

Morrinsville Intermediate Newsletter: Term One, Week Nine

Kia ora koutou e te whanau. Welcome to Week 9's newsletter.

We wish all our school families a safe and happy Easter Weekend! **School will reopen on Wednesday 7th April.**



This Newsletter is being sent home a day early because it is Teacher Only Day tomorrow (1st April). Staff are participating in professional development as part of our strategic plan. The learning focus is on digital fluency, facilitated by 'Using Technology Better' (UTB) from Auckland.

School has been an incredibly busy place of late: student-led learning conferences, sending teams off to II sports in Hamilton, Beach Safety Education in Waihi, 50th Jubilee preparations and of course our visit from the Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern.

Special visit from Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern: 25th March 2021

I was fortunate to receive a phone call from the Prime Minister's office, Wellington, on the 18th March informing me that the PM would 'love to pop in as she is gutted not being able to attend the 50th Jubilee celebrations on the 10th April'. Jacinda Ardern is an ex-student of MIS, having attended in 1992 - 1993. How exciting for us all as she reconnected with 'Our People, Our Place, Our Connection' - our 2021 inquiry focus.

Upon the PM's much anticipated arrival, we began with an official welcome assembly, paying tribute to the PM's resilience; her gruelling schedule can only be described as mind boggling! Finding time to visit our school was an honour and we thanked her for her commitment and leadership, particularly for guiding us through the pandemic.

When invited to speak to the school, Jacinda was able to relate beautifully to our students, recalling experiences from her two years here, one of which was the dreaded obstacle course (which is no longer here). She recalled sitting on hard wooden benches, and not being lucky to have the 'flash tiered seating' that we have today. She talked about her key learnings, which were summarised into three words: "Never give up" ... this message will resonate with our students as they navigate their own journey through MIS, and all the opportunities and challenges presented to them.

Stuart King, Hard Materials teacher, was acknowledged as having a huge influence on the PM; she brought along the wooden police car she made in 1992, given to her father who was a police officer. Picking it up from her parents' home that morning, she re-gifted it to Stuart, as a reminder of how he positively influenced her during her time at MIS. Stuart King retires from MIS after almost 46 years of teaching here, at the end of this term. What a special moment for Stuart!

During the tour around the school, Jacinda was shown the new additions to the school, including turfed areas, newly refurbished classrooms and the Science lab; she was very impressed with the fact we had a lab and reiterated the importance of teaching the subject. She visited Room 5 which was historically Room 7 where she learnt from for two years

under the tutelage of Mrs Bean and Miss Barr. She also enjoyed meeting Sabrina Chong, who had sent her a letter of invitation to the Jubilee, and looking through her old photos. She enjoyed returning to the Hard Materials room and also the Food Tech room where the students were decorating cookies, some of which were gifted to her. We then headed to show her the mural created by our Art Extension group last year. Val Venimore, art teacher, was delighted to share her caricature with her.

To finish off her tour, we showed her MIS Jubilee, our cow. She loved seeing the story of MIS over the 50 years, and thought it was poignant to include a 'covid kid' as part of the illustrations. After a brief morning tea and chat with staff and students, Ms Ardern departed.

I want to say a huge congratulations to all our students and staff for their contributions to making the PM's visit a success. The grounds looked immaculate and the students' welcome/waiata and haka tautoko were amazing; our kaumatua Te Ao Marama Maaka describing the performances as 'flawless'. Thank you and well done to you all.



Casual Vacancy for a BOT parent representative:

A casual vacancy has occurred on the school board for an elected parent representative. The board has decided to fill the vacancy by selection.

If 10% or more of eligible voters on the school roll ask the board, within 28 days of this notice being published, to hold a by-election to fill the vacancy, then a by-election will be held.

Request for a by-election should be sent to:

Teresa Higham (Board Chair)
C/- Morrinsville Intermediate
24 Elizabeth Avenue, Morrinsville 3300
Or email: t.higham@mi.school.nz
By: **TODAY - Wednesday 31st March, 2021.**

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.

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:



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.

Registrations close TOMORROW!

Make sure you complete our registration form (available on our Jubilee Facebook page or from the school office), and make the \$40 payment online to Morrinsville Intermediate: 12-3437-0000031-00.

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, as part of the registration fee.

Unfortunately, the event won't be viable if we do not have 100 people registered. The decision regarding this will be communicated tomorrow.

Working Bee Thank you:

A BIG thank you to the team from MBS (Kayla, Michelle and Jo), plus Vicky and Kieran who assisted Sandra Jeffrey and Mark Curry during the Working Bee last Friday to spruce up the gardens and plantation; it is much appreciated. The grounds are certainly looking smart and I want to acknowledge the efforts of the team to make this happen.



Stuart King's Farewell: 15th April 1.30 p.m.

Just a wee reminder that if you would like to attend the special assembly to acknowledge Stuart's retirement, can you please let us know for catering purposes by emailing m.cook@mi.school.nz. All visitors are to assemble in the foyer at 1.25 p.m. Please sign in at the office first.

Upcoming dates:

Wed 31 st Mar	Cyber Safety community event from 7.00pm to 8.30pm at Morrinsville College
Thur 1 st April	Teacher Only Day (school closed)
Fri 2 nd April	Good Friday (Public Holiday)
Mon 5 th April	Easter Monday (Public Holiday)
Tues 6 th April	Easter Tuesday (School Holiday)
Sat 10 th April	MIS 50 th Jubilee 10.00am to 4.00pm
Thur 15 th April	Mr King's farewell assembly at 1.30pm
Fri 16 th April	Last day of Term One
Mon 3 rd May	Start of Term Two

Remember to Like our school page on Facebook, visit our website www.mi.school.nz and download our free Skool Loop App to keep up-to-date.