



NGATEA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Authors of our own learning in a collaborative and supportive community that lets play, passion and purpose grow

Term 1 Week 1

2 FEBRUARY 2018

2018 SCHOOL YEAR

We would like to welcome all our new families to Ngatea Primary School. We start the year with close to 30 new students enrolled bringing our school roll to a record 294 for the start of the year. The BOT is monitoring the school's roll growth with the possibility of being forced to zone the school to ensure the roll does not exceed our floor space. At the moment our school library is already under great pressure with many of our library books being spread across several of the learning teams.

2018

This term we also welcome the following staff members to Ngatea Primary School:

- **Mrs Karin Chambers** (Whenua – Years 3-4). We are very fortunate that Mrs Chambers had been relieving at Ngatea Primary School in the past and is therefore very familiar with our students and our school environment.
- **Miss Danielle Sowden** (Whetu – Yrs 5-6). Miss Sowden has moved up from Wellington to join the Whetu team this year. Miss Sowden has a great interest and passion in the Arts, which will benefit all our learners.
- **Miss Emily Darrah** (Marama – Yrs 7-8). Miss Darrah is an experienced teacher who has joined us from Te Puru School and has piloted several initiatives in collaborative environments at the school. We are looking forward to Miss Darrah continuing with these initiatives in the Marama Team.

**KIDS FIRST
MEETING
7pm
Staffroom
Wednesday
7th February**

We are also very pleased to share the great news that **Mrs Melissa Taaffe** (Moana Nui – Yrs 1-2) will be leaving on maternity leave at the end of term 1. It is an exciting time for the Taaffe family with Cohen and Kalie having a younger sibling to cuddle within a few months.

PLEASE & THANK YOU? What's That?

About *one out of every two students* who come to the school office to fetch a plaster

**SMALL CHANGE FOR ME
BIG CHANGE FOR ALL**

or pencil, want medication or to make a phone call home, actually say “please” or “thank you”. Every day I hear the admin staff (Kelly and Leanne) remind many students about these simple, yet very basic forms of appreciation when asking for something. We ask our parents and caregivers to please support the school in instilling many small things in “manners” back into our school environment, something that should come as automatically as breathing. These small changes made by every student will have a huge positive impact on our school environment:

- *Good morning/afternoon*
- *Please*
- *Thank you*

REPORTING TO PARENTS

Last year the BOT invested a lot of money to change our student management system (online software programme) to Linc-Ed so that we could bring the way we report to parents to the 21st C. Over the past few years we have seen many changes to the way our students learn, yet the way we reported had stayed the same. Linc-Ed now allows students and staff to share with parents/caregivers the students’ learning goals, reflections, comments, evidence of learning and progress much easier. The latest data is not only available to parents “24/7” through a click of a button, but also reduces the workload of teachers by tenfold. And as a result, our teachers will have more time to focus on the learning in the classrooms rather than spending hours recording and transferring data to class lists and our old student management system, and then 2-3 months later onto school reports. We now have a system where data can be entered once and be used for multiple purposes:



- Students/teachers set goals (or next steps) online and have the ability to reflect and add evidence of their learning.
- All learning and progress is shared with parents/caregivers (school reports). These can be viewed online, or also be downloaded or printed by parents.
- Teachers can now group students much easier with similar learning needs across teams and the school to cater for their specific learning.
- As a school we have a wider selection of tracking the progress of individual students and cohorts, which is reported to the BOT throughout the year.
- Parents will be able to view all accounts online as well as make online payments through the same system.
- Newsletters and notices will also be shared through Linc-Ed.

It is therefore vital that ALL parents/caregivers return the Replyslips sent out earlier this week informing the school of their correct e-mail addresses.

More information will be sent home shortly how parents are able to log on to Linc-Ed.

PARENT SYMPOSIUM

This year we will be replacing our Community BBQ and Information Evenings with a *Parent Symposium*. The purpose of the Symposium is to offer parents a wide selection of workshops and information sessions about our students learning and how to support them at home.



School will shut at **12:40 p.m.** on **Wednesday, 7 March 2018** (approved by the BOT) to run 40-minute sessions from 1:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Parents will have a choice of 4-5 “workshops” at each session, with many of the workshops being repeated over the afternoon. Examples of workshops that may be on offer:

- Helping your child with Reading/Writing/Mathematics at home
- Our Learning (Run by each of our the learning teams)
- Basic Google Docs training: Learning the basics
- Cybersafety at home
- Linc-Ed: Accessing your child’s learning progress
- Blogs: How to comment on your child’s blog posts

Please feel free to return the reply slip (elsewhere in the newsletter) if there is anything specifically that you would like to see being offered during the Symposium.

UNIFORM

If you have paid for uniform and it was on order can you please collect it from the uniform shop on Wednesday or Friday morning – thank you.

UPDATE OF STUDENT INFORMATION

Thank you to those parents who have returned the Student Information slip back to us. It is important that we have up to date contact information for our students. If you require another copy of the form please call into the office or email office@ngatea.school.nz, thank you.

BUS RUNNING FROM KOPU

from Hunting and Fishing to Ngatea Primary School and HPC daily for students. Drop off is at the Thames Library. Phone The Tairua Bus - Steve on 027 211 0983.

PARENT SYMPOSIUM 2018

Suggestions for workshops:

Please e-mail your suggestions (office2@ngatea.school.nz) return the reply slip to the school office by Friday, 9 February 2018

NZMSM GUITAR LESSONS AT SCHOOL

Enrolments are being taken now for 2018. The lessons are held during school time on a Friday. Either individual or as pairs, depending on numbers.

A term fee will apply.

For further information please contact Sue Speedy 0276976109 or email speedy@kinect.co.nz

NGATEA JUNIOR NETBALL AGM

And Meeting

26th February

Ngatea Rugby and Sports Club 7pm

All welcome

Ph [0274871272](tel:0274871272)



Any children interested in playing cricket this year?

Age Groups are Year 3 & 4, Year 5 & 6, and Year 7 & 8

The year 3 & 4 games are only 2 hours long, a great introduction to cricket.

Games are usually played in Matamata, Morrinsville, Ngatea and surrounding areas.

Year 7 & 8 games are played in the wider Waikato area.

Season starts early February

Any enquires please phone Anna Dodunski 027 4664126

Email: hpyouthcricket@gmail.com

Facebook: Hauraki Plains Youth Cricket