

# WESTERN HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL

## TE KURA O WHAKAAHU

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Rotorua 3015  
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Principal  
Brent Griffin



### A note from the Principal:

September Newsletter 10/24



Thank-you to all the families who completed the community survey. Your thought and opinions are valued. Everyone who submitted a survey went into the draw to win a grocery voucher.

The winner was:  
the Hignett- Ngatai Whanau  
Congratulations

We have some big events coming up before the end of the term.

- 20 September Edgewater School Visit
- 23 September Mahuri Speech Final
- 24 September Kakano Olympic Values Day
- 25 September Mahuri, Kakano, Purapura Celebration Assembly
- 25 September Purapura Olympic Day
- 26 September Mahuri Olympic Day
- 27 September Fill the Bus movie Day

If you didn't know, Whaea Rachael was selected to represent New Zealand at the Marsters Hockey World Cup in South Africa. This is an amazing achievement. We wish her well, bring home the trophy.

The big news in education at the moment is the launch of the new Maths and English Curriculum mentioned in a previous newsletter. This is great news for Western Heights Primary School as we are well ahead of where we need to be, and we will be prepared for the 2025.

Structured Literacy has been a big focus for our kura for the past 3 years. Our journey is well established.

Maths poses a few new challenges but we are excited about the changes. Our only issue is the speed in which we have to implement the change. In total the time-frame is about 10 weeks. The new curriculums are only in draft form. Once confirmed, you will be informed of the changes. One big change will be how we grade and report student's achievement, it will be different to our current system.

Western Heights Primary School is a no tolerance to violence school.

We promote kindness, respect and care for each other.

Sadly some parents are promoting a different message. The level of aggression shown by some new entrant students is a worrying trend to see.

It is very difficult to ensure our school is safe, when parents are encouraging physical aggression as a way to sort out problems.

There is no other way to say it but this advice to 5 year old children, or any children is simply poor parenting.

If all families gave that advice imagine how difficult it would be to control.

Thankfully it is not huge numbers, but 1 child is too many.

If you have got it wrong, please talk to your children.

Nga Mihi

NB: School Gates Open at 8:30am every morning. If you require your tamariki to be on our school grounds before this, please get in touch with their classroom teacher directly to make arrangements.





**Habit Three:**  
Put First Things First. This means we spend our time doing things that are most important helping us become disciplined and organised.



**Te Kura o Whakaahu Habit 2 & 3 Heroes**

**Habit 2:**

Charlie Phelps, Ayla-Rose, Hori Rikiti, Luna-Louise, Lilith Howard Mills, Braxton Taig, Daarntaye Eru, Maddison Hura-Grooby, Manaia Wiremu, Khalē Haddad

**Habit 3:**

Tyson Thomas, Harmony-Leigh, Elijah Campbell, JJ Crease, Nixon Marsters, Daarntaye Eru, Kaylee Halliday, Harper Rodgers



**Habit Two:**  
Begin with the End in Mind. This means we plan ahead and set goals.



**Upcoming Events :**

Thursday September 19 : Mahuri Waka Olympics

Wednesday September 25 : Celebration Assemblies

Friday September 27 : End of Term Three

Monday October 14 : Start of Term Four



Seesaw is our real-time reporting and partnership tool. We report on student progress and achievement through Seesaw in real-time. We no longer have mid-year or end-of-year reports.

Please check out our school website for a step by step guide to signing in and user friendly information. If you have any issues or would like some one on one learning please contact Whaea Marnel in Room 5, she is happy to help.

We look forward to seeing whānau/parents and caregivers engaging and commenting on student progress via Seesaw.

**This week in Sport.....**

Congratulations to Matua Talor's basketball team who are in the play offs for 1st and 2nd in their grade.

Whaea Rachael's team are playing off for 3rd and 4th in the same grade. this coming Friday



Selections are also being made for a beach volley comp for week 10 annnnnnd forest run is next term.



We have 7 touch teams entered into next terms comp which is super exciting!



A Huge thankyou to Kathryn McAlonan from Arizto Real Estate who has teamed up with us to raise funds for camp and future events.

Simply list and sell your property with Kathryn and Arizto between 1st September 2024 and 1 December 2024 and the school will receive a \$1,000.00 donation from the sale. See the attached flyer for more details.



**FACT OF THE WEEK**

Day light Savings is just around the corner. On Saturday 29 September don't forget to wind your clocks forward one hour.s more light in the evening and less light in the morning. and reminds us we are getting closer to Summer



Don't forget we have 4 year old classes for those children getting ready to come to our kura. For further information call the office and speak with Whaea Teresa .



Our School Nurse is here Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. Please feel free to let us know if you would like them to check your tamariki while they are on site.



We are a water ONLY school..

Please support us by sending your tamariki to school with a Water Bottle



**Stay in touch :**



<http://www.whp.school.nz>



07 348 8459



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