

Morrinsville Intermediate Newsletter: Term One, Week One

*Kia ora koutou and welcome to
Morrinsville Intermediate School for 2019*

Principal's Welcome: Happy New Year and welcome to Morrinsville Intermediate School for 2019. A special welcome to the Year 7 students, and your families, who are joining us. Welcome back to our returning Year 8 students and new students to the district. 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". This will be the focus for our Team One inquiry.

As principal, I am very proud of our school and the learning journey we are on. We have worked hard as a staff 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).

Your child's teacher will share their learning programmes and expectations at our upcoming 'Meet the Teacher' evening planned for **Wednesday 13th February 6.30pm** in the school hall. We look forward to seeing you.

Please visit our school website: 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 school Facebook page to see what we get up to.

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.

The school will be holding a **powhiri tomorrow at 9.30am** to formally welcome all new students and staff. Teachers will explain the process and protocol of this event to the students. You are all very welcome to attend and we look forward to seeing you there.

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.

Kind regards,
Jenny Clark (Principal)

Makuhari 2019:

Our school is one of ten in the Waikato who take part in an annual exchange with Makuhari Junior High in Japan. 20 students from Makuhari will be in Morrinsville from 7th to 19th March and will be billeted by school families (who receive a hosting fee). Year 8 students who are interested in applying to go to Japan in September, are expected to host. Homestay application forms and an information sheet regarding the trip to Makuhari can be collected from the office. Families who have students interested in either the Japan trip or the Vanuatu trip are invited to an **information evening on 21st February**, held in the staffroom from 5.30pm to 6.30pm.

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. The teacher can then make contact with you. Our door is always open!

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 or email of explanation to the classroom teacher. Please encourage full participation whenever possible.

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

BYOD: Students are permitted to bring their own learning device to school BYOD (excluding phones & i-pods) if they have signed the Cyber Safety and Responsible Use of ICT Devices Agreement. This document needs to be thoroughly read and signed by parents / caregivers as well. When student's devices are not being used they are kept in a locked cupboard in the classroom.

Mobile phones in school: If parents would like their child to bring a cell phone to school the 'policy for use of mobile phones in school' must be read, signed and returned to school acknowledging you understand, and will comply with, the policy for mobile phones at school. Students can pick this up from the office.

Skool Loop App: We have recently set up a Skool Loop App which parents can download and select our school to receive notices, view the school calendar etc. This is still in the beginning stages but we will be adding to it as event dates are set. As the year progresses this will become one of our main ways of communicating with families.

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. Students can view the lost property cupboard anytime by asking at the office.

School Newsletter: An electronic newsletter will be distributed online via Facebook, Skool Loop and on our school website every second Thursday (starting in Week 3). This will contain school news, upcoming events and information including BOT meeting dates. If you would prefer a hard copy of the newsletter, students can collect one from the office.

Absentees & Office Info: The school office is open each day from 8.00am to 4.00pm. Please phone the office before 8.50am if your child is going to be late or absent. 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 2019. The donations supplement Ministry funding and help provide exciting initiatives to support your child's education.

School Canteen: The canteen is open for students at morning tea and lunchtime. The price list will be displayed on the Student Notice Board and on our school website.

MI Mates Fundraising Committee: 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 19th February. Future meeting dates will be advertised online. We welcome new members to help support the school through fundraising initiatives.

Music Information Evening: Students and parents have the opportunity to look at the different instruments available for after school tuition. The info evening will be held in the school hall on Thursday 14th February from 7pm to 8pm. The cost of lessons is \$120 for two terms for weekly 20 minute lessons.

School Staff for 2019

MANAGEMENT

Principal Jenny Clark
Deputy Principal Andrea Devane

TAINUI TEAM

Rm 1 Sally Armstrong (Team Leader)
Rm 2 Bailee Foulds
Rm 3 Doug Ashley-Miller

ARANUI TEAM

Rm 4 Kylie Wells (Team Leader)
Rm 5 Reuben O'Sullivan
Rm 6 Amanda Mawhinney
Rm 7 Keryn Vette

AOTEA TEAM

Rm 8 Brendon Fiebig (Team Leader)
Rm 9 Robyn Wilson
Rm 10 Baylee Chalklen

SPECIALIST TEACHERS

Hard Materials Tech Stuart King
Food Technology Trish Thurston
Te Reo / PE James Higgins
Music Val Venimore
Robotics / ORS Donnis Harrison
Release Teachers: Gayle Murray, Sandra Ginever, Sarah Matherson

ADMINISTRATION

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

ANCILLARY STAFF

Literacy Centre Lisa Pere
Librarian / Learning Assist. Andrea Totton
Canteen / Learning Assist. Michelle Meale
Learning Assistants: Clarissa Hart, Jade Lynn,
Krystal Hamilton, Rachel Hughes
Kapa Haka Tutors Maia Maunsell
Caretaker Mark Curry

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'). Student safety is paramount.

Term Dates for 2019:

Term One: 04.02.19 to 12.04.19
Term Two: 29.04.19 to 05.07.19
Term Three: 23.07.19 to 27.09.19
Term Four: 14.10.19 to 19.12.18



School Bell Times:

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

