phone (04) 5269-552, 027-5269-552

Email: office@tehaukaretu.school.nz

**5 March 2024**

Kia ora to Whanau/families/aiga of the tamariki at Te Kura o Hau Karetu,

**Nau Mai Haere mai:** Welcome to Brycen who has started in Te Waipuna – we are so happy to have you here at our kura Brycen. And I’ll bet your big sister is excited to have you here also.

**Kaupapa mō te wiki/Value for the week:**

**Atawhai/Kindness** – We are showing kindness by greeting each other. When someone says hello, we say hello back to them. We can greet each other in lots of different ways:

Waving, hugging, saying kia ora/hello in our own languages. One thing we usually do when we say kia ora to people, is we usually smile also – and a smile is catching! 😊

**U-Day:**

* Thank you to those of you who participated in U-Day last week. We raised $165 for UHUB. We need to raise a little more, so will be selling Juicies this Friday at lunch time for $2 each. Thank you.

**Paid Union Meeting (PUM) 19th March:**

* A reminder that Teachers have a PUM on Tuesday 19th March. We would very much appreciate it if you would be able to pick up your child/ren at 12.30 on this day.
* We will have Mrs Wellington and teacher aides staying behind to look after those children who are unable to leave early.
* Important - **please advise us if you are leaving your child at school for the entire day** so we can organise care for them. Thank you.

**Goal Setting:** It’s that time of the year again where we set goals with you and your child. Goal setting is next week on Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th of March, here at school. Goal setting is a time where we korero/talk about your hopes for your child while they are at school. We are a team – whanau, child, and the school. You can book on Skool Loop or text the school on 0275269552 with your preferred times. Please select from the following:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Wednesday 13th March** | **Thursday 14th March** |
|  3.15-5.30pm |  3.15-5pm |
|  6-7.30pm |  |

**Lunches in Schools – Did you know?:**

* We were really concerned when we heard that the government were considering cutting the Lunches in Schools programme next year. We are worried that there will be children who will be hungry if they don’t receive lunches, and that if children do have to bring their own lunches to school that they may not be nutritionally sound and that they will cost families a lot of money.

The lunches that are provided to us have good nutritional value, and while they may not be to everyone’s liking all the time, they are often very well received by children. There is hardly any waste, as any meals that don’t get eaten for whatever reason, are given to whānau/families who need or want them. Any waste we do generate is either taken by the lunch providers who then compost the food, or we give them to our families for their chickens.

If you are as concerned as we are, I would encourage you to write an email to David Seymour at: David.Seymour@parliament.govt.nz

**Heads up:**

* **Please remember to sign the “General Trips” form** which gives us permission to take your child on school trips. See form below. Thank you.
* **School Start and Finish & Attendance:** Please remember that school begins at 9am and finishes at 3pm. It’s important children are at school ***every day and on time***. However, we would rather children were at school late than not at all. Getting to school by 9am is important for children’s routines. Thank you.
* **Absences:** If your child is not going to be at school, please advise the office via text on 0275269552, or via the Skool Loop app. Make sure you tell us the reason they are absent.
* **New Details:** If you have a new address or phone number, please let Roseanne know. It’s important that we have your latest contact details in the event of an emergency.
* **Potae/Sunhat:** Please ensure your child has a wide brimmed sunhat to wear during terms 1 & 4.
* **Swimming/kaukau:** Swimming will continue until week 6.Swimming is part of the curriculum and all children are expected to participate. **Togs must be polyester, not cotton**. Long hair needs to be tied up. Anyone who has had vomiting or diarrhoea in the last two weeks will not be able to swim – thank you.
* **Entry in to and from School**: **Mornings -** drop your child off at the front gate or the back. Our carpark can be quite full and it’s safer to drop your child off at the gate and have them walk in. You do not need to drop them to the office unless they are running late – thank you.

**End of the day –**

* + Front gates are closed all day from 9am-3.10pm. We will cross children over at the end of the day. Please use the “crossing”.
	+ Back gates: There will be two walking bus teachers to walk your children to the intersection of Hillside Drive, Moeraki, and Norana Roads and will be crossed over by the road patrollers.
* **Breakfast Club:** Runs 5 days per week from 8 – 9.30am. We require help on a Thursday & Friday. If you would like to volunteer for this job, please advise Roseanne or Rachel at the office. Thank you. 
* **Lunches in Schools:** We provide lunches each day. The kai will be offered to every child. All children are expected to at least try the kai.
* **Water only:** We are a water only school which means children can only drink water while they are at school. We would encourage your child to bring a drink bottle of water each day – particularly while we are experiencing such hot temperatures. Thank you.
* **Assemblies:** We hold our weekly celebration Assembly on Fridays at 9am. All whanau are welcome to attend.
* **School Values** – we teach the ākonga/students about these values every day. It would be great if you would be able to speak with your child at the end of each day to find out what they learnt about the values:
	+ Whakaute/Respect
	+ Akohia/Learning
	+ Kotahitanga/Togetherness
	+ Atawhai/Kindness
* **School Policies:** Our school policies and procedures can be found at schooldocs.co.nz, username: maoribank and password waka. We would encourage you to check these out as we will ask you to have your say on their review every three years. Thank you.
* **Covid protocols:**

Since 2020, Covid protocols have changed a lot. Just letting you know of the Ministry of Health recommendations for keeping each other safe from Covid. The advice is:

* If your child feels unwell, test for covid.
* If they test positive, they should stay at home and rest for 5 days from the first day they felt unwell.
* They are likely to continue to test positive for a while after that, but they can still return to school as long as they are feeling well.
* As the government are now not giving covid test kits away, we don’t have any Covid tests left to give you, sorry.

If your child is unwell at all, we will send them home.

Ngā mihi nui

Karen Wellington,

Kaihautu/Timekeeper on the Waka

**Schedule of Events Term 1, 2024**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Week 6 11-15 March | I have a Dream BBQ Friday 15th after schoolSwimming finishes this week. |
| Week 7 18-22 March | Student Conference for a selected few, Friday 22nd March |
| Week 8 25-29 March | Good Friday – Easter Holiday |
| Week 9 1-5 April | Easter Monday and Tuesday – Easter Holidays |
| Week 10 8-12 April | Last day of term 1 12th April. Return to school on 29th April.9th-12th April – Dental Van/Bee Healthy Bus at school. |

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**Permission Slip**

For low risk school trips, we have a blanket permission slip that we ask you to sign at the beginning of each year please. Low risk trips may include travelling on bus or in a vehicle to a local destination, a local walk, sports trips etc. Any trip that is of a higher risk – we will advise you and forward you a separate permission slip to sign e.g. camp.

I give permission for my child/ren (name)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

to attend low risk trips throughout 2024. I understand the school will advise us of the trip beforehand, and that all their safety protocols will be followed.

Name of Parent/Caregiver\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Caregiver\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_