

NEWSLETTER

TO ENABLE OUR LEARNERS TO BE LIFELONG
ACHIEVERS WHO CAN THINK CREATIVELY
AND CRITICALLY AS PART OF A CARING
GLOBAL COMMUNITY.



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PRINCIPAL'S PRATTLE

Kia ora koutou,

One of the most common questions asked of educators is one that has its roots firmly based in technology. And it's a question that perhaps most, if not all of us, have grappled with either in real-time or just wondered about. Without giving away too much in terms of my age, the truth is that in the last twenty years our lives have become more and more entwined around the use of technology. This, of course, has really changed the way we now communicate and the way that we are entertained. So, while we have got to have progress, we still also hear the question - how do I get my child off that darn device?

At school, in the BYOD areas we ensure that we do not spend all day, every day on our devices and the use is strictly controlled. I know that we have all sorts of security levels to aid us in keeping our learners safe, but we are also vigilant in ensuring that the use of the Chromebooks is limited to what is needed, and we intersperse this with 'breaks' for posture and eye health. The kids may not realise that but we do!

That question? How can I have/restore some balance in my home regarding the use of screens? A simple answer is that, as parents, you take away the wi-fi. As a response this sure does work but often creates resentment and makes that 'screen' that much more wanted. Like most things in life it is better to educate your child so that they understand why it is important to have that balance. So, if this is an issue for you then try the following ideas ... all well worth your consideration!

- Time limits and allocations - when time is up, time is up.
- No screens before school (including parents) and no screentime before homework is completed.
- Be involved. Share the joy and learning and content that is available through the internet.
- Start with small reductions in time limits to reduce resistance.
- Frequent conversations about responsible and safe internet use.
- Be the parent and set an example; put your own phone down.
- Get the whole family to charge their devices in the kitchen overnight so theres no opportunity to use devices in bed.
- You earn your screentime with tasks, chores or jobs - with outdoor play, creative tasks and so on.
- When you go out, take books or toys or pencil and paper. Leave the devices at home.
- Yes, you **MUST** share your passwords with me because I **MUST** be able to know what you are doing.

I hope that this helps ... just in case you and your whanau suffer that dilemma. Happy family time!

Marty Hantz

*"Education is what survives when what has been learned
has been forgotten"* *B F Skinner*

Parking - Ngarimu Crescent

Next week we will try to ease the congestion after school on Ngarimu Crescent by having lots of staff on duty in hi-vis gear. We are very concerned that there is much more traffic on Ngarimu because of the roadworks on Church Road. We see lots of young children crossing the road on Ngarimu and lots of cars backing out or arriving at the same time. There is potential there for this to be a very real hazard. Please drive carefully. Also, if you would prefer to pick your child/children up next week at 2.30 then please email your child's teacher to arrange this. We feel that this is a good solution for alleviating some of those traffic problems! This will be for next week only. No child will be allowed to leave school at 2.30 without us having received an email.

SELF-MANAGEMENT MATRIX – PROBLEM SOLVING

Life always throws us those wonderful little curve-balls we generically call problems. Issues, conundrums and situations ... no matter what you call them, they all need solutions. Part of our role as educators is to provide opportunities to solve problems that have achievable solutions. It is also part of our role to challenge learners too by putting them in the 'learning pit.' This 'pit' is when they have a problem and we provide scaffolding to help the learner out ... while giving them confidence in themselves to solve the issue.

As parents you can help your child by not solving all of their problems for them. Ask ...

- What strategy/strategies could you use to solve this problem?
- Are there other ways to solve it?
- How can I help you to solve this problem?
- I bet that you have a solution in your head right now ... can you share it with me?

LEARNERS ARE SO CUTE!

A knock on my office door before it was launched open by a beaming 6 year old with a great story. So proud of it ... and so praiseworthy too. I asked her, after she had read it aloud, why she was sent to me and she gave a precise and accurate answer! "Great," I thought, "here's a learner who knows what she is learning and why." "Anything else?" I asked. Her reply!

"Because I thoughted it all by myself."

"Did you," I replied, 'all by yourself!'"

"Yes," she said, "I was thoughting all day!"

I resisted the temptation to correct her ... that will wait for another day, because to have done so would have seriously maimed the absolute joy of the learning she'd done that day. "Cute though, eh?" I certainly thought so!

HUGE THANKS FROM THE PTA

Thank you to all the parents who helped with pizza lunches and the disco last week. It was a big week and we couldn't have done it without you!

Next PTA meeting is on Monday 2 July at 7pm in the staff room. All welcome - we would love to see you there!

TALL POPPIES

Congratulations to ...

- Nicole Carlisle and Aalia Kizilay who have been selected for the Hawkes Bay U10 football team.

CREATIVE WRITING FROM OUR LEARNERS

My basketball is colourful. I like my ball. I like it because it is superfast.

By Travis

My ball is a volleyball. The volleyball is very colourful. It looks like it has swirly lines. The stripes look like jail bars and the ball is really, really bouncy. It has a really spikey point like dinosaurs teeth. My balls squares are like fish nets.

By Rebecca

My ball is a basketball. You're supposed to put it in the hoop. It is stripey. It has numbers on it. It is curly like some curly hair. It is bright like a star. It is wavy like some waves. It is spotty like a spotty giraffe. I have bright gems on it.

By Brooklyn

MATARIKI CELEBRATION

As we are currently in the celebration of Matariki (see below for a very brief explanation of Matariki), our Year 6 Whare will be providing a kai for all members of our school. As they are the **tuakana** (older leaders/experts) to the **teina** (younger/less expert learners), it is a way for our leaders to provide for the rest of the school in this time of celebration. Our year 6 learners will prepare and cook the fry bread, deliver to each class throughout the school and we will sit around the courts enjoying the kai together as a school.

One brief version of matariki explained
.....taken from teara.govt.nz...

Matariki is the Māori name for the small cluster of stars also known as the Pleiades or the Seven Sisters, in the Taurus constellation. In New Zealand it comes into view low on the north-eastern horizon, appearing in the tail of the Milky Way in the last days of May or in early June, just before dawn. This heralds the Māori New Year.

Various Māori tribes celebrated Matariki at different times. Some held festivities when Matariki was first seen in the dawn sky; others celebrated after the rise of the full moon or at the beginning of the next new moon.

Matariki celebrations were popular before the arrival of Europeans in New Zealand, and they continued into the 1900s. Gradually they dwindled, with one of the last traditional festivals recorded in the 1940s. At the beginning of the 21st century Matariki celebrations were revived. Their increasing popularity has led to some to suggest that Matariki should replace the Queen's birthday as a national holiday.

When Te Rangi Huata organised his first Matariki celebrations in Hastings in 2000, about 500 people joined him. In 2003, 15,000 people came. Te Rangi Huata believes that Matariki is becoming more popular because it celebrates Māori culture and in doing so brings together all New Zealanders: 'It's becoming a little like Thanksgiving or Halloween, except it's a celebration of the Maori culture here in (Aotearoa) New Zealand. It's New Zealand's Thanksgiving.'

JUMP JAM

Last Monday, the Taradale Primary Jump Jam team performed at the Strictly Jump Jam regional competition, here at Taradale Primary. The team have been practising hard for the last month and presented an outstanding performance in front of a crowd of over 200 family, friends and supporters. The team received awards for excellence in technical execution, excellence in performance and excellence in sportsmanship, as well as 3rd place in the year 4-8 category. A massive congratulations goes to the team for their hard work and dedication. You made Taradale Primary School proud.



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