17 March 2020

Kia ora/Greetings

Thank you!!

Our annual cultural parade, whilst proving to be a drought breaker, was also a wonderful success. The parade was held outside with significant community support and then continued with student performances in the hall, followed by a fantastic range of workshops for classes.

Thank you so much to the large number of parents and whanau that came to support our children. It was a very special day!



Parking around our school

Please be respectful when parking around our school. This means parking in appropriate spaces. An area that has caused a lot of concern lately is Somme Cres.

I have asked the council and police to work with the school to support our neighbours.

Online Learning

Our classroom teachers use Seesaw or Class Dojo to communicate online with families.

Have you signed up to these apps?

This is a very useful way of gaining an insight into classroom life and is another way to communicate with your child's teacher. It will also be very useful to have these apps installed if the school has to be closed in the future.

Hot Air Balloon Visit

On Thursday last week we were lucky enough to have Gail, who owns two balloons, come and visit. Gail brought her balloon Lollipop which has taken part in the balloon fiesta for many years, as well as an old balloon which the children were allowed to walk inside, touch and feel! This was an amazing experience for our school, seeing the balloon Lollipop being filled with cold air and then hot air using the gas burner!

A huge thank you to Mr Holm who organised the visit!



Knighton Junior Football Club

The Knighton Football club still has room for a few 5-6yr olds to join a team. This age group plays every Saturday morning at Galloway Park from 9am with the 1st game starting on 2nd May.

If you would like to enter your young ones into football please make contact with the club secretary Stephen Hine, on 027 472 6141 or via <u>email stephenhine@actrix.co.nz</u>



The bread tag story

Bread Tags for Wheelchairs was started in South Africa in 2006 by Mary Honeybun. It is a community program where individuals and organisations collect bread tags, which are sold to a South African plastics moulding company, Zibo. The bread tags are recycled and used in the manufacture of seedling trays. The money raised pays for wheelchairs for the less fortunate which are purchased through a local pharmacy.

Currently about 500kg of bread tags are collected a month in South Africa, funding 2-3 wheelchairs.

After many enquiries from New Zealanders about supporting this program, we opened a New Zealand 'branch' in early 2019. We are hoping to recycle the bread tags here, but so far we have not managed to find a recycler willing to take them. However, we are setting up a collection network for bread tags in New Zealand, and shipping them to South Africa for recycling in the meantime.

These humble bits of polystyrene can make a real difference so get your friends, family, workplace, church and local cafe involved it's really easy and does not cost you anything.

A collection container can be found at the smiley face window :)

Coronavirus

Schools are remaining open. The Ministry of Education still expects that children are to come to school.

The government has now created a 14 day self isolation rule for anyone returning to New Zealand (currently excluding the Pasific Islands).

I have met with the school cleaners and caretaker- we will be increasing the cleaning of surfaces and entry points.

The most important thing to do to remain well is to practice good preventative measures, particularly good hygiene:

- Washing hands with soap and water for 20 seconds before and after eating as well as after attending the toilet
- Covering coughs and sneezes with clean tissues or with an elbow
- Putting used tissues in the bin
- Encouraging staff and students to stay home if they are unwell

If you have the symptoms of the coronavirus, call Healthline on 08003585453

Symptoms include:

- fever
- coughing
- difficulty breathing.

If a child does come to school with a heavy cold, fever, sore throat or persistent cough we will ring home.

The school will post any updates immediately on our school app, facebook page and school website.

Ngā mihi nui

Stuart Armistead Principal