



# Warkworth School

## Our Purpose:

*Nurturing ACTIVE learners*

*Adventurous*

*Collaborative*

*Thoughtful*

*Innovative*

*Valued*

*Empowered*

## Newsletter

Term 2 Week 2, 7 May 2019



**Cover Artwork -** Zanmari Venter, Community Five.

*We used symbols to create a piece of art that represented our camp experience.*

## Dear Parents and Caregivers

Today, teachers attended a Paid Union Meeting (PUM) at either 9:30am or 1:30pm in Wellsford. With two meetings available, teachers were able to partner up so they could provide cover for each other's classes. This organisation meant the least amount of interruption to your child's learning.

Teachers remain concerned that the government has not responded sufficiently to the pressing issues of maintaining a quality education system filled with well trained, quality teachers, and adequately providing support structures and resourcing to meet the needs of all learners. While some proposals have been made to address staffing shortages and learners with additional needs, these have not been developed or funded in a manner that will have an immediate impact. Furthermore, teachers' workloads continue to increase significantly while remuneration remains unchanged. At the PUM, teachers will vote to determine the next course of action.

## Home-School Partnership

Research by Professor John Hattie reports the significant increase in achievement that comes as a result of parents being involved in their child's learning. Again, I'd like to thank you for attending the *Learning Conversations* held last term. By attending these conversations, you have already completed the first of the following five tips published by *Parenting Ideas*. Below are two of the five tips, with the balance to come in future newsletters. You can read the whole article by visiting [www.parentingideas.com.au/schools](http://www.parentingideas.com.au/schools)

Here are the first two elements to guide you, as a parent, in forming strong bonds with your child's teachers this year:

### 1. *Knowing (building affinity)*

Know – the first element – requires you to be both proactive and patient. Proactive because you need to be willing to meet and work at maintaining relationships. Patient because it may take some time to build a working relationship. For your partnership to be meaningful and successful you need to meet with your children's teacher(s) with the goal of forming a respectful professional relationship. Share your aspirations for your child and be willing to build the teacher's knowledge about your family. Get to know your child's teachers' aspirations and gain an understanding of their approach and the focus they have for this particular year group. Also commit to continuing to know what's going on in the life of your child's classrooms as well as the life of the school on an ongoing basis.

### 2. *Supporting (building trust)*

Children need to know that you are fully behind what their teachers are trying to achieve if they are going to commit fully to learning. The best way to support your child's teacher is to trust their knowledge, professionalism and experience. Avoid the temptation to question the expertise of teachers in front of students, particularly when the teachers use methods that you are unfamiliar with. Initiate conversations with teachers around methodology to give them the chance to explain the approach they are taking.

## Project-Based Learning

Each community is working on a learning project that will culminate in a showcase or exhibition of learning by the end of this term. During the term, students will be involved in educational trips outside of the classroom (EOTC) as well as listening to talks from expert guest speakers. Many of you are such experts, so thank you for willingly coming in to speak to groups of our students. Thank you also to those parents who have offered to accompany groups on an EOTC trip. We truly value your support as this makes the learning real-world and meaningful for our students.

## Forty Hour Famine Leadership Conference

Last Friday, 4 students from Community 6 were chosen to go to the 2019 World Vision Leadership Conference. Phebe, Tesimoni, Malacai and I were all picked to go. We did some planning a few days before and decided that we would get my Mom to drive us down to Auckland. We had to be at school 7:15am so that made it so we had to wake up at around 6:00 - 6:30am. I mainly wake up at around 7:15am on weekdays so when me and my Mom were driving to get to the school to pick everyone up my alarm went off. Before morning tea we did a lot of learning. We were told how South Sudan has been in a war for around 6 years without ending and how they don't have much money so that's why we were doing the 40 hour famine, to raise money for South Sudan.



Some of the staff that were leading, shared their stories about how lucky they were because they got to go to South Sudan. It got pretty sad after they showed us a few videos and talked about how we feel sometimes when we don't have enough money or enough resources but in reality we actually have a lot and that really made us feel a ton more grateful for everything we had. We also learnt about the distribution of wealth in the world and how just a few people have most of the money. After morning tea we learnt about our leadership styles. I discovered that I was an otter. They are neither extrovert or introvert and are a bit of a class clown. I am important in a group because I have good ideas, I am creative, and get along with people. After lunch we planned how we were going to run the 40 Hour Famine at our school. Miss Williams and Miss Berrington-Hume are going to support us and we are aiming to raise \$2000 this year. We also want to have 100 people involved. Overall the Leadership Conference was very fun and I was really glad we got picked to go! If I had to go again I totally would! Thank you Mom (Marla) Ferguson, for taking us.

*Eliza Ferguson Rebenschied*

Kia Ora

Cynthia Holden  
Principal

Upcoming Events:	
Tuesday 7 May	PTA Meeting 7pm in the staffroom
Wednesday 8 May	C2 to Warkworth Library (202 & 203)
Friday 10 May	Assembly 2:10pm
Tuesday 14 May	C6 Camp to Carey Park
Tuesday 14 May	C5 Writers' Festival Trip
Tuesday 14 May	Lucky Book orders close



## Community Notices

- **Kids Yoga** Term 2 begins on Fridays at 3:30pm. Contact [ingridleprou@gmail.com](mailto:ingridleprou@gmail.com) for more information.
- **Junior Badminton Orewa** held at Orewa Badminton Hall, Victor Eaves Park. Thursdays 5 - 7pm for 8 years and over. \$80 per term. Contact [jborewa@gmail.com](mailto:jborewa@gmail.com) or phone Mel 021 614 124.



### MOTHER'S DAY TO MUM WITH LOVE (OR SOMEONE WHO IS LIKE A MUM TO YOU)



#### GIFTS FROM YOUR HEART

- ♥ Make her a card.
- ♥ Draw her a picture.
- ♥ Write her a song and perform it for her, get some friends and family to be the band.
- ♥ Write her a short story about how special she is.



#### GIFTS FOR HER HEART

- ♥ Take her for a walk around the neighbourhood to look at the autumn trees.
- ♥ Take her for a walk to the park.
- ♥ Go on a family bike ride.
- ♥ Play a game in the backyard and invite the family or neighbours to join in.



For more information, visit [www.heartfoundation.org.nz](http://www.heartfoundation.org.nz).

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