



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 2 Week 3 Newsletter 2025

Kia ora e te whānau, nau mai haere mai ki te pānui Wiki Toru.

A warm welcome to our new students who have joined us this term: Slade, Sehajleen, and Kiara - we hope you enjoy your learning at MIS, make new friends, and grasp the myriad opportunities available to you.

Unfortunately given the time of the year when farm changeovers soon happen, we will also be farewelling one of our students: Charlie, we wish you all the very best for your shift and at your new school.

It has been another two busy, but great, weeks at MIS since our last newsletter - our new Tipuake Carving programme got underway last Tuesday with a pōwhiri held to welcome our master carvers from Hamilton. The programme, with nine Year 8 boys involved, is based on Te Ao Māori which reconnects tamariki to their heritage and culture through karakia, purakau, tikanga, kotahitanga, whakaponono and aroha. The programme spans 8-10 weeks and is being held on a Tuesday afternoon. We look forward to seeing the carvings evolve, and the wider outcomes achieved.

Winter sports have begun in earnest - it is great to see so many of our students getting involved as sports help to develop resilience, sportsmanship, perseverance, responsibility, etc. I'd like to say a huge thank you to all coaches, managers and parents/whānau for your support throughout the season as it is a big job! Can I please ask that you remind your child/ren that when they commit to playing for a team, that they also commit to turning up to training and to putting in a solid effort; this is part of the commitment they make as a team player. It is disappointing to hear at times that some of our students are not wanting to put the effort in, or even turn up to training, yet expect to play. I look forward to getting around to watch our tamariki in action throughout the winter season.

This week is Support Staff appreciation week. We have a fantastic team at MIS who certainly go above and beyond to help our tamariki, as well as contributing to the successful running of our school. We appreciate all you do. Miharo mahi!

Last Friday we had a non-uniform day as part of demonstrating Whakawhanaungatanga - doing the best for our community. All students who participated brought along a food item which we donated to Ezekiel Trust Food Bank; they really appreciated our surprise visit! Well done to the Student Executives who helped support this cause (and do a lot of sorting and categorising of food).

Tomorrow we farewell Miss Lyndsay Oldham who is going on maternity leave; we wish you all the best Lyndsay and know that you will be such a great mum.

Finally, I hope all our mums, or mother figures in our lives enjoyed a Happy Mothers Day last Sunday!

Kind regards

Jenny Clark
(Principal)

Featuring in today's newsletter:

Rangatiratanga Award
Gold for Glory
Attendance Award
Lockdown 'Debrief'
Pink Shirt Day (tomorrow)
II Football
School Production
New Zealand Curriculum Refresh - Reporting to Parents
Parents Portal
Police Blue Light Event
Helping your child learn from home (Maths)
Morrinsville College Enrolments for 2026
Term Dates 2025
Term Two Calendar



Student Execs sorting and delivering the food bank donations

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 Responsibility in Weeks 1 and 2:

Congratulations to the following students from Week 1: Taitum P1, Isaiah P2, Peyton P3, Nyree P4, Bella P5, Grayson T1, Ariana T2, Liam T3, William T4, Helaena W1, Joss W2, Skye W3, Levi W4, Peyton P3 Science, Mikayla W2 Food Tech, Zack W2 Hard Materials, Giglio T1 Art.

Congratulations to the following students from Week 2: Thomas P1, Rex P2, Raewyn P3, Mandus P4, Mishka P5, Harman T1, Laura T2, Bri T3, Payton T4, Isla W1, Tegan W2, Curtis W3, Jessica W4, Scarlett W1 Science, Laksha P2 Food Tech, Rex P2 Hard Materials, Indie P4 Art, Eesha T4 Performing Arts.

Gold For Glory: At each assembly students are recognised by the principal for showing initiative, or going the extra mile by demonstrating our school vision, motto and values. The recipients in Week 1 were: Heath T2 and Cooper P2. The recipient in Week 2 was Prince T4. Well done!

Attendance Award: Congratulations to Mia Graham (Week 1) who was the recipient of the \$10 attendance voucher. All students who obtained 100% attendance in Week 1 were in the draw.

Please remember it is important for students to have days off only for justified reasons (illnesses, bereavements; not shopping, haircuts, long weekends, birthdays etc please). Thanks for your support.

Lockdown Practice (Drill) Debrief:

Last Thursday we held our Lockdown Practice (drill) which went to plan. Prior to the practice the students were taught the three 'Ls':

- Lock (doors and windows)
- Lights out (+ TV screens and devices)
- Lie flat on your tummy and remain silent until instructed otherwise

Your child should have brought home an 'after lockdown practice' notice which outlined some key information. In the event of a real emergency the following communication will occur:

1. Our website will be updated regularly to keep you informed of the situation; this will be the main source of information
2. An emergency text notification will be sent out to all parents/caregivers (using the phone numbers in our database; please ensure your numbers are always kept updated)
3. A school-wide email will be sent to all parents/caregivers (using the information in our database; please keep us updated if your details change)

During the year we will continue to practise our emergency procedure exercises to ensure all staff and students remain familiar with them. Should you become aware of a lockdown or an evacuation at the school, can I please ask that **you do not** come onto the school site or try to phone us, as we will not be able to respond. Your presence or contact may make it more difficult for us or the emergency services to manage a situation. Any information pertaining to an emergency occurring at the school will be updated on our website as regularly as possible.

We believe that it is important that we conduct regular practices for lockdowns and evacuations so that we can all be well prepared and familiar with our procedures should an emergency occur.

Pink Shirt Day 2025:

Morrinsville Intermediate School is joining the movement on Pink Shirt Day tomorrow (Friday 16 May), and we encourage our students and staff to Kōrero Mai, Kōrero Atu, Mauri Tū - Speak up, Stand Together, Stop Bullying!

Pink Shirt Day works to reduce bullying by celebrating diversity in all its forms and supporting schools, workplaces and communities to be safe, supportive, welcoming and inclusive for everyone.

There is **no cost** to students, this is a day to promote awareness. This is a non-uniform day, providing students are wearing predominantly pink (no face paint please). You can learn more about Pink Shirt Day here: www.pinkshirtday.org.nz



Inter-Intermediate Football:

On Tuesday, 6th May, our girls' and boys' II football teams headed to Jansen Park in Hillcrest for the day to compete in the annual Inter-Intermediate competition against other intermediate and middle schools from around the Waikato.

This is always a tough competition, both teams played competitively and demonstrated great determination, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

A big thank you to their coaches and all the parents for their support!



Our Term 2 School Production: 1841

110 of our students are involved in our school production this term, and our rehearsals are well under way! This is an original production written by two of our staff members that delves into the early history of New Zealand.

1841 is a tale of two families and the merging of cultures following the signing of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, where the conflicts and connections arising during migration are explored. The production illustrates the richness of Matariki celebrations, where hope and renewal bring the families together.

Don't miss this unforgettable voyage of broken dreams, resilience, and the ties that unite us all. Tickets will be on sale from Wednesday 4th June and can be purchased from the school office. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for primary/intermediate aged students and \$2 for preschoolers.



New Zealand Curriculum Refresh: Reporting to Parents:

As you will be aware, the New Zealand Curriculum is undergoing a 'refresh' with our students being introduced to the new, knowledge-rich Mathematics and Statistics Curriculum. This means we are currently changing from the old to the refreshed curriculum. For us, this means we are using some new teaching and learning resources (school-wide maintenance programme, PR1ME Maths, and continuing to use Maths Whizz). Our students will therefore become exposed to some new content.

It is important to understand that change, and adaptation, takes time; this year is a transition year for both our teachers and students. Our teachers are working incredibly hard to establish new routines and processes in their teaching and I applaud them for their dedication and commitment to implementing these changes. I have had a lot of positive feedback from our ākonga (learners) who are enjoying the more structured approach, and for most, the use of PR1ME resources.

Reporting to Parents: The curriculum changes mean that the achievement expectations have changed. Our teachers have already begun composing the mid-year report. MIS will continue to report as we have historically because we have not had adequate time to teach enough new content to make accurate assessment judgements in relation to the new benchmarks. However, later in the year we aim to redesign our report to more closely align to the refreshed curriculum. What you may notice is that your child's achievement could change in terms of whether they are meeting expectations. I just wanted to alert you to this transition with reporting to parents as there is a lot of information being communicated by the government. I assure you we will keep you updated of any changes to reporting. If you have any questions please feel free to contact your child's teacher.

Parents / Whānau Portal:

A new webspace is available that provides practical videos, activities, and resources to support learning that is easy to understand – empowering whānau to take a more active role in their child's education.

The webspace includes 'parent-friendly' versions of both The New Zealand Curriculum and Te Marautanga of Aotearoa, so they'll know exactly what their child is learning, why it's important, and when they'll be learning it.

You can explore the new webspace and view the available resources here: [Parent Portal – Ministry of Education](#)

Police Blue Light Event:

On Thursday 8th May Alana, Henry, Preston and Kendal participated in a local event run by the Police in Te Aroha. They competed as a team against others in activities used as part of the training and fitness tests of the Police Force. Our students enjoyed the experience and we appreciate parental support on the day.



Helping Your Child Learn From Home: Maths

As you will be aware, Te Mahau (Ministry of Education) is working with schools to strengthen support with whānau to help tamariki (children) progress in their learning at home. The following ideas to build Maths capability include:



- Teach me a new card game we can play together.
- Let me show you my favourite app with some maths in it.
- Help me learn to estimate things, like how much things weigh, how long they are, the cost of our groceries, or how long it will take to travel to a certain place.
- Set up a reward system at home to encourage me to remember what I need to do.
- When we are driving or walking, play Launchpad with me. Spot a number, then use it as a launchpad for seeing how many combinations we can make with that number (for example, there's a 12 on a letterbox, that's 3×4 , 2×6 , $10 + 2$, $100 - 88$, and it's half of 24).
- Play online maths games with me.
- Keep playing with me, and encouraging me, in the games I'm learning, even though I'm not very good yet.
- Talk to me about the maths you use every day and at work.
- Show me the family budget and explain how you pay all the bills and save.
- Ask me to figure out how much change you should get back from a purchase. If I get the amount right, you might sometimes let me keep the change!
- Help me memorise facts (for example, forwards and backwards from 100, times tables or doubling and halving numbers).
- Ask me to help make dinner and talk about any maths involved, like halves, quarters, litres, grams, and temperatures. Get me to do any measuring or weighing that is needed.
- Show me graphs and tables in our newspaper and talk with me about what they mean.
- Tell me about games you played with your brothers and sisters, where you needed to use your maths skills.
- Have a games night at home where we play a board game together, like Monopoly, chess, backgammon or mah-jong.


Morrinsville College Enrolments for 2026:

Morrinsville College invites current Year 8s and their families to book an Enrolment Tour as an introduction to their school. The tours will start from their Performing Arts Centre (college hall) and session information is listed below. Each parent will be sent a personalized invitation (from the college), giving full information on booking online at www.schoolinterviews.co.nz, using the Event Code **bb5ba**.

Session dates and times: Tuesday 3rd June 4:30pm – 6:30pm and Thursday 5th June 4:30pm – 6:30pm

ERO Attendance Survey:

Researchers at the Education Review Office (ERO) are doing some research about school attendance. They want to hear your thoughts about what makes a difference. Please help by clicking on this survey link: [Parent and Whānau survey](#)

 MIS Calendar: FB/Newsletter Click the link on the left to access our school calendar.

Term Calendar Two events:

Friday 16th May	Pink Shirt Day
Tuesday 27th May	Inter-Intermediate Hockey
Thursday 29th May	Inter-Intermediate Visual Arts Day
Monday 2nd June	King's Birthday (Public Holiday)
Tuesday 3rd June	Teacher Only Day
Monday 9th June	Tough Girl / Tough Guy Comp
Tuesday 10th June	Inter-Intermediate Futsal
Wednesday 11th June	National Young Leaders Day
Wednesday 11th June	School Disco 7pm to 9pm
Thursday 12th June	Inter-Intermediate Chess
Friday 13th June	Piako Gymsports Festival
Tuesday 17th June	Inter-Intermediate 1st XV Rugby
Wednesday 18th June	Matariki Celebration Day
Thursday 19th June	Board Meeting 6.30pm
Friday 20th June	Matariki (Public Holiday)
23rd - 25th June	School production week
Friday 27th June	End of Term 2
Monday 14th July	First day Term 3



Food Tech's biggest cookie! Blake, Ryan and Kyle (W. 3)

2025 Teacher Only Curriculum Days:

Term Two:	Tuesday 3rd June (after King's Birthday).
Term Four:	Friday 24th October (before Labour weekend).