



VOGELTOWN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

WEEK NINE TERM ONE 2014

3rd April 2014 - NEWSLETTER NO 7

OUR VISION

For the land - For the People - Go forward
Maanaki Whenua - Maanaki Tangata - Haere Whakamua

OUR VALUES

To support our students to make the best choices they can, to become confident learners with the courage to seek a better world and aspire to heights beyond the horizon

Tena koutou katoa

TRIP TO CAPE LIGHTHOUSE

The trip to the rock pools, light house etc was fantastic. The kids were awesome and there was so much learning going on. There were great opportunities for the kids to climb on the rescue boat, chase crabs and explore. There has been some great learning back at school related to the trip. Thanks to all the organisers and to our wonderful parents who came along and helped out.



LEARNING CONFERENCES

The 2014 term one learning conferences were awesome. We had an excellent turnout of families. In fact, teachers have met with or contacted nearly every parent. Here at Vogeltown School we value the relationship between home and school, and ensuring that our Vogeltown children get a really good start to their educational career.

Thanks also to those who filled in the short survey's. Below are some of the results

1. All parents had a clear understanding of where their child/ren is at academically
2. And even better, all parents knew what the next steps in learning was for their child/ren
3. The majority of parents felt that 15 minutes was a good time frame to meet with the teacher - if you feel you need more time or would like to touch base again with your child's teacher, please make contact with us.
4. This table shows a ranking of what people think is important to know about their child at Vogeltown School. We also asked the children what they thought was important for you as parents to know about them at Vogeltown School. (1 has the highest ranking 10 has the lowest)

	2012 Parents	2014 Parents	2014 Senior children
1.	<i>Confidence at school</i>	<i>Confidence at school</i>	<i>Behaviour</i>
2.	<i>Behaviour</i>	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Confidence at school</i>
3.	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Behaviour</i>	<i>Friendships</i>
4.	<i>Maths</i>	<i>Relationship with the teacher</i>	<i>Reading</i>
5.	<i>Relationship with the teacher</i>	<i>Writing</i>	<i>Maths</i>
6.	<i>Writing</i>	<i>Maths</i>	<i>Relationship with the teacher</i>
7.	<i>Friendships</i>	<i>Friendships</i>	<i>Involvement in school activities</i>
8.	<i>Involvement in School activities</i>	<i>Involvement in school activities</i>	<i>Writing</i>
9.	<i>PE/Sport</i>	<i>ICT</i>	<i>PE/Sport</i>
10.		<i>PE/Sport</i>	<i>ICT</i>

TRYATHLON

Yesterday 64 keen Vogeltowners participated in the Weetbix TRYathlon at Ngamotu Beach. It was a fantastic event and a fantastic day. Well done to all the children and thanks very much to all parents and supporters that came along. Special thanks to Mr George for all the organisation leading up to, and on the day of the TRYathlon.



Welcome to Riley Hunt, Room 7, who started with us recently

FOUR YEAR OLD FRIDAYS

We have one more 'Four Year Old Friday' this term which is on tomorrow, April 4th 9 - 11.30am in the New Entrant classroom, Room 1. This is a good opportunity for children who will be starting at Vogeltown School to discover what it is like at school, to become familiar with simple school routines, and is a great way to begin transitioning. Parents will need to accompany children.

ENROLMENTS

If you know of anyone thinking of enrolling their children at Vogeltown, please contact us as soon as possible. It is useful to know who is coming here so we can manage our class numbers.



REMINDERS

➤ SWIMMING

At Vogeltown school we love swimming, but it is starting to chill down. The big kids are still swimming which is fantastic.

HATS

This term is the one that the sun beats down the hardest - please double check your child has a hat in their bag.



SCHOOL DONATIONS - PLEASE, PLEASE, HELP US OUT WITH THESE!

Vogeltown School offers a different structure for school donations. We have different options that you can choose from (guideline below). We have set it up this way so you can pay what you can best afford. Our thinking is, any money towards the school donation is greatly appreciated.

\$60 per single child and \$80 per family group

\$80 per single child and \$100 per family group

\$130 per single child and \$180 per family group

Please note that payments for donations may be made online:

Bank Account: 15-3955-0493446-00 (TSB Vogeltown)

Please reference: (Surname) Donation

SPORTS NEWS

HOCKEY

Registrations are open now. See Whaea Margi for information

SOCCER, BASKETBALL & MINIBALL

Registrations close tomorrow



HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

➤ FUNANZA FEEDBACK

The Home & School team would love to have your feedback about the Funanza. What did you like? What would you like to have more of? What would you change?

There are feedback forms at the junior and senior schools for you to fill in and return to us by end of Term One. Thank you.

➤ EASTER RAFFLE

Be in to win a Basket of Easter Goodies! Tickets will be on sale next week at the office. Tickets will be 50cents each.

This is another Home & School Committee fundraiser



HOMEWORK

Sometimes we are asked about homework, how much homework, what types of homework, what is the school policy on homework.

From the school perspective we believe that the very best homework is time spent with parents/caregivers having adventures, talking, going to sports practices, riding bikes, climbing trees.

We do like all kids to read, read, read with Mum or Dad, and there may be some finishing off to be completed, but Vogeltown children should come home full of learning for the day. Below is the school's policy re homework.

- *Any homework given must be relevant to the classroom programme, interesting and achievable by all pupils. It should support the work that is being done in the classroom and should be limited to spelling, tables' revision, research of a topic, catching up, reading etc. (It will not be given just for the sake of setting homework. Teachers must be consistent with the setting and marking of homework.)*
- *Junior School Pupils - Regular home reading, spelling when appropriate, collecting news and similar tasks are important for giving junior school children the opportunity to reinforce their class learning and to give parents an activity that they can work on with their children.*

Homework should at all times be relevant to the individual child's needs.

Ka kite ano

Mark Luff

Principal

WHAT'S ON	
FRIDAY 4TH APRIL	FOUR YEAR OLD FRIDAY - ROOM 1
THURSDAY 17TH APRIL	LAST DAY OF TERM 1
VOGELTOWN SCHOOL CENTENARY (100 YEARS) -LABOUR WEEKEND 2015	

VOGELTOWN CENTENARY

Labour Weekend 2015 (23-25th October) will be our school centenary. Please spread the word and like our Vogeltown Centenary page on Facebook (there is also an email address on this page to register interest), and if you have any ideas to help make this event a success please let us know.

Board Matters



EARTHQUAKE STRENGTHING

Not much to report on the earthquake works this month. Behind the scenes the Business Intelligence Group (BIG) are recruiting the Structural Engineers and the Architects. Over the Easter holiday we expect the Structural Engineers and BIG to conduct some investigations behind the walls in both the hall and the Senior Syndicate classrooms. In terms of timeframes, at this stage we are expecting the construction works to begin in term 4 of this year.

ROLL GROWTH

It has been a busy start to the year particularly in our Junior School with 101 children, and 22 of these in room 1. To support our new entrants Jane Boot is working with room one. We are committed to keeping our class sizes as low as possible, and whilst we have more teaching resource, we have pressure on our learning spaces at the junior school. Be assured we are working very closely with the Ministry of Education, who also acknowledge that we need an extra learning space. If we all keep our fingers crossed we may be successful in securing an additional learning space at the junior school before the end of 2014.

WELBOURN SCHOOL ZONE

Welbourn School have advised that they will not be putting in a school zone.

ANNUAL PLAN AND ANNUAL BUDGET

The Annual Plan and Annual Budget process is now complete. The priorities for the year are Earthquake Works, Roll Growth and Learning Spaces, Policy and Planning, Maths achievement, Reading Recovery, Arts and Sport, ICT, Teacher Aides and Ka Hikitia Māori Student Achievement.

SPORT REVIEW

Sport and physical activity has been identified as a priority area of review this year. We want to know how we are doing as a school, whether our facilities and equipment are appropriate, how we support our children and our coaches. In short what are we doing well, and where could we do better? We plan to hold a meeting / workshop to kick start this process. If you are interested in sharing your voice and your views and supporting our efforts to improve physical activity opportunities at Vogeltown, please let Chris in the office know. Pop in, give her a call or send her an email at office@vogeltown.school.nz. We will then set a date for the meeting and we can get things moving. Please, be involved in this process and help shape the future of physical activity and sport for our kids and our school.

MODERN LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

In a 2011 survey, staff asked children about how they like to learn. The key feedback was children like to learn in spaces that were comfortable. As part of the teaching staffs recent observations of learning in other schools they saw lots of soft furnishings, furniture at different heights, and interesting furniture designs. The schools gave positive feedback about the difference this made for the children's learning. We think that attractive quality environments support children's learning, so we are beginning to introduce new and different furniture, first in our senior school, and then we hope to then roll this out across the school.

FINAL THOUGHTS

We look forward to welcoming Nathan Ransfield to room 11 at the beginning of term 2.

Warm thanks to our wonderful Home and School Committee for an amazing gala. A fantastic job! It was great to see our community coming together at this great event. THANK YOU.

Congratulations to the winning parent swim team at the Seniors Swim Gala. What an awesome job (I am not sure that Mr Luff will ever get over it :).

THE BIG ISSUES

Earthquake
strengthening

Roll growth and
accommodation

Sport Review

Modern Learning
Environments

NEXT MEETING (TERM 2)

Tuesday 20th
May, 7pm to
9pm, Senior
School Staff
Room.

Come along.

