

Morrinsville Intermediate

Newsletter: Term One, Week Nine

Welcome to Week 9 and the final newsletter for Term One!

Wow, the term has come and gone so quickly but we have packed in a lot of learning in the process. Our term has been focusing on learning and celebrating personal identity as well as appreciating cultural diversity. This has been timely in light of the awful tragedy that unfolded in Christchurch recently. It is so important that we show empathy and understanding for each other every day.

Next Friday morning as part of a special assembly our students will be sharing their inquiry learning outcomes. Your child chose a culture to inquire into during Thursday enrichment classes. You are welcome to join us.

We wish you all a safe and happy term break and Easter Holiday ready for another busy term ahead. The last day of Term One is Friday 12th April and school will finish at the usual time of 3.10pm. Term Two starts on Monday 29th April.

NZ Representative:

We would like to congratulate Rhiley Whitiora who has been selected for the NZ U13 Soccer Team. This is an outstanding achievement and Rhiley will travel to a tournament in Melbourne this year and China in 2020. We look forward to following Rhiley's journey



BINGO Evening Fundraiser:

A big thank you to all of you who contributed to a very successful Bingo Evening last Friday night. Whether it was attending on the night, providing or sourcing auction items, working on the night, or baking. Every contribution helps. For those who attended, it was a lot of fun.

I'd like to say a very big thank you to Shelley for being a fantastic Bingo caller, and to Rob Connor for offering his auctioneering skills. To Kylie Wells, our staff rep, you did an amazing job directing the fundraiser. Overall we raised just over \$4,000 which is a great result! The proceeds are going toward re-turfing the cricket nets.

MI Mates team are working hard on your behalf to raise funds enhancing our school resources for your child; a playground upgrade is due to be completed very shortly, a new trampoline to be purchased. Our next focus will be to upgrade our visual and sound system in the hall as unfortunately this is now becoming unreliable.

Student Counsellor – Mel Flynn

Do you ever feel like you just need someone to listen to what's going on in your world, without judgement or blame; someone that you can talk to about your ups and downs without them telling everyone? Well this is what Counsellors do, and I am looking forward to joining the staff to not only help with the students' school life but also their out of school experiences.

I am studying towards a Bachelor of Counselling which I hope to complete next year. I have lived most of my life around the Morrinsville area with both my children attending Morrinsville Intermediate a few years ago. I'm grateful that the Board of Trustees and staff have allowed me to join the school team and I am looking forward to getting to know the staff, students and their families.

I will be at school from 9am until 2pm every Thursday during school terms and will set up a 'safe space' next to Mrs Devane's office. If you would like to book in a time to see me, there are consent forms in the Hub and Student office that need to be signed by parents/caregivers and returned to the office before sessions start.



Board of Trustees Elections:

A reminder our school Board of Trustees triennial elections will take place on 7th June. Being a school trustee is an important role that needs people with a range of skills and experiences such as strategic thinkers, practical people, good communication, team players and people who have specific skills in property, finance, human resources and health and safety. People who believe in making a positive difference to our children's learning.

Nominations will soon be invited for the election of five parent representatives to the Board of Trustees. A nomination form will be posted to all eligible voters.

School Disco:

At the end of terms one, two and three we have a school disco organised by the class teams. The first disco will be run by Tainui and will be held in the school hall on Thursday 11th April from 7.00pm to 9.00pm. The theme will "Show Your True Colours" and students are invited to dress up (prizes will be up for grabs!)

Students will bring home an invitation and the disco costs \$4.00pp. Food and drinks will be available for purchase on the night. Students must be picked up at 9.00pm from inside the hall or school foyer, by an adult.

Gumboot Mufti Day on Friday 5th April:

We are holding a gumboot mufti day tomorrow in support of the 'I am Hope Gumboot Friday Campaign' for mental wellbeing. The cost will be a gold coin (or more) paid to classroom teachers. Students are asked to wear gumboots to symbolise the struggle for those suffering from mental illnesses. Proceeds contribute toward establishing counselling services.

Student-Led Learning Conferences (SLC):

Thank you to the families who attended the SLCs this week as part of our family/whanau partnerships and reporting to parents processes. I was really impressed with how well our students were able to talk about their learning, state their strengths and identify next steps.

We would really appreciate it if ALL whanau could make some time to either meet with your child's teacher or make phone contact. Please contact your child's teacher (email is the easiest way to contact teachers) to make a time to visit as we believe this is a critical component of our learning partnership. Thanks for your support.

At a recent whanau hui some families expressed their interest in meeting just with the teacher – that is not a problem. Please make arrangements for the meeting by emailing your child's teacher.

Science Roadshow:

In the first week of Term 2, our school will be hosting the Science Roadshow. This involves 70 hands-on exhibits (in six themes) and two demonstrations. The cost to attend the 80 minute Roadshow is \$7.00 per student, with accompanying teachers and adults free of charge. This will be on a 'first in first served basis'. Students can collect permission slips from the office.



School Production:

Students are in the process of auditioning for our school production, a musical comedy called "Rock Bottom" (think Flinstones!) which will be major focus in Term Two.

School productions provide a fantastic opportunity for students to get involved in the arts and showcase their talents or give something new a go. Students will also have the opportunity to be involved in sound and lighting or be part of the back-stage crew. The production will be performed to the public in Week 7 of Term Two so watch this space for more details!

Nathan Wallis – "The Developing Brain" presentation:

Morrinsville C.O.L. are proud to announce NZ renowned neuroscience education, Nathan Wallis is coming to our community with his talk – The Developing Brain.

This talk is for parents who want a quick snap-shot on brain development from a lively and engaging speaker with all the latest research, presented in a way that makes sense.

This presentation will take place at Morrinsville College on Monday 1st July from 7.30 to 9.00pm. Tickets are available at www.eventfinda.co.nz Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity as tickets will sell out.

2019 Online Academic Comps:

This year we have decided to give students the opportunity to take part in Kiwi Competitions in place of ICAS exams as the Kiwi Competitions are based on the NZ Curriculum and are more relevant to our school. Keep an eye out for more info regarding this early next term.



MI Mates Fundraising:

Easter Raffle: Thanks to all families who donated an Easter Goodie for our raffle hampers and sold raffle tickets. The raffles will be drawn on Wednesday 10th April.
Oxford Pies: Keep a look out for order forms early in Term 2. A great way to stock up the freezer prior to winter.

Breakfast Club:

Our Breakfast Club is up and running and students are invited to pop into the Food Tech room with Whaea Trish before school. Weetbix and toast are currently on offer and we would appreciate any donations of spreads e.g. jam, vegemite etc. Thanks for your support!

Winter Uniform:

During Terms Two and Three students are required to wear winter uniform. This requires a softshell jacket and / or a regulation polar fleece and regulation black school shoes (no high tops). We recommend leather school shoes as they are more weather tight and longer-lasting than canvas shoes. Boys are required to wear plain grey, knee high school socks and girls are required to wear either knee high navy socks or black stockings.

This year we have introduced a soft-shell jacket which looks very smart and is also warm and water resistant. This can be worn with the school polar fleece or instead of it. All uniform items can be purchased through Harry's in Thames Street, Morrinsville.

In addition to the short-sleeved polo shirt, a short-sleeved plain black or navy t-shirt / thermal may be worn underneath (not to be visible please). Students can also purchase school beanies from the office for \$10 which can be worn as part of the winter uniform in Terms 2 & 3.

Examples of preferred winter school shoes below:



Upcoming dates:

3rd & 4th Apr	Student-led learning conferences
Fri 5 th Apr	Gumboot mufti day (gold coin)
Wed 10 th Apr	Easter raffles drawn
Thur 11 th Apr	School disco 7.00 to 9.00pm
Fri 12 th April	End of Term One
Mon 29 th April	Start of Term Two
Fri 24 th May	BOT nominations close