

# Morrinsville Intermediate Newsletter: Term One, Week One

*Kia ora koutou and welcome to  
Morrinsville Intermediate School for 2018*

**Principal's Welcome:** Happy New Year and welcome to Morrinsville Intermediate School for 2018. A special welcome to the Year 7 students, and your families, who are joining us for the first time. Also to returning Year 8 students, welcome back. I look forward to working with you in partnership to ensure your child/ren have an enjoyable and rich learning experience whilst at Morrinsville Intermediate School.

Our aim is to ensure all students reach their personal potential while being provided with an extensive range of learning opportunities that best meet the needs of emerging adolescents. "Kia U Ki Te Pai – Whatever you do let it be your best" is our school motto and the choices your child/ren make will be guided by this.

Intermediate Schools are unique in that they promote learning opportunities specifically designed for Year 7 and Year 8 students. This is to ensure students' social, emotional, academic and physical needs are met. However, this will only happen if students are prepared to get involved in the opportunities made available to them. So my challenge to all students is to settle in quickly, learn the routines and structures of the school, join the many different sports teams, groups or competitions on offer as you never know what doors this may open. By giving something new a go, you may be inspired and challenged to take new learning further. One of my personal favourite expressions is: "The difference between ordinary and extraordinary is the extra". Go the extra mile in whatever you do and you will benefit from the rewards.

As principal, I am very proud of our school and the learning journey we are on. We have worked hard as a staff over the past year to develop learning partnerships with students, and I strongly believe that the partnership is strengthened when students, parents and teachers work together. A large part of this includes ensuring positive relationships are forged. Supporting your child in his/her learning not only shows your child you care, it also gives them confidence in knowing that they are on the learning journey together.

To best support your child and their time at our school please take the time to read our fortnightly newsletter as this will keep you abreast of what is going on at school. Talk to your child about what their learning focus has been at school and support them with their home learning (homework). They will be expected to read daily, for 20 – 30 minutes at home as part of building reading mileage. Reading a variety of genre, or text types, will expose your child to new vocabulary, structures and authors' purposes. Studyladder, an online programme, will also form a part of your child's daily home learning.

If your child has any learning that has been incomplete from the day they may be expected to complete that at home to ensure they are prepared for the following day. Your child's teacher will share their learning programmes and expectations at our upcoming 'Meet the Teacher' evening planned for **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 6.30pm** in the school hall. We look forward to seeing you there.

Morrinsville Intermediate School has a proud sporting reputation. Our students have the opportunity to participate and compete in a range of sports, both within the school and at the Inter-Intermediate School's competitions. We are always needing support with coaching and help from managers so if this is something you can offer our students it would be greatly appreciated. What a great way to get involved in your child's education.

Please visit our school website: [www.mi.school.nz](http://www.mi.school.nz) as this will help keep you informed of upcoming events, key dates and other important information about our school. Also 'like' our Facebook page to see what we get up to on a day-to-day basis.

The school will be holding a **powhiri on Wednesday 31st January at 9.30am** to formally welcome all new students and staff. Teachers will explain the process and protocol of this event to the students. Parents are very welcome to attend.

Our **Music Tuition information evening** will be held on Thursday 15th February at 7.00pm in the school hall. Interested students can pick up a separate notice about music tuition, from the office, closer to the time.

The teaching staff and I look forward to working closely with you throughout the year to ensure the ongoing success of your child's learning progress and achievement.

**Jenny Clark (Principal)**

## General School Information

**Contacting teachers:** If parents have any matters to discuss, your first point of contact is with the classroom teacher. Please email the teacher directly or send a brief written note with your child. Staff emails can be found on our website [www.mi.school.nz](http://www.mi.school.nz). The teacher can then make contact with you.

**P.E. Uniform:** All students are required to bring their P.E. gear daily. If your child is unable to participate in P.E. for any medical reason, parents need to send a signed note of explanation to the classroom teacher. Please encourage full participation whenever possible.

**B.Y.O.D:** Students are permitted to bring their own learning device to school (excluding phones and i-pods) if they have signed the Cyber Safety and Responsible Use of ICT Devices Agreement. This is an important document which needs to be thoroughly read and signed by parents / caregivers as well.

Students will need to sign this agreement before they can use school ICT equipment. When student's devices are not being used they are kept in a locked cupboard.

**Mobile phones in school:** If parents would like their child to bring their cellphone to school, a Policy for Use of Mobile Phones in School must be read, signed and the permission slip returned to school acknowledging you understand, and will comply with, the policy for mobile phones at school. These forms can be picked up from the office.

**Lost property:** It is most important to name all clothing, shoes and belongings. If any items do go missing students are advised to let their teacher know ASAP. Clothing etc which is left as school will be placed in the lost property and students can view this anytime by asking at the office.

**School Newsletter:** A newsletter will be distributed every second Thursday (odd weeks). This will contain school news, upcoming events and information including BOT meetings. If you would like the newsletter emailed home please go to the 'quick link' on our school website [www.mi.school.nz](http://www.mi.school.nz). The newsletter is also posted on our Facebook page.

**Absentees & Office Info:** The school office is open each day from 8.00am to 4.00pm. Our office staff will be able to answer any day-to-day queries you may have. Please phone the office before 8.50am if your child is going to be late or absent. As part of 'Managing Self' it is important for students to arrive at school on time to ensure they are set up with their tools of the trade ready for learning prior to the bell. Students who need to leave school for any reason during the day eg: for a dentist appointment must be collected from the school office and signed out.

**School Stationery:** Stationery packs or individual items can be purchased through Paper Plus Morrinsville at special "back to school" prices. It is important for all students to have their stationery ASAP. Thanks for your support.

**School Fees and Donations:** A formal account will be sent home during the next few weeks providing a breakdown of school fees and donations for 2018. The donations supplement Ministry funding and help provide exciting initiatives to support your child's education.

**Sun-Smart Policy:** All students will be issued with a school sun hat. These hats are school property and are to remain at school at all times. Students are encouraged to apply sunscreen at home and reapply this as needed.

**School Canteen:** The canteen is open for students but will have a limited menu this week while we get the canteen up and running for the year. The price list will be displayed on the Student Notice Board (beside the foyer entrance).

**MI Mates:** Parents / caregivers are invited to come along to our MI Mates meetings which are held monthly in the staffroom at 5.30pm. The first meeting will be held on **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February**. Future meeting dates will be included in the school newsletters and on Facebook. This is a great way to get involved at school – please join us ☺

## School Staff for 2018

### MANAGEMENT

Principal Jenny Clark  
Deputy Principal Andrea Devane

### TAINUI TEAM

Rm 1 Sally Armstrong (Assistant Principal)  
Rm 2 Bailee Foulds  
Rm 3 Reuben O'Sullivan  
Rm 4 Kylie Wells

### ARANUI TEAM

Rm 5 Sandra Ginever  
Rm 6 Kelly Nyssen  
Rm 7 Keryn Vette (Team Leader)

### AOTEA TEAM

Rm 8 Brendon Fiebig (Team Leader)  
Rm 9 James Higgins  
Rm 10 Baylee Chalklen

### SPECIALIST TEACHERS

Hard Materials Tech Stuart King (Team Leader)  
Food Technology Sharon Burman / Tammy Morris  
Art / Te Reo Brenda Te Wiata  
Music Val Venimore  
Robotics / ORS Donnis Harrison  
Release Teachers: Gayle Murray, Belinda Duncan

### ADMINISTRATION

Principal's / BOT Secretary Michelle Cook  
School Secretary Julie Tesselaar

### ANCILLARY STAFF

Literacy Centre Paula Kardas  
Librarian / Teacher Aide Stacey Walker  
Canteen / Teacher Aide Michelle Meale  
Teacher Aides: Clarissa Hart & Andrea Totton  
Kapa Haka Tutors Maia Maunsell  
Caretaker Maurice Mehalski

**School buses & Road Safety:** All students who travel by bus have had a bus meeting at school today to be allocated their bus number and roll for pick-up from school in the afternoons. If you have any queries regarding bus times please contact Greenline Motors direct on 889 7758.

The designated place for children crossing the road is the crossing on Elizabeth Ave. Parents are to drop their children off and pick up them up on Elizabeth Ave (known as the 'Top Gate') – avoid the yellow lines. The entry on Coronation Road is the bus bay and is extremely busy before and after school.

### Term Dates for 2018:

Term One: 30.01.18 to 13.04.18  
Term Two: 30.04.18 to 06.07.18  
Term Three: 23.07.18 to 28.09.18  
Term Four: 15.10.18 to 14.12.18



### School Bell Times:

Block One 8.50am to 10.40am  
Block Two 11.00am to 12.30pm  
Block Three 1.30pm to 3.10pm