



Principal's Newsletter **Week Four, Term Three, 2019**

Kia ora Whanau

As I've come to discover here at NIS, there's so much happening that time flies very quickly. We're into week four already and there's been a lot happening from day one of the term. So far this term we have welcomed Haishu No. 2 Foreign Language School Ningbo, from China, which was the first of a number of groups of overseas visitors. Hosting visitors is great for our learning and development – it allows us to sharpen our awareness and respect for others, and helps students to think and connect internationally. With the world of work being truly international it is important that we can become confident in listening to others, communicating together and thinking with others. We have since hosted another group of students from Dinghai No. 2 Middle School, Zhoushan (China), as well as a group of students from South Korea.

The parent student conferences that were held at the end of July were a great way for parents to follow up on student mid-year reports and clarify any concerns around progress and I saw many productive conversations taking place. Please stay in touch should you have any questions or concerns around your child's learning.

Celia

I'd also like to thank our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) for recently hosting the movie 'Celia' at the Bridgeway theatre. It was great to mix and mingle with lots of parents from across the community – and many from other schools attending as well. Celia Lashlie is a national treasure who committed her life to helping people. Her advice and guidance to parents over the years helped thousands of kiwis to make sense of the challenges life can throw at us. Her advice was always simple – direct – and honest. Her books include 'He'll be OK, helping adolescent boys become good men' and 'The Power of Mothers'. Both are well worth reading.

We wish to thank our generous local businesses for their support:

- Wallace Cotton
- Harvey Norman
- Painted Pacific Pottery
- L'Oreal New Zealand

Building

Our plans for our first new building are now progressing. This will be a 12 classroom, two storey block. A group of staff and trustees recently visited Greenhithe, Riverhead and Huapai schools, who have recently had new buildings similar in size to our first new build. How we design this will be very important and we are working closely with our architects to make this happen. We have lots of other minor works projects around the school to continue to improve our existing premises. HLC are beginning the next new

residential project on Lake Road (right next door to Motutapu) in September – so it's all starting to become very real.

2020 Enrolments

We have started our enrolment programme for 2020 – with a very well attended open evening and two open days so far. Our students (who are the tour guides) get so many compliments for their openness, knowledge and positivity. It's fantastic talking to parents and students who come to visit to hear how they enjoy their visits. These open days continue this Thursday, 15 August and this Friday, 16 August. Dates and other information around enrolments can be found on our website. Should you know anyone who is applying for Out of Zone enrolment for 2020 please check they are aware of the process and dates. The last day for Out of Zone enrolments is Friday, 13 September. If a ballot is required, this will be held on Wednesday, 18 September

Canon

Recently we received a gift of a rather large A0 commercial colour printer from Canon – thank you to Canon for arranging this. This is a considerable machine that should allow us to make some fantastic visuals. It's in the process of being set up and we will be opening it up to students for ideas around what we print.

Buddy Bench

Thank you also to Bunnings Glenfield who recently donated us a colourful 'buddy bench'. This sits outside our hall and is to be a legacy gift from our Year 8 students to our future students. A place for students to go to sit, relax and connect with others.

Digital Curriculum

Our recent survey tells us that all of our staff are integrating digital technologies into our curriculum, with 14% doing so confidently. We have staff who are upskilling themselves through courses at institutions such as Mindlab, and we are continuing to grow and learn about how technology can support our learning. We are also constantly adding new technology to our classrooms and we're doing our best to make learning modern and meaningful – whilst keeping the 'human touch'.

Recently we had some staff attend a conference with a renowned international expert on Universal Design for Learning (UDL). This focuses on three neurological principles:

- Multiple means of representation-give learners various ways of acquiring information and knowledge
- Multiple means of expression-provide learners alternatives for demonstrating what they know
- Multiple means of engagement-tap into learners' interests, offer appropriate challenges, and increase motivation

Our attendees left the conference confident that we are already well engaged in these principles. There is always more we can do to be better, but much of what we heard we are already doing – it was reassuring to attend.

School Vision and Mission Planning

In the holidays we had a large group of staff spend a day reflecting on our current school vision and doing some thinking towards what our updated vision and mission could be. The next step will be a discussion with our Board of Trustees before we invite students to share their thoughts around what we want to be. Our current mission is to be the FIRST choice of middle years schooling for our local community. Looking at our roll numbers and being at capacity we appear to have met this mission – as best as we can. Our vision is "to develop Future Focused, Informed, Resilient, Successful Thinkers by embedding 21st century learning strategies into our programmes".

Staff worked through a range of questions, including: "why does our school exist?"

Thoughts included:

To foster skills and dispositions that will be developed and used over their lifetime

- To educate, support and serve our community
- To support learners to understand how they learn
- To accept and cater for all differences, and to focus on the learner as a whole
- Wellbeing is valued. We have a culture of constant improvement
- To give our learners skills for life

And another question was “why would parents choose to drop their children off at the front gate each morning?”

- To give their children a sense of belonging
- So their children can be happy
- To produce students who are well-rounded, well-grounded
- Because the staff are happy, engaged and proactive

Word dumps came out including: Community. Team. Relationships. Whanau. Engaged, Inclusive. Leadership. Creativity. Holistic. Connected. Life-long learning. Relationships. Empower. Growth. Diversity. Relevance. Adventure. Innovation. Our staff seem to be well on board with us being the school of choice for your community – knowing why they do what they do, and what traits make us a special school. We will also be inviting parents to be involved in this re-visioning process very soon.

AIMS Games

AIMS games are coming up in Week 8 (the week beginning 9 September) and there are a number of fundraisers happening to support students who are travelling to Tauranga to compete.

KidsCan Survey

Our school is fortunate enough to be in a supportive partnership with KidsCan, an organisation that works with over 740 NZ schools to provide items such as shoes, food, raincoats and basic hygiene products free of charge. As part of their research, KidsCan has contacted a number of schools, NIS included, inviting our female students to participate in a personal hygiene survey. We have included the details of this below. This survey is voluntary and replies are anonymous. If you do not wish for your child to be involved in this, or if you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we achieve.

Best regards

Phil Muir
Proud Principal of Northcote Intermediate School



PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

Student/Parent

Project Title: Taking Action on Periods in Schools

Principal Investigator: Dr. Shiloh Groot

Tēnā koe,

My name is Shiloh Groot and I am a researcher in the School of Psychology at the University of Auckland. I am interested in hearing from students who have had their period before and your experiences of managing your period while at school. You don't need to currently have your period in order to complete the survey. This study will be carried out by myself.

You are invited to take part in this research and share your experiences and thoughts around managing your period while at school. Your insights will contribute to making sure students, like yourself, have what they need during their period so you can participate at school!

It is important that you read this document carefully in order for you to make an informed decision on whether or not you would like to participate.

Purpose of the study: To gain insight from students (Year 7-13) who have had their period and to explore their experiences of managing their period while at school.

Your rights as a participant: Your participation in this study is your choice, it is confidential, and you can skip any questions in the questionnaire without giving a reason. The questionnaire is confidential and no identifying information (including IP addresses if completed online and student IDs) will be gathered. Once you submit your questionnaire, this confirms your choice to participate, and because it is confidential, we will not be able to withdraw you from the study.

What this study involves: In this very short survey I will be exploring your experiences of managing your period at school. You will be asked questions about how you manage your period while at school and whether there are enough sanitary items (such as tampons and pads) provided. All the information you provide is in confidence and will be used only for the purposes of the study. The questionnaire will take approximately 10 minutes to complete.

Eligibility: You are eligible to participate in this study if you:

- have had your period before
- Are 12 years of age or older

Confidentiality and privacy: No information you provide us will be used to personally identify you in any reports on this study. Once we

have received your questionnaire, all questionnaire data will be transferred into electronic data files that will be backed up and stored on a secure University of Auckland network drive. All physical copies will be stored in a locked cabinet in the researcher's office in the School of Psychology at the University of Auckland.

Confidentiality will be preserved at all times. Only the researcher will have access to any of the research documents. All research documents will be kept in secure conditions. All questionnaire data will be kept for a period of 6 years, and at the end of 6 years, all physical copies and any personal contact information will be destroyed and/or deleted from the University of Auckland network drive. All other electronic questionnaire data (not containing personal contact information) will be archived so that it can be used for future research purposes.

Risks and benefits: Participating in this research will help us to have a better understanding of how to support students while they have their period at school.

If you wish to participate:

Via online link: Please proceed to the online link in order to complete the questionnaire. Please note, you will not be able to save your answers and return to the questionnaire, it must be completed in a single turn:

https://auckland.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3WzyRmhETQdixIF

If you would like to keep a copy of this information, please keep this in a safe place.

We thank you for the time you have taken to read and consider this invitation. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact:

**Approved by the University of Auckland Human
Participants Ethics Committee on July 2019 for
three years. Reference Number 023612**

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For any concerns regarding ethical issues you may contact:

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Upcoming Events

15 August	NIS Open Day 9.00 am-12.00 pm
16 August	NIS Open Day 9.00am-12.00 pm AIMS Girls' Football Sausage Sizzle
19 August	Cycle Safety Starts Life Education Starts
20 August	Netball Tournament (teams 8/3 and 8/5)
21 August	Year 7 Boys' Netball Auckland Champs Bandquest Rock Band Night
22 August	League Zone
28 August	Gymnastic Zone Day
29 August	Navy Marae Visit Community Hui Science Fair Finals
30 August	Daffodil Day

Hug Foods

Hug Food has ceased trading with immediate effect. We have received notification that the company has ceased trading and will be going into liquidation.

Upcoming Parenting Place Event

Birkenhead Community Church is hosting a parenting talk, "Discipline without Shouting, Force or Fluster" on Tuesday 20 August at 7.30 pm. Tickets \$10 individual, \$15 per couple. email info@bcc.org.nz to book tickets for this practical, fun and engaging presentation by John Cowan.

Tickers also available at:

<https://www.theparentingplace.com/event/discipline-without-shouting-force-or-fluster/>



**Prof. Ricardo
Castagna**

**2 Classes
per week**

Monday & Wednesday

Classes for kids



- Socializing
- Spends lots of energy
- Balance/coordination
- Builds up self-esteem
- Focus and discipline
- Sharpens mind

Schedule Classes for Kids

Mon - Teens (10-15 y.o.) - 5:15 to 6:15pm

Wed - Kids (5-9 y.o.) - 5:15 to 6:00pm

Teens (10-15 y.o.) - 6:00 to 7:00pm

📍 **60-62 Mokoia Rd - Birkenhead - AKL**
✉ **knights.jiujitsu.nz@gmail.com**
☎ **0210 723 432**

Black Knights Jiu Jitsu
Birkenhead / Silverdale
<https://black-knights-jiu-jitsu-nz.business.site/>

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Here's what the kids have to say about PKC.....

"I love going to PKC ' cause the boy teachers play with us like big brothers"

"The food that they give us after school is way yummiier than we get at home !"

And here's what parents say.....

"My daughter has been going to PKC before and after school since she was five, and she LOVES it!!! Alanah and her crew are very hands on with all the fun activities and it is obvious they care about each and every one of the kids. Couldn't recommend it more!"

"i love that my kids don't miss out on their after school activities because I have to work"

Come for a free trial day - Enrolling only takes 5 minutes !

www.premiumkidscare.co.nz



SPEECH & DRAMA LESSONS

WHO FOR?
All students, Years 1-13

WHEN?
1 x 30-45 min (age dependant) lesson per week during school terms. Choose from Wednesdays or Thursdays, after school.

WHERE?
Takapuna Primary School (Wednesdays) and Northcote Primary School (Thursdays).

LESSONS INCLUDE...

- Public speaking skills
- Acting skills
- Positive body language
- Speech writing & delivery
- Vocal skills
- Poetry recital
- Reading aloud
- Manners & relationship skills
- Building self-esteem & confidence

We also offer professional qualifications through our association with NZ Speech Board and Trinity College of London.

For more information
www.headheldhigh.co.nz • janita@headheldhigh.co.nz • Janita 027 459 3384