



MORRINSVILLE

Intermediate School

Kia U Ki Te Pai Whatever You Do, Let It Be Your Best



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Empowering Learners to Succeed
Hei whakamana nga ākonga
i te whai ao

Newsletter

Term 1 Week 11 Newsletter 2024

Kia ora e te whānau and welcome to Week Eleven and the final week of Term One! We wish all our school families a relaxing term break; Term Two starts on Monday 29th April.

The first term has been a busy term (with a number of new enrolments taking us to 340 students) filled with lots of learning and exciting opportunities for our ākongā (learners). This has included:

- Our welcome pōwhiri (new students and staff)
- Our whānau picnic evening where we had the opportunity to meet n greet many of you, and reconnect with others
- Welcoming Ming, our Mandarin Language Assistant
- Launching our Learner Profile: EMPOWERED
- Election of our six Student Executives
- Cyber-Smart and cyberbullying sessions with Constable Tash Snowden
- Hosting twenty students from Makuhari Junior High School
- School Swimming Sports Festival
- Getting Maths Whizz 2024 up and running
- EPRO8
- Student Learning Conversations (SLCs)
- II: Cricket, Volleyball, Touch Rugby, Drama
- Mountain Biking WaiBOP Schools XC Champs
- Kapa Haka
- Sport Waikato coaching: cricket, volleyball and turbo touch
- Celebrating our first Honours student and the first 'Kia U Ki Te Pai' award recipient (tomorrow)

The list above is in addition to 'business as usual' which encompass our emphasis on effective teaching and learning (one hour of Reading/Writing and Mathematics which are meaningfully integrated where possible albeit retaining explicit learning foci), including our technology/specialist subject. Our students often state that they love Intermediate because of the multitude of opportunities available to them; we strongly encourage our students to maximise opportunities and get involved as the two years at MIS will fly by.

A HUGE thank you for the generous support of the Morrinsville Foodbank for our non-uniform day on Friday 22nd March. The food donated was very much appreciated when the Student Executives dropped it off.



On Friday we will be holding a special ANZAC assembly to commemorate the New Zealand soldiers from World War One and honour our returned and serving servicemen and women. Students are invited to bring a gold coin to purchase an ANZAC poppy from the office with all funds raised going to our local R.S.A.

I look forward to another fantastic term of action-packed learning in Term Two and thank you for your support throughout this term.

He waka eke noa we are all in this together.

Ngā mihi
Jenny Clark
Principal

Featuring in today's newsletter:

Celebrating our first Honours student
Rangatiratanga Award and Gold For Glory
School disco (Thursday night)
OTJ Data Summary
Important Community Event: 'Behind the Screens'
MI Mates Easter Raffle
Winter uniform in Term Two and Three
Sports for Term 1
School Fees
Vandalism to school trampolines
Term Dates
Term 1 and 2 Calendar (including link)

Congratulations to Caitlin Mills: first Honours student for 2024:

During assembly in Week 10 we celebrated our very first Honours recipient for 2024. Congratulations to Caitlin Mills who has not only achieved the points required to apply for Honours but also epitomises our school vision: 'Empowering Learners to Succeed'. Caitlin's family were invited to join our assembly to help celebrate her accomplishments.

Caitlin has achieved Sports Excellence, Cultural Merit and double Academic Excellence.

Caitlin has achieved Honours by making the most of the opportunities available to all students from the start of Year 7. Students are able to gain Merit points through outstanding achievement, improvement and leadership roles across cultural, civic, academic and sports roles. For more information on how the Merit system works, please visit our school website www.mi.school.nz and click on the yellow tab named Merit and Awards Programme.



Rangatiratanga Award (doing the best for yourself):

During Friday Assembly one student per class is acknowledged for demonstrating Rangatiratanga, specifically one of Key Competency indicators. The focus was 'Resilience' in Week 10.

Congratulations to the following students: Reef Rm 1, Daytona Rm 2, Ryan Rm 3, Samantha Rm 4, Dana Rm 5, Amelia Rm 6, Leo Rm 7, Tayler Rm 8, Mikayla Rm 9, Ryan Rm 10, Madison Rm 11.

Food Tech: Piper-Ella Rm 6, Art: Constance Rm 2, Hard Materials: Xavier Rm 10, Science: Anna Rm 8.

Gold For Glory:

At each assembly students are recognised by the principal for showing initiative, or going the extra mile that demonstrates our school vision, motto and values.

The recipients in Week 10 were Mea Richmond and Eva Belmar. Well done!

School Disco:

Team Piako are hosting a whole school disco tomorrow night (Thursday 11th April) from 7.00pm to 9.00pm in the school hall.

The theme is Back to the 80's, there are prizes up for grabs – dress in theme! Tickets cost \$5.00. Students are to bring in their \$5 entry fee and signed permission slip to the foyer before school or at morning tea. The canteen will be open selling drinks and snacks during the disco.

Students must be picked up from the foyer by an adult at 9pm. *Students may not leave the building on their own. Please ensure that if your child attends the disco they attend school on Friday (they have two weeks holiday to recover if tired).*



Student Achievement: Overall Teacher Judgement (OTJ) Summary Term 1 2024

OTJs are based on where a student is currently achieving, 'best fit', in relation to the New Zealand Curriculum Levels. When forming OTJs the teacher has considered *evidence from multiple sources*.

The following is a summary of how our students were achieving on entry to Term 1:

LEARNING AREA	Y. 7 Girls Entry: EL. 3ii - L3ii	Y. 7 Boys Entry: EL. 3ii - L3ii	Year 8 Girls Entry: L3ii - EL4ii	Year 8 Boys Entry: L3ii - EL4ii	Whole School
READING	76%	59%	67%	63%	66%
WRITING	71%	49%	71%	44%	58%
MATHS	56%	57%	57%	66%	59%

Our focus for 2024 is on strengthening Writing practices and student achievement, particularly for boys, while also continuing to build competency in Mathematics. We will keep you posted throughout the year on progress; you will receive a written report in Week 2 of Term 3, with a second student learning conversation scheduled on 31st July.

You can support your child at home by encouraging them to read for pleasure (20 minutes before bedtime is ideal), learn their basic facts thoroughly and understand decimals (measurement in cooking is a great context for this), and writing for a variety of purposes (eg emails, letters, journal/diary writing; using correct spelling, grammar and punctuation).

Important Community Event: 'behind the screens' presentation for parents 14th May 6.00 pm - 7.00 pm

IMPORTANT COMMUNITY EVENT

We would like to invite all the whānau of our community to this event.

behind the screens

PRESENTATION FOR PARENTS

Keeping children safe online

Helping families understand how young people are using technology today

Hosted by one of Attitude's youth experts, this presentation will give you the insights you need to set healthy boundaries at home and to raise happy, safe and resilient children. Topics include social media, gaming, screen time, mental and social development.

When: 6-7pm on Tuesday 14th May 2024
Where: Morrinsville Intermediate School Hall
Cost: Koha (donation)

attitude®
attitudenz

With the increasing presence and popularity of social media we are all aware this has brought a myriad of problems.

MIS works really hard to educate our tamariki about keeping safe on various digital platforms, however, we are seeing behaviours beyond school impacting on school.

We have a student presentation by 'Attitude NZ' (education group) planned for Tuesday May 14th. For students this will include the topic of social skills, friendships, bullying and resilience.

Following this we have organised the group to run a presentation for the whānau and friends of our community around how whānau can help their young people navigate the adolescent years in a rapidly changing world.

We would love for anyone in the community to come along and listen in the hope that they take away some valuable information and strategies that will help them to support their children and the youth of our community.

Watch the promotional video to find out more:

<https://youtu.be/15XLNlzaXtA?si=TLlb3IQz19969Qep>

Please keep this date free, and invite your friends and neighbours to join us. Entry will be by koha (to help offset the cost to our school).

MI Mates Easter Raffle:

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our MI Mates Easter Hamper Raffle, in total \$5,962.00 was raised towards heat pumps for the hall. Fantastic effort!

Congratulations to the following lucky hamper winners: Jenna Trotter, Cassandra, Lloyd Smith, Caroline Tahere, Bruce Dewhurst.

A special congratulations to our top sellers for their exceptional efforts - you are awesome!!

1st Paige Graham, 2nd Charlotte Bigham, 3rd Fern Fisher, 4th Peyton West.



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 **plain black school shoes and plain black socks (no coloured soles, laces or logos)**. We recommend leather or vinyl school shoes as they are more weather tight and longer-lasting than canvas shoes.

In 2022 we introduced an additional item to the winter uniform. Plain black track pants can now be worn as an **OPTIONAL**, additional uniform item during Terms 2 and 3 (i.e. any brand providing they do not have large logos or additional colours). These can be worn to and from school and during the day. Students must wear their royal blue polo shirt to and from school, not their navy PE shirt (apart from after Friday sport where they are permitted to wear PE uniform home)

Students may wear any style of **plain black shoes** that are suitable for school i.e. plain black sneakers are accepted (no boots or high tops) along with any style of black socks. Girls who choose to wear our uniform skirt may wear either navy, black socks or black stockings.

Students will still need their PE shorts for sports and class PE.

Please remember to clearly name all uniform items so they can be returned to their owner if left around the school.



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 outside as part of the winter uniform in Terms 2 & 3. Non-regulation rain jackets may be worn on wet days to / from school, but not within school.

We also have school beanies which are permitted to be worn during Terms 2-3. They are available from either our school office for \$10, or from Harry's (on Thames Street).

In summary, we encourage our students to wear their uniform with pride, always, as it reflects the high standards we have for our tamariki, both in and out of the classroom.



Photo of uniform items from our school prospectus

Sports - what have we been up to this term:

As we wrap up the term our students have enjoyed 'plentiful sporting opportunities'. We had Waikato Touch, Waikato Volleyball and Northern Districts Cricket in school to work with our students on basic skills around these sporting codes. Next term we hope to have Waikato Badminton and Waikato Golf come in to run some taster sessions as well.

Lunchtimes have been full of action too with our Sports Councillors all running a different lunchtime sport each week which all tamariki have the opportunity to join in.

This term we also saw our first ever Ultimate Frisbee team compete in the Hamilton Intermediate Competition - we didn't win any games, however, our team was acknowledged with the fair play award as their sportsmanship and attitude each game was excellent. Thanks to the parents for their support, and for driving the school van over to Hamilton each week.



Kyla Butcher (Teacher in Charge)

School Fees and Donations:

Our School Board has opted into the School Donations Scheme for 2024 which is available to schools in Decile 1-7 to help cover costs historically incurred by families. The School Board does not require families to pay fees towards day-to-day operations. However, we do ask that a fee of \$40 is payable to cover the cost of the take home component for Hard Materials and Art. Despite the increasing cost of materials to the school the Board is mindful of ensuring we keep the fees as low as possible and so will not be increasing the fee this year.

Hat fee: a fee of \$10 is charged to all school families for the use of the school hat (worn in Terms 1/4). The fee covers some of the purchase cost and also the laundering costs.

Families are welcome to pay the \$50.00 from now on. Our school bank account number is: 06-0369-0928976-00. Please include your child's name and 'school fees' as a reference. **All families who pay the \$50 fees by the end of Term One, will go in the draw to win a \$100 grocery voucher.** Alternatively, families are welcome to set up an automatic payment to pay the fees off.

There are some things that will still require payment by parents e.g. out-of-hours music tuition, sports teams, and overnight camps (which are all voluntary extra-curricular activities).


Vandalism to our school trampolines:

It was very sad to see destructive acts of vandalism done to both our two school trampoline mats last weekend making them no longer usable. Our school works hard to provide great facilities for our students (and the wider community) just to see these abused after hours. I appeal to you to ensure any information regarding this is reported immediately (phone or email us). Thank you to those of you who use our school facilities with respect after hours and keep a watchful eye on our grounds/equipment. The matter has now been handed over to the Police.

School Term Dates:

Term One: Wednesday 31st January to Friday 12th April
Term Two: Monday 29th April to Friday 5th July
Term Three: Monday 22nd July to Friday 27th September
Term Four: Monday 14th October to Tuesday 17th December

Calendar Events:

 MIS Term One Calendar [Click the link on the left to access the Term One calendar.](#)

Term One:

Thur 11th April School disco 7pm to 9pm (school hall)
Fri 12th April Last day Term 1 (normal time of 3.00 p.m.)

Term Two:

Mon 29th April First day of Term 2
Tues 30th April RSA Speaker in school (ANZAC Day)
Thur 2nd May Topehaehae trip to Te Miro
Tues 7th May II Football
Tues 7th May Lit Quiz 6pm
Tues 14th May Attitude Performance for all students (cybersafety and good online practices)
Tues 14th May Community Event: 'behind the screens' presentation for parents 14th May 6.00 pm
Wed 15th May BOT Meeting 6.30pm
15th - 16th May Marae visits
Fri 17th May Pink Shirt Day
Tues 21st May Writer presentation (Des Hunt)
Tues 28th May II Hockey
Wed 29th May National Young Leaders Day (Student Exec.)
Thur 30th May II Visual Arts
Mon 3rd June **King's Birthday (Public Holiday)**
Tues 4th June **Teacher Only Day (curriculum)**
Tues 11th June II Futsal
Wed 12th June Japan Tour Group meeting Cambridge Middle School 6.00pm
Thurs 13th June II Chess
Tues 18th June II First XV Rugby
Wed 19th June Tough Guy & Girl Challenge
Thurs 20th June BOT Meeting 6.30pm
Tues 25th June II Basketball
Thurs 27th June Piako Cultural Festival
Fri 28th June **Matariki (Public Holiday)**
Thurs 4th July School Cross Country
Thurs 4th July School Disco
Fri 5th July Last day of Term 2

2024 Teacher Only Days:

The following MOE dates have now been approved by the Board as Teacher Only Days for work on Te Mātaiaho / NZC Refresh:

1. Tuesday 4th June (Week 6 after King's Birthday).
2. Friday 25th October (end of Week 2 before Labour Day).

Please visit our school website www.mi.school.nz Like us on facebook and download our free Skool Loop App to keep up-to-date with school activities and events.