



VOGELTOWN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER NO 1

WEEK ONE TERM ONE - 2nd FEBRUARY 2017

OUR VISION

Care For the land - Care For the People - Go forward
Manaaki Whenua - Manaaki 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

Kia ora Vogelton Whanau,

A huge welcome back to our Vogelton family and an even bigger welcome to the new members of our Vogelton whanau. It has been great to see the smiling faces back at Vogelton!

The dynamic staff at Vogelton have been working hard over the holidays to be prepared for a year of learning, fun and personal growth and it was great to see the classes begin on Tuesday with such excitement and enthusiasm! It is always nice to have the energy of the kids back in the school! We welcome these new families and kids to Vogelton for the start of 2017:



Hoani Murray, Madeline O'Connor, Quinn Hodgson, Katelyn Wang, Kaitlyn Taylor, Summer Bloemen, Kaleci Fraser, Elsie Matuku-Emile, Coyan Cudmore, Alyssa Smith Room 3, Nivek Madams Room 5, Kace Raven, Jack Sarjeant, Harlan Goodin Room 7, Chloe McEwan, Mena Raven, Zak Fougere Room 8, Craig Stephen, Kyla Erueti-Shotter, Tom Wilkinson Room 9, Felecia Shearer, Jacque Cox Room 11, Lleyton Goodin Room 13, Cameron Ponga Room 14

We begin the year with a school roll of 325, which is a big roll for this time of year and as a result some class sizes are a bit bigger than normal for Vogelton. Our new enrolment policy and zone will begin to take effect and help us to carefully manage the numbers in our classrooms and our school roll.

This year as a staff we are focusing on our reading programmes, reading strategies and continuing our focus on lifting the achievement of all learners at Vogelton through teacher and syndicate inquiries.

We pride ourselves at Vogelton on having a strong link and partnership with the home and there will be many opportunities during this term to catch up with your child's teacher to discuss their learning and progress, please make the most of these opportunities.

WELCOME BACK FROM THE VOGELTON BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Welcome back to Term 1 2017 at Vogelton School, especially our new families. We trust you had a wonderful break, filled with lots of family time and maybe a new adventure or two under your belt!



We remain committed and focussed in providing the best education possible for your children during their time at Vogelton. One tool we have had to implement is a School Enrolment Scheme (aka zone). This is to help manage our roll (which has grown significantly over the last few years), protect our current families by avoiding overcrowding, and to look after our assets including staff, buildings and teaching resources. This has been a time consuming process for us, but a worthwhile one knowing we have our school community's best interests at heart.

As part of our accountability and transparency to the Ministry of Education we will be visited by ERO sometime this year. This is a 3 - 4 yearly external audit that looks into our teaching practices, management, leadership and of course student achievement. The constructive feedback we receive from ERO aids us in fine tuning what we do at Vogelton and keeps us looking forward.

Take a deep breath everyone, this term is packed full of all sorts of school events so make sure you keep up to date through the weekly newsletter, class teacher, Facebook or our website.

Regards

Linda Agar - Chair, Vogelton School Board of Trustees

CONGRATULATIONS

A huge congratulations to Mrs Irving and her husband Blake on the arrival of their son Beau. Beau arrived fit and well on New Year's Eve - much to the delight of his parents! It was great to see Mrs Irving and Beau on Monday when he came for a visit!



SCHOOL GOAL

Our school goal for the next 3 weeks is 'Positivity'. We have had a great positive start to the term and we want this positivity to continue all year. Positivity is brought to school in your attitude - this attitude determines how your day is going to be. It has been great to see all the positive faces and attitudes over this week, well done whanau!



TERM 1 CALENDAR – Chuck all these dates in your diary or your phone! Remember to check the school calendar on our school website. We will put all updates on the school facebook page and school website.



3 Feb Whole School Assembly (Rm 8)
6 Feb WAITANGI DAY - School closed
7 Feb Meet the Teacher evening (Junior Syndicate - classes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) 6pm. Meet in Rm 1
8 Feb Meet the Teacher evening (Middle Syndicate - classes 7, 9, 11, 13). Meet in the Library
9 Feb Meet the Teacher evening (Senior Syndicate - classes 8, 10, 12, 14). Meet in the library
10 Feb Vogeltown Adventure! Walk from the Wind Wand to Ngamotu Beach.
14 Feb BoT Meeting 6pm
15 Feb Vogeltown Whanau picnic @ the Junior School 5.30pm
16 Feb Senior Camp meeting, In the Library 6pm
17 Feb Whole School Assembly (Rm 11)
22 Feb Whanau Triathlon day
23 Feb Senior Triathlon 9am, Middles Triathlon 11.30am, Junior Triathlon 2.00pm
24 Feb Four year old Friday 9.30 - 11.30am in Rm 3
24 Feb Kindy triathlon 11.30am at the Junior school
1 - 3 March Senior Camp at Vertical Horizons
1 March Middles swimming demonstration 11.30am
1 March Juniors swimming demonstration 1.30pm
10 March Whole School Assembly (Rm 1 and 2)
13 March TARANAKI ANNIVERSARY - School closed
17 March Four Year Old Friday 9.30 - 11.30am in Rm 3
20 March Senior Syndicate Swimming sports @ Highlands Intermediate 10am
21 March BoT meeting 6pm
23 March Vogeltown FUNANZA!
24 March Whole School Assembly (Rm 10)
29 MArch Weetbix Tryathlon (at Ngamotu Beach)
30 March Learning Conferences 3.30 - 7.00pm
31 March Learning Conferences 9.00 - 3.30pm (School closed on this day)
5 April 'Starting school the VS way' evening for new families, 5-6pm in Rm 3
7 April Four Year Old Friday 9.30 - 11.30am in Rm 3
13 April Last day of Term 1 2017
14 April GOOD FRIDAY - School closed.

SWIMMING AT VOGELTOWN

We are very lucky at Vogeltown to have a school pool - a lot of schools are getting rid of their pools. We will be using the pool everyday to help the kids with water confidence, water skills and enjoying the chance to be in the water on our hot summer days, hopefully summer arrives soon! Seniors go in the morning, the middle syndicate in the middle block and the juniors in the afternoon. Please make sure the kids have their togs packed each day over this term.

Pool keys will be available once again over the term. These are available from the senior school office at a cost of \$45 (\$5 back once the key is returned at the end of the term). There is a 'pool user agreement' that must be signed by the person taking the key, please read this agreement carefully. The pool can be used by all Vogeltown families over the term after school hours and at weekends.



VOGELTOWN SCHOOL PICNIC

The traditional Vogeltown School picnic is on February 15th. It will begin at about 5.30pm and we will be having it at the junior school. This is a nice way to start the year, get to meet other Vogeltown families and have tea in our wonderful school grounds with the kids. There will be the traditional 'tug o war' happening and we will have the massive school BBQ with Mr George cooking if you want to bring some meat and chuck it on the grill!



MEET THE TEACHER EVENINGS

As part of effort to make a strong partnership with parents and teachers we are having 'Meet the teacher evenings' next week run over 3 nights. These nights are a chance for you to meet your child's teacher, go into the classroom and hear a bit about what will be happening in your child's room. We had a good turn out last year and we encourage you to make the most of this opportunity to meet with your child's teacher.

By running this over 3 nights, it leaves other Vogeltown teachers free to look after your kids whilst you are in the classroom with your child's teacher. The meeting will not run for any longer than 15 minutes.

We will meet as a whole syndicate first and then go off to the individual rooms with your child's teacher.

The **Junior syndicate night** is on Tuesday 7th February at 6pm – meeting in Rm 1

The **Middle Syndicate night** (Rms 7, 9, 11, 13) is on Wednesday 8th February at 6pm – meet in the library

The **Senior Syndicate night** (Rms 8, 10, 12, 14) is on Thursday 9th February at 6pm – meet in the library.



SUNSMART SCHOOL

I know that the weather is not too flash at the moment, however, once the weather does get hotter and sunnier, we will be asking kids to wear their 'bucket hats' whenever they are outside. We have Vogeltown hats on sale at the office (even in the new colours!) for \$12 each. Kids who do not wear a hat at break time will be asked to sit in the shade. Also, each classroom has a bottle of sunscreen. We ask that the middle and senior kids apply this themselves when venturing outside.



THE 'VOGELTOWN ADVENTURE'

This is a 'beginning of the year' tradition for Vogeltown and is based around our topic of study. At present the whole school is studying 'water', we have called it 'Ako o te wai'. To tie in with this study we are going to take the whole Vogeltown family (all 350 of us!) for an adventure along the foreshore starting at the Wind Wand and finishing at Ngamotu beach where we will have some activities set up. There will be a permission form coming home for this adventure - this must be read and signed. We are going next Friday the 10th February, leaving school at 9.30am and returning at 2pm.



SENIOR SYNDICATE CAMP 2017

The senior syndicate are nervous but also excited about the upcoming camp at Vertical Horizons. We are taking approximately 100 children, 20 parents and 4 teachers. Mr Ogle will also join us for much of the camp. We have organised an information evening for parents to tell you all more about what happens at camp and to answer any questions or concerns you may have. This will be held in the **Library at the Senior School on 16th February at 6pm.**



WEETBIX TRYATHLON



The Weetbix TRYathlon is on Wednesday 29th March 2017 at Ngamotu Beach. If your child wants to enter, Mr George has permission forms that need to be filled out and returned by 27th February 2017. You can also register your child online and link them to the school. The cost is \$37.00 per child if you register before 27th Feb. Children have to be 7 years or older as at 29th March. It is a great event to be part of and we want as many Vogeltowners as possible to 'Give it a go'. Check it out on try.weetbix.co.nz

WHAT HAVE THE VOGELTOWN STAFF BEEN UP TO OVER THE HOLIDAYS?

All the Vogeltown Staff have written a little blurb about what they got up to over the holidays! Mr Stirling even added a video!! Have a read:

Mrs Treadway	Grand parents out from South Africa for 4 weeks so time spent showing them around Taranaki - Pukeiti, Walkway, Ngamotu beach kayaking, Camping at Onaero - fishing and kayaking up the river and trying to find some SUN!!!
Mrs Oliver	Moving to my new classroom. Spending time with family. Going backwards and forwards to Tauranga and Taupo. Lovely 5 days in Akaroa with my Mum and two sisters. Looking forward to my littlies this year!
Mrs Newland	Holidays for me, are a time to rest, relax at home and spend time with family and friends. I didn't venture far from New Plymouth. I did lots of walking and took every opportunity I could to spend precious time with my grandchildren. My eldest son has been back on holiday from Melbourne so its been great spending time with him. I have had fun setting up Room 3 and am looking forward to welcoming new 5 year olds into school.
Miss Kling	My holidays were filled with spending lots of time with family and friends. I went away to Mount Maunganui and Auckland, where there was actually some sun to go outside and spend time at the beach! I also did lots of walks and tramps around New Plymouth when the weather was nice.
Mrs Harold	My husband and I went to Napier and caught up with lots of 'old' friends. Disappointingly, my only shopping purchases were tracksuit pants and a sweatshirt because it was freezing!
Mrs Stone	Katie - Had great holidays! Spent 2 weeks in Christchurch with the Stone family. Lots of laughs and special cousin time for the kids (15 under 8 years old...eek!!). Then home to lots of DIY jobs around the house.
Mrs Sleep	A quiet Christmas, new year in Auckland with family then a very busy last 3 weeks sorting my Dad's house and sheds at Urenui.
Mr George	I had a great holiday. Spent Christmas here in New Plymouth with family. Then we went out to our caravan at Urenui Beach Camp. We painted the outside (which needed doing) and replaced the carpet in the awning. It looks great. We also went to the Wairarapa and spent two nights in Martinborough, two nights at Castle Point and two nights in Ngawi. This is a great part of the country - really rugged and remote. We climbed up to two lighthouses, Castle Point and Cape Palliser and went fishing and snorkelling near Ngawi. I'm looking forward to 2017 and lots of learning and fun.