

Morrinsville Intermediate Newsletter: Term One, Week Three

Kia ora koutou and welcome to Week 3.

We have had a really settled start to the term; I am very happy with the friendliness of the students and the positive way in which they have worked with their class as a team to develop the learning culture. Establishing routines and expectations is critical as they are an investment into the success of the learning journey ahead.

Unfortunately our Family Picnic was cancelled last Wednesday due to the weather, however our Meet the Teacher and Music Information evening went ahead and I'd like to thank the families/whanau who attended. It was nice to see you embracing the opportunity to make a connection with your child's teacher and learn more about our school.

We believe that learning happens best in partnership with you and therefore I want to reiterate that we have an open door policy and would love to see you being actively involved in our school.

COVID-19 Level 2:

On Sunday evening, we were informed by the Prime Minister that Auckland would move into Alert Level 3 and the rest of the country would move into Alert Level 2 on the basis of three community cases of Covid-19 until midnight Wednesday.

Moving into Alert Level 2 is a reminder that we need to be vigilant at all times, and at Morrinsville Intermediate School we remind our students regularly about managing themselves in a bid to prevent the spread of viruses. Please reinforce the messages stated below:

- If possible, adults please refrain from visiting our site unless absolutely necessary. If you must come into school, report directly to the office and scan the QR code, and sign our visitors' register please.
- Hygiene practices will be stepped up; students are asked to bring their own water bottle please (however, drinking fountains will be cleaned twice daily), coughs and sneezes are into elbows and if unwell, students are asked to stay home. Hard surfaces in classrooms, door handles etc will be cleaned thoroughly each day.
- Students are asked to sanitise hands on arrival to school and wash hands before eating and after play.
- Moving into Alert Level 2 is a reminder that we need to be vigilant at all times, and at Morrinsville Intermediate School we remind our students regularly about managing themselves in a bid to prevent the spread of viruses. Please reinforce the messages stated above.

Board of Trustees:

The Board of Trustees would like to welcome you all to 2021 and wish you all the very best for a successful year. We would like to acknowledge the wonderful staff and their dedication toward ensuring your child has a positive learning experience and is 'empowered to succeed'. Mrs Teresa Higham (BoT Chairperson)



2021 Learning Foci:

In Term 4 last year, we consulted with our learners about the concepts or topics they were interested in learning about. Engagement in learning by students is critical, so by endeavouring to enable opportunities for students to inquire into what is interesting, or matters to them, rich learning outcomes are more likely to occur.

The broad overarching theme for 2021 is:

'Our People, Our Place, Our Connections'

Underneath that we have identified four concepts:

Term 1 - Ko Au : Identity - I, Myself (key question: Who am I? What are my connections? How will I share my identity?)

Term 2 - Whiria te tangata (weave the people together) Community (key question: What makes our community?)

Term 3 - Peace and Conflict (key question: How do we connect with, and learn from the past?)

Term 4 - Choice (key question: How can our connections shape our future?)

We will be deliberately teaching the process of inquiry as part of the learning journey and students will have the opportunity to pursue their individual interests as part of the inquiry.

Based on evidence collected, and observation in 2020, we are reporting to the Ministry of Education in relation to targets based on achievement in Mathematics (consolidating on the significant progress we made last year) and the Key Competency (KC) of 'Participating and Contributing'.

While there are five KCs, that are closely interrelated, our emphasis will be on enhancing students' involvement, initiative and internal commitment. As a school, we have defined these dispositions as:



Involvement: 'A student who embraces a range of opportunities, both familiar and unfamiliar, to strengthen their own wellbeing and/or the wellbeing of others.'

Initiative: 'A student who is able to think for him/herself and will independently take action as needed.'

Internal Commitment: 'A student who is empowered by his/her own goals; develops an action plan and follows through with grit, passion and perseverance.'

While the two target areas stated above are being reported to the Ministry, this doesn't mean we are not focusing on raising achievement in other areas; we will certainly continue to work on growing learning outcomes in all curriculum areas.

Reading (including strong comprehension) is a skill that is vital for all students as it underpins most curriculum areas. As such, I would strongly recommend that as part of home learning, your child reads daily for a sustained period of time (20-30 minutes), and across a range of text styles, or genre e.g. fiction, non-fiction.

Scruffy the Dog: visits to Morrinsville Intermediate:

Dogs in the classroom provide both physical and emotional health benefits for students. In other words, just being in contact with a dog can be known to calm kids down when they're upset and helps keep their anxiety at bay. And reducing feelings of anxiety and depression enables them to focus on learning.

Scruffy is Mrs Mac's dog, and enjoys visiting our school a couple of times per week. She spends the majority of her time in the Literacy Centre (kids love to read to her).

If your child has allergies, or a fear of dogs, please let us know. As you can see, she is a very cute dog and loves the companionship of our students when she visits.



Out and About last Friday:



I always enjoy the opportunity to get out of the office and visit classrooms to see our learners in action.

It was great to see such variety, and the students enjoying their learning, their friendships and their sport.



Canteen: - menu and prices:

Tuesday Special:	Chicken Burger	\$4.00
Wednesday Special:	Wedges w sour cream, sweet chilli	\$4.00
Thursday Special:	Pork riblet w salad & bun	\$4.00
Friday Special:	Decided on the day...	\$4.00

Hot and cold food available each day:

Mince and cheese pie	\$3.00
Butter chicken wrap	\$4.00
Toasted sandwich (ham, cheese, onion)	\$3.00
Sausage rolls	\$2.50
Noodles (beef / chicken)	\$3.00
Mini pizza	\$2.50
Chicken and salad sandwich	\$4.00
Hot chicken chippies	\$3.50
Fresh fruit (seasonal)	.50c

Snacks and drinks:

Potato chips (salt & vinegar, chicken, ham & cheese)	\$1.50
Cookies	\$1.20
Slices	\$3.00
Muesli bars, fruit / custard pots	\$1.00
Water bottle	\$1.00
Aloe drinks	\$3.00
Moosies	\$1.50
Juicies	\$1.00 (full), .50c (half)

50TH JUBILEE 10TH APRIL 2021, 10:00AM - 4:00PM

Morrinsville Intermediate School is celebrating its 50th birthday (postponed from 2020 due to COVID-19 lockdown). We will be holding the celebration reunion on Saturday the 10th April, from 10am to 4pm at the School. It will be a wonderful opportunity to visit the Intermediate and catch up with friends. We would love to see a great turnout to help celebrate this momentous occasion.

There will be displays of artwork and brief performances by groups of students. A catered morning tea and luncheon will be available for our guests, at a cost of \$40.00 (registration fee).

We have a Facebook page 'Morrinsville Intermediate Jubilee' to complete the online registration or collect a form from the school office. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you at our Jubilee celebrations.

Do you want to be part of MIS Jubilee's history? We are seeking donations for the landscaping of our school cow 'MIS Jubilee'. If you would like to make a donation, please make payment online into our bank account:

MIS Bank Account number: 12-3437-0000031-00
Reference: Your name and MIS Jubilee donation

Donations greater than \$100 will entitle you to have your name on the 'Community Contribution' plaque which will be added to the plinth following our Jubilee.

MI Mates (school fundraising committee):

The MI Mates had a successful 'Meet and Greet' evening on Tuesday, where we welcomed a handful of new members to the committee. This year we are fundraising for a trampoline, sound systems for Apple TVs, Honours Boards, sun hats, Kapa Haka Uniforms.

A blue helpers form has been sent home with your child, we would really appreciate you nominating some of the initiatives you would be happy helping with. Thank you 😊

Upcoming dates:

Mon 22nd Feb	MIS Swimming Sports
Tues 2nd Mar	Inter-Intermediate Boys Cricket
Tue 9th Mar	Inter-Intermediate Volleyball
Mon 15th Mar	Inter-Intermediate swimming
16th & 17 Mar	Student-led learning conferences
Tues 23rd Mar	Inter-Intermediate Touch Rugby
Wed 24th Mar	BOT Meeting 6.30pm
Tue 30th Mar	Inter-Intermediate Drama
Thur 1st April	Teacher Only Day
2nd to 6th April	Easter weekend
Sat 10th April	MIS Jubilee
Thur 15th April	Mr King's farewell assembly at 1.30pm
Fri 16th April	Last day of Term One
Mon 3rd May	Start of Term Two

Remember to visit our school website www.mi.school.nz
Like us on Facebook to see what we get up to day-to-day and download the free Skool Loop App from your App store.

Term Dates for 2021:

Term One:	02.02.21 to 16.04.21
Term Two:	03.05.21 to 09.07.21
Term Three:	26.07.21 to 01.10.21
Term Four:	18.10.21 to 14.12.21

