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Newsletter No 2

Monday 19 February 2024

Character, Excellence, Community

2024 Theme: Changemakers.

Term 1 Topic: Explorers.

Big Idea: Explorers who stepped out into the unknown, to discover new things and places, brought both positive and negative.

Threads: **Overcoming Setbacks** - Knowing God can help us build resilience and emotional strength. We can also learn from the responses of explorers who have an I Can Do attitude and persevere in their quest.

Challenging Distortions- Our actions may have unintended effects on others. We can ask, "How do we decide what is important in our culture?" "What ideas are shaping our thinking? Are these Godly?"

Discovering Patterns – There are common characteristics and behaviours seen in people who are explorers. We can learn from these.

Key

Competencies: Critical Thinking, Self-management

Our Mission Statement:

For each learner, the kura (school) community will provide quality learning opportunities that encourage Christian perspectives and affirm Biblical principles.

Memory Verse for 2024

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit".

Romans 15:13

Principal's Pen

Kia ora Whānau,

I frequently give thanks that in our land, God has made a way we can educate ākonga in Christian God honouring ways and that not only are we allowed to teach this way - it is our job to do so. It is an absolute privilege to teach in this context. It is also a privilege to be entrusted with your tamariki's education. Thank

you. It's a responsibility we take seriously, and we are committed to providing an environment where they can thrive. We prioritise their well-being and growth. We're honoured to be a part of your tamariki's education and faith journey and look forward to their progress and achievements over this year.

Welcome



We warmly welcome our new student Björn to Miramar Christian School. We pray God's blessing on him and his whanau as he grows and learns at MCS.

Dog Handler from Wellington City Council

On Wednesday this week (21 Feb), Kōwhai and Tōtara ākonga will have a visit from Vicki from the Wellington City Council to learn about safety around dogs. She will talk to ākonga about different scenarios with dogs and how to respond safely.

Yachting – Kauri – THIS WEDNESDAY (21 Feb)

This is an exciting opportunity given to us by the Worsler Bay Boating Club. Please keep the permission forms coming in. We currently only have one response for transporting.

Meet the Teacher Evening - POSTPONED

Last week, we had to postpone our Meet the Teacher Evening due to teachers being unwell. We will reschedule once we have all teachers back at work.

Covid

Please note we have had Covid cases amongst our ākonga and staff. We will continue to be vigilant with hand washing and have face masks ākonga can opt to wear if they wish to.

Please be observant and note any possible signs of Covid in your tamariki. If they have symptoms, please test them before sending them to school. The Ministry of Health are currently advising 5 days isolation for those with Covid and then return to school/work when they feel sufficiently well.

If anyone needs Covid tests to be able to test at home please help yourself to the ones we have here at school. They can be found in the School Office.

Digital Citizen Agreement

This was sent home with your tamariki with the last newsletter and is now due back at school. Thank you to all those who have returned this agreement. If you need another copy of this, please ask at the School Office. Thank you for your support with this.

Mihi Whakatau - Wed 28 Feb 9:15-10:15am

This is a ceremony where we formally welcome all new ākongā, their whānau and new staff that have not yet been welcomed into our school. It would be lovely to have our other parents come and support our new families at this time.

Please note, as there is Covid in the school community we will provide packaged kai instead of having people 'bring a plate' and will use "elbow bumping" instead of a formal 'hongi'.

Goodtime Music Academy Concert and Lessons

Last Friday, ākongā enjoyed a concert provided by the Goodtime Music Academy who demonstrated different ways instruments can be played. If you are keen for your tamariki to



learn an instrument, please collect a pamphlet from the office to get the sign-up information. *Please note that this is an extra curriculum activity so there is a cost for this. It is totally your decision whether you sign up your tamariki for these lessons or not.*

After Goodtime Music Academy know how many ākongā are seeking to do lessons, they will timetable this.

Lessons are anticipated to start in Week 6.

Start of School Blessing

It is always good to begin our year by committing our ways to God and asking his help and guidance along the way.



At the Start of School Blessing, Kauri ākongā shared prayers they had written for the Wellington Christian Education Project, the School Board, staff, whānau and ākongā. Whānau, ākongā and staff were lead in worship by Pastor Sarah and received a message from Pastor Phil on following Gods ways. We thank our God for being present, Pastor Phil for his message and hosting us, Pastor Sarah for leading us in worship, our ākongā who wrote and read prayers, and whānau for joining with us.

Pippa – Guide Dog Puppy

A few years ago, we asked our ākongā what they would like at school. A number indicated that they would like a pet. In response to this request, Mrs Allott has graciously been bringing her dogs to school. This year, we are delighted to welcome Pippa as part of our school community. Pippa will be



living with Mrs Allott for the next 12-15 months and is being trained to become a Guide Dog. Even though she is still very young, already she is being helpful by supporting ākongā when they have felt anxious about being at school. Olive, Mrs Allotts pet dog (who is also a black labrador) has been coming to school since she was a puppy will continue to attend school, as will Murphy, Mrs Dowell's dog who is a Schnauzer.

We're also thrilled to let you all know that Radar, the Guide Dog Puppy who was living with Mrs Allott until he went into formal guide dog training in July last year, has been successful and graduated as a Guide Dog! He started working with his blind person, Mike, in the Waikato last week.



Congratulations Riané!

Riané won the Summer Stills Photograph Competition!

Thank you to all those who supported Riané by voting for her picture.

As the winner, she has won a FUJIFILM X-S20 + XF15-45mm kit. We look forward to presenting her with this prize in a school assembly very soon.



Riané Smit - Miramar Christian School

NZ Manu Finalist

We are very excited to hear one of our ākongā, Catherine, is the winner of the girl's section at the Wellington NZ Manu competition. She made quite a splash with a "staple" position Manu. She is now set to compete in the finals in Auckland next month. Go well Catherine. We all stand behind you in support.

Active Parents and Teachers (APT) Message

If you wish to join the APT or have any questions about APT, please don't hesitate to have a conversation at the school gate with Sarah (APT Chair, Hannah and Archie's Mum, Miramar Salvation Army Pastor. Alternatively, you can give her a call or message at 021 022 86336.

School Uniform Tie

Year 7 and Year 8 ākongā are to wear a tie as part of their uniform. These can be purchased from the school office.

Congratulations to the Year 7-8 boys. They have all now wearing their ties.

We hope the Year 7-8 girls will all be wearing theirs soon. As well as having brand new girl's ties, we also have some second-hand ties in stock.



Summer Uniform & Sun hats

Summer has arrived. Ākonga wear a summer uniform in Term 1. We encourage all ākonga to wear their uniform with pride.



Year 1-6
Girls

Year 1-6
Boys

Year 7 & 8
Girls

Year 7 & 8
Boys

As the sun can be fierce in Term 1, all ākonga are to wear a sunhat when outside. Please check your tamariki has a hat each day. Sunscreen may also be of benefit at this time.



The school sunhat and other formal school uniform items can be purchased at The Warehouse in Lyall Bay. School PE uniform is available from the school office.

Where to buy School Uniform

PE Uniform is available through the office. We have just received an order from our supplier so now is a good time to replace any items your tamariki have outgrown over the holidays. Please note we have already nearly run out of Size 6 PE Uniform & hope to have more stock soon.

Formal uniform stocks at the Lyall Bay Warehouse are low. However, you will find most of the uniform by **going online at The Warehouse** and searching in the 'Back to School' section. Alternatively, you can follow the links below: -

Year 1-6 Pinafore

https://www.thewarehouse.co.nz/p/schooltex-tartan-box-pleat-pinafore/RM110108667_TRT023-1M.html

and

Year 7-8 Senior Skirt

https://www.thewarehouse.co.nz/p/schooltex-box-pleat-skirt/RM110108719_TRT023-1M.html

Navy Drill Shorts

https://www.postie.co.nz/school-walk-shorts-803781-navy_or

<https://www.thewarehouse.co.nz/p/schooltex-unisex-elastic-back-shorts/RM110125623-1M.html>

Navy Drill Long Pants

<https://www.postie.co.nz/school-formal-pant-803791-dark-navy>

Boys White Shirt

https://www.thewarehouse.co.nz/p/schooltex-short-sleeve-school-shirt/RM110110424_WHT-1M.html

Junior Girls White Blouse

https://www.thewarehouse.co.nz/p/schooltex-girls-short-sleeve-school-blouse/RM110110432_WHT-1M.html

Senior Girls White Blouse

https://www.thewarehouse.co.nz/p/schooltex-kids-school-over-blouse/RM110110334_WHT-1M.html

Navy V-Neck Jersey

https://www.thewarehouse.co.nz/p/schooltex-jersey/RM110110427_MIDNGT_NAV-1M.html

Sunhat

www.thewarehouse.co.nz/p/schooltex-aussie-style-hat/RM110110687_NAV-1M.html

Be careful not to buy items branded for another school.

Postie Plus also have a good range of school uniform items which you can order online.

World Vision - 'Be Yourself' Day



As a school we sponsor a World Vision child. His name is Pheaktra.

It costs \$30 per month/\$360 per year to support her (whether we are at school or on holiday). To raise these funds the school has a 'Be Yourself' day on the last Friday of each month, where you get to wear your own clothes (instead of the school uniform) for the cost of a gold coin. We thank you in advance for your support in ensuring this target will be reached, it truly is appreciated.

Our next 'Be Yourself' Day is this Friday 23 February 2024.

Term dates for 2024

The term dates for 2024 are as follows. They can also be found on the school website.

Term Dates for 2024:

Term 1: Fri 2 Feb – Fri 12 Apr

Term 2: Mon 29 Apr – Fri 5 Jul

Term 3: Mon 22 Jul – Fri 27 Sep

Term 4: Mon 14 Oct – Wed 18 Dec

Teacher Only Days in 2024:

- Thurs 1 Feb

Two more dates will be announced after the Ministry of Education has advised when they should be.

Prayer points: -

Thank God:

- For holidays and the refreshing, they bring.

- For the New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust who are now officially our new Proprietor.
- For the 12 new students who started on Friday.
- For the positive vision for Christian Education in Wellington.
- For God's faithfulness to Miramar Christian School for the last 44 years.

Please pray:

- Our new ākonga would quickly feel at home at Miramar Christian School, making friends, learning expectations, growing, and finding joy here.
- That a Christian whānau culture where all ākonga value all others and work as a team would reform including all new ākonga.
- That finances, Change of Class application and City Council Approvals all come together by 23 February 2024.
- That Miramar Christian School would be blessed and be a blessing to the community.
- For our prayer students and their families: -
Week 4: Ivanka, Shayna, Zephaniah
Week 5: Praise, Amy, Catherine

I thank you for your ongoing commitment, support, and prayers. If we can help you with questions or concerns relating to your tamariki's education, please see your tamariki's class teacher first, and if your concerns are not resolved, contact me on 021 293 5390. If you need privacy and/or a longer conversation, please book a time to talk with your classroom teacher or me. We are here for you.

Ka nui tēnei
Kaye Gillies
 Principal

Miramar Christian School - Bank Account Number

For all school banking e.g., uniform payments, 'Be Yourself Day' koha payments, school fundraisers, etc. please make an internet banking payment to: -

Miramar Christian School

ASB Bank

Account Number: 12-3481-0040719-00

New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust (NZCPT) - Bank Account Number

School attendance dues (fees) are paid to the New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust. Please make internet banking payments to: -

New Zealand Christian Proprietors Trust

ASB Bank

Account Number: 12-3107-0061704-16

Please use the student surname in the 'reference' field so they can match the deposit.

Skool Loop

Please check if you still have your notifications on for Skool Loop. This is one of our important communication tools. We would love all school families to receive all communications sent. We also wish to thank all our sponsors of our Skool Loop App. There is a poster at the end of our newsletter showing our sponsors logos.

- Annie Newell – Lowe & Co Realty

Miramar Christian School

Thanks to the below businesses for sponsoring our school app:



If you would like to advertise on the Miramar Christian School Skool Loop App please email Content@skoolloop.com

To download our app: In Google Play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose School once installed.

SCHOOL DIARY	
Every Mon	Wear Formal Uniform
Every Tues	Wear PE Uniform Wheels Day Assembly 2:30pm
Every Wed	Wear Formal Uniform Subway ordered lunch (optional)
Every Thurs	Wear Formal Uniform Kapa Haka
Every Fri	Wear PE Uniform Wheels Day
FEB	
Mon 19 Feb	Assembly 2:30pm
Mon 19 Feb	School Board, 6:30pm, in Staffroom
Tue 20 Feb	Y7 & Y8 Tech 1:30-3pm @EBIS
Wed 21 Feb	Dog Handler from WCC a.m.
Wed 21 Feb	Kauri Class – Yachting Session
Fri 23 Feb	Be Yourself Day (bring a gold coin donation)
Fri 23 Feb	Y7 & Y8 Immunisation Education Session 9:30am
Fri 23 Feb	Heart Foundation a.m.
Mon 26 Feb	Assembly 2:30pm
Tue 27 Feb	Floorball
Tue 27 Feb	Y7 & Y8 Tech 1:30-3pm @EBIS
Wed 28 Feb	Mihi Whakatau 9:30am
Mon 4 Mar	Assembly 2:30pm
Tue 5 Mar	Y7 & Y8 Tech 1:30-3pm @EBIS

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT HOSTING AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT?

Wellington High School is looking for new homestay families who are inclusive, caring, supportive and willing to share their home and Kiwi life with a student. Visiting students want to experience day to day life with a New Zealand family and to feel a part of the family.

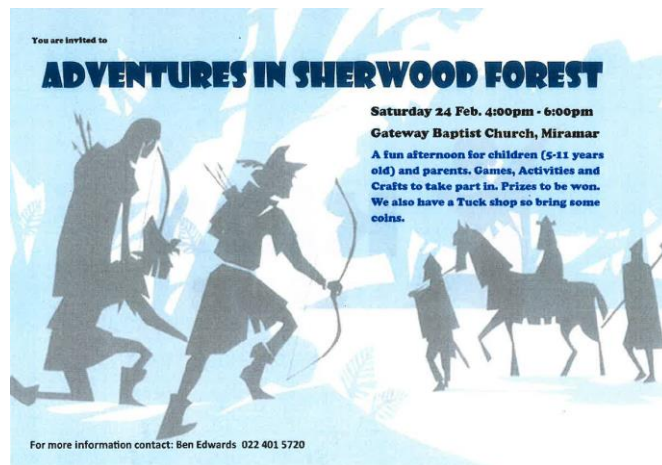
The 2024 homestay fee is \$340 per week.

Options to host include:
 Term 1 only, Feb-April 2024
 Term 1 and Term 2, Feb- July 2024
 Term 1–Term 4, Feb-Dec 2024

Host families make amazing connections with their students who become part of the family and many keep in touch for the rest of their lives.

If anyone is interested and keen to find out more, please contact me on the details below: -

Rachel Wiscombe
homestay@whs.school.nz
 021 020 63860
 04 385 8911 ext 781





After School and Saturday Computer Classes

Our term time classes are smaller just 3 to 6 children. Classes are focused on what you want to learn. Class runs from 3:30 to 5:30 pm class fee \$45 or 10 sessions \$400 (doors open from 3:15). Saturday 1:30 - 4:30 pm. class fee \$65 or 10 sessions \$600.

Learn to Code Scratch, Python, Java, JavaScript, or Learn to Code & Create 3D Games, Minecraft, Roblox, and A Discovery Course in Computing (suitable for younger children), Build Your Own Computer.

For information & bookings 499-2211 or

grandtraining.co.nz