ESKDALE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER December 2024

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome to the final newsletter of 2024. This year has been an absolute cracker with many highlights most of which wouldn't have been possible without the support of you, the parents. The ones that help transport, go on camps, coach sports teams, help in classrooms and the ones who help with fundraising so that we can afford to make these opportunities happen. Thank you.

In amongst the wide variety of opportunities offered for our learners we have continued to focus on the core areas of learning. This has resulted in over 86% of our students from across the school in 2024 working at or above their expected curriculum level for English and Math. We are proud of this result and the community should be too. Thank you to the teaching team for your caring, focused approach to support our learners achieve this result.

Looking ahead to 2025: As this year accelerates towards an end we look ahead to 2025. As shared in the last newsletter the school structure does look different next year. Below are the classes and teaching team:

Deputy Principal's are Mike Moriarty and Tineke Hill

Phase 1

New Entrant Class - Weka - Sue Stilwell

Year 1 Class - Kotare - Mike Moriarty & Emma Lantsbury

Year 2 Class - Korimako - Debbie Bramwell

Year 2/3 Class - Tui - Jo Drager

Year 2/3 Class - Ruru - Isaac James



Moving Rooms: As shared in the last newsletter, most of our classes will begin the 2025 year in the new classroom block. They will begin moving next week so that the temporary classrooms are empty and can be removed over the summer break to make way for a new astro-turf court. The old Year 7/8 classroom block adjacent to the new carpark will also be emptied so that work can begin converting this to a new office/administration block over the summer break too. You are all welcome to join us for a blessing of the new building on Monday, 9 December at 5.30am (more information further in the newsletter). **Year 8 Camp:** Two weeks ago our Year 8 students headed for Rotorua on camp. It was three nights and four action packed days for the students, the teachers and the parent helpers. I managed to get up and join in some of the activities including the MKR cooking competition, where clearly the students had been practising as there were some delicious meals. It was a hard competition to judge, made even more challenging by Miss Rodda's complex scoring system and in the end two teams took out the coveted prize as MKR champs. I also timed my trip to take on the students at the luge however after a few team tactics from the students and Joel nudging me off the track it was Joel that showed the most speed and skill to win. The students also visited the Redwoods night walk, Waimangu Valley, 3D Art Gallery and played lawn bowls. There were also endless amounts of time swimming in the onsite pool and playing touch rugby. I could not have been more proud of how the students represented our school and themselves during their time away. Who knew you could take 30 year eight students to Countdown Rotorua so they could work in their teams to buy their groceries for MKR and come away with only compliments from the other shoppers and storeworkers. I'm sure this years Year 7's will already be looking forward to their chance next year. SCHOOL CLOSED TO ALL VISITORS AND WORKERS: Due to Asbestos removal, wrapping and disposal, the school will be closed to everyone from Saturday, 21 December 2024 to Friday, 10 January 2025.



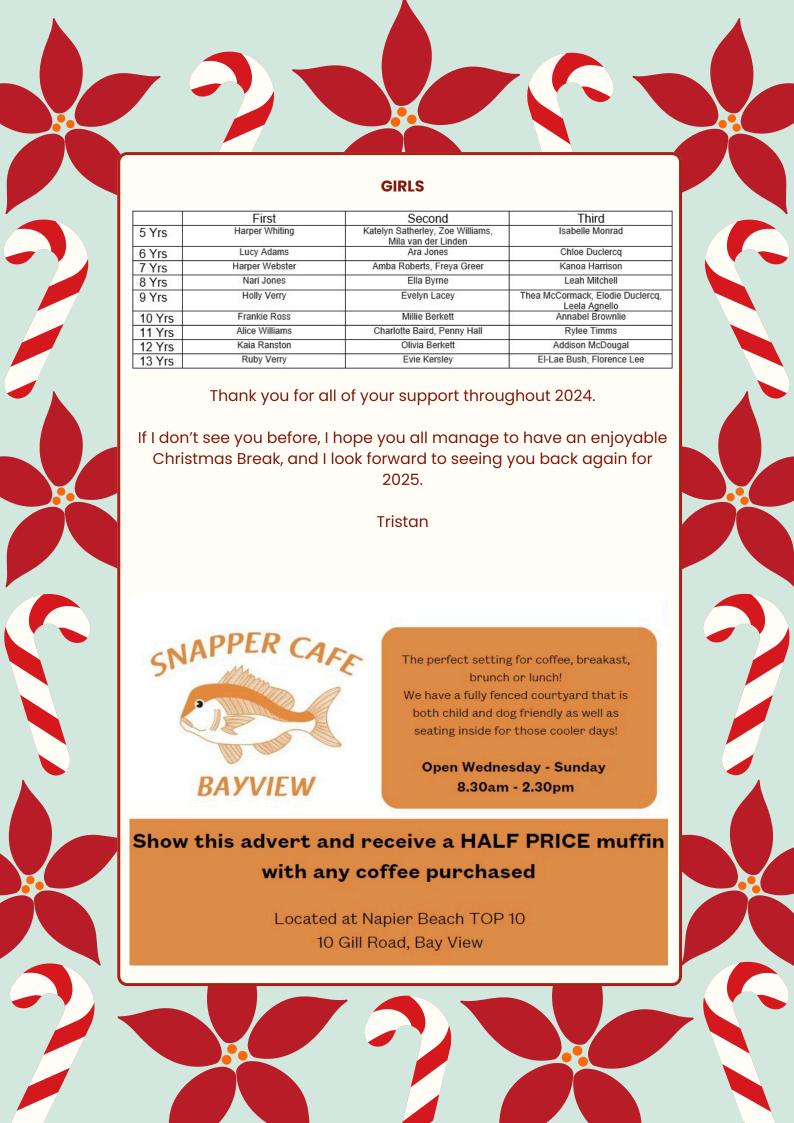
Napier 150 Years: On Thursday last week a group of our House Leaders went along to the 150 Years celebrations for Napier at the Sound Shell. The students received a Kowhai Tree from the Mayor to plant at school as part of this celebration. Interestingly, whilst celebrating 150 Years in Napier our school recently ticked over the 165 year mark.

School Athletics: It was fantastic seeing the students take to the running track and different field events on Athletics Day. The awesome weather was only matched by the positive attitudes on display and the support the students showed to their classmates taking on the events. It was great that we could use the Long Jump pit and having the High Jump back was a bonus (thanks for transporting the mats Bronwyn). Also thank you to everyone who supplied a gazebo for the day. The teacher team managed to retain the bragging rights over the students in the student v teachers relay and managed to do this without any injuries. Congratulations to Rimu House who took out the Athletics House Competition.

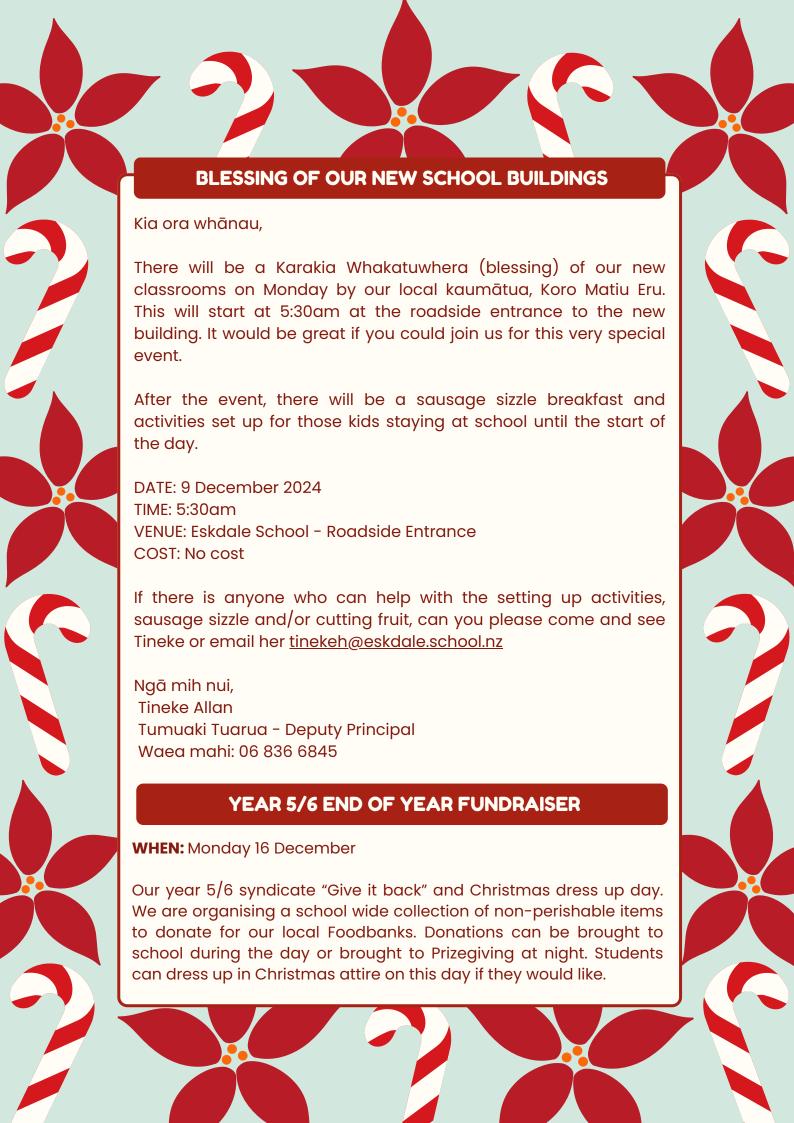
Well done to our age group champions below:

BOYS

	First	Second	Third
5 Yrs	Jake McCarthy	Flynn Lacey	Hartree Holt, Obi Stevens
6 Yrs	Zakeil Pepper	Tamati Froneman-Dehar	Carter Pell
7 Yrs	Clyde Parris	Liam Fisher	Asher Hall
8 Yrs	Amor Parris	Max Dawson	Blair Satherley, Max Williams
9 Yrs	Reid Kersley	Leo Howard, Archie Stevens	Cooper Pell
10 Yrs	Owen Ranston	Adam Satherley	Leon Moriarty
11 Yrs	Jackson Barnes	Kupa McLean	Chase Hill
12 Yrs	Akio Crofskey	Braxton Scott	Colton Bennett
13 Yrs	Yoshi Bowcock	Baxtar MacInnes	Lacelle Sumner







YEAR 3/4 FUNDRAISER THANKS



Our Year 3/4 syndicate held a fundraiser for the SPCA at the beginning of the term. They would like to thank everyone for their generous donations, they raised \$186.00 for the Napier SPCA and also got some lovely animal toys. A big thank you to everyone who contributed. Thanks Tima Koru

SPORTS UPDATE



On the weekend we went to Gisborne to compete in the Hawkes Bay Poverty Bay Long Course Swimming Championships at the Kiwa Pools. We swam in a 50m pool and were part of the Napier Aquahawks swimming team of 13. There were 207 competitors from 12 different clubs from across the North Island who raced in 47 events. In total, the three of us got four medals and five ribbons in butterfly, backstroke, freestyle and breaststroke races. Our Aquahawks team did very well as we were one of the smallest teams there but managed to bring home lots of medals and ribbons.

The best part of the weekend was getting to compete against different clubs and watching the senior swimmers who are really fast.

Ben Torrens, Rylee & Tayla Timms



