



Kia ora koutou

We are still basking in the after-glow of the Green Gold accreditation we received at our Enviroschools reflection day. And of course this calls for a CELEBRATION! The date chosen to mark this achievement is Friday, 15th June. Guests will include Horizons Councillors, WDC Councillors who will be welcomed with a powhiri in the school hall at 9:30, followed by an assembly for sharing the joy and presentation of certificates. Guests will then go on a guided tour of the school to see what makes a Green Gold school tick.

Throughout the day children and teachers will be involved in a wide range of activities promoting sustainable actions, e.g. tree planting, cooking kumara harvested from our gardens, making jute carry bags, wax lunch wraps, designing entranceways to our Peaceful Garden, and so on. The day coincides with the Whanganui Resource Recovery Centre's promoted 'litter free lunch day' to which whanau are cordially invited.

On the subject of 'Womble Lunch Boxes' (litter free) I am reminded of a conversation I had with a dad of one of our students. He questioned the effectiveness and purpose of Womble Lunch Boxes given that to achieve a litter free lunch many children/parents simply unwrap the muesli bars, chippie packs, etc. No difference is being made to the land-fill waste pile, so it is rather hypocritical to call it a rubbish free lunch. What's the point?

Well I agree with him. There is no net difference to the rubbish pile with this scenario. However there are several beneficial outcomes. Firstly the act of unwrapping the convenience foods encourages an awareness of the rubbish generated by mass produced food products. Secondly, that litter is no longer in danger of blowing across the playground and ultimately washed down stormwater drains to find its way to the sea and we all know the disastrous effect that has on the ocean environment. It is estimated that one child's lunchbox can create around 20—30 kg of waste every year. That's an enormous amount of garbage, especially when you multiply it by the number of children who go to school. World wide reliance on disposable plastic packaging is overwhelming our planet.

School lunches do not need to be made with single-use, disposable items. Given the disastrous effects single use plastic is having on the environment we are duty-bound to teach our children about environmental stewardship. And yes, packing a litterless lunch does take greater effort on the parent's part. It's well known that food can influence a child's energy levels, concentration, mood, quality of sleep and more. An easy way to ensure we nourish kids with foods free from ingredients that don't serve their growth and development, is to avoid as many pre packaged foods as possible and go 'litter free'!

## A waste-free lunch

- unwrapped sandwiches
- unwrapped fresh fruit & veg/salad
- homemade cakes, slices, muesli bars, biscuits
- bulk-bought chips, peanuts etc.
- homemade/bulk-bought yoghurt
- cooked food/leftovers
- cheese & cold meats
- water



A waste-free lunch saves money, reduces waste and is often healthier. Food in a reusable lunchbox does not always need to be wrapped. If needed, wrap food in: cloth napkins, paper or wax wraps and containers.

**'We must work toward a world free of plastic pollution and its toxic impacts on humans, animals, waterways and oceans, and the environment.'**

Nga mihi  
Kevin Booth

## Academic Achievement and/or Progress:

Congratulations to the following students:



<b>Kate Macpherson</b>	Your fantastic attitude and improvement with your basic facts.
<b>Connor Rooke</b>	Creative writer in the writers' group.
<b>Xander Laird</b>	An outstanding speller - An excellent understanding of spelling patterns.
<b>Tiori Town</b>	Using known strategies when reading to help self correct and reading fluency.
<b>Charlie Devane</b>	Exceptional basic fact recall and application of tidy number strategies when solving 3-digit numbers.
<b>Cian Murphy</b>	For success in descriptive writing through adopting a positive growth mindset.
<b>Alex Beitchef</b>	Excellence in Maths. Alex can explain his strategies with great clarity. He can blow Ms White's socks off with his ideas!
<b>Lilly Simpson</b>	Using perseverance and resilience (a growth mindset) when decoding new words in her reading.
<b>Campbell Wilkins</b>	Creative thinking and mindful contributions to class discussions.
<b>Ali Belkoudssi-Sleyer</b>	Excellent progress in reading for meaning and learning the early words. Ka Pai Ali.
<b>Elizabeth Morton</b>	Being an independent writer. Elizabeth always writes 3 sentences and uses lots of detail.
<b>Emma Ding</b>	Being a motivated learner who is making rapid progress in reading, writing and maths.
<b>Zachary Ellicott</b>	Fabulous commitment to his time tasks by solving time problems by adding half hours together.
<b>Oziah Heta</b>	Using what he knows about words in his writing by himself.

## Early arrivals at school

We have noticed that an increasing number of our children are arriving very early to school. Some are here before 8.00am. An appropriate time for children to arrive at school is 30 minutes before school starts and to be picked up within 15 minutes after school ends. Before and after that the children are not in the direct care and protection of our school staff. Staff have other school and teaching related matters to attend to. This falls outside of our Health and Safety policy where your child's wellbeing is paramount. We ask for your co-operation in ensuring your child/children arrive at school and are picked up within a suitable timeframe. Thank you.

## Womble of the Week



Isabella Mitchell



Jackson Hay

## Star of the Week



Campbell Wilkins



Siya Patel

## Virtues Awards

Ka rawe to the following students who were recognised for displaying virtues their teams are focusing on this term.



**Understanding:** Catherine Agnew, Alex Beitchef, Ayden Musso-Smith, Emily Ye, Indigo Camp, Zachary Ellicott, Harlow Rowan Pikari, Thomas Bowen, Denby Whittington.



## Welcome to School

A warm welcome to Galen Moyo and Jackson McIlroy who recently joined our school family. We wish you all the best with your learning at our school.

## NZEI Paid Teachers Union Meeting

There is a paid union meeting for teachers on 27<sup>th</sup> June. We request you pick your children up at 12.30pm please. Teachers will be unavailable for instruction as they will be attending an off site meeting.

## Wanganui Regional Chess Tournament

Last Friday sixteen of our year 5 & 6 students took part in the Chess competition at Wanganui Intermediate School. Our school placed 1st in the Junior division and 2nd in the Rookie division. In the junior division Gracie Hayward won top girl and Peter Adams was the top individual player in the competition. Our top 4 players in the Rookie division were Zariah Wong, Isla Jones, William Herd & Samu Hermann. Well done to all students who took part.



## Interschool Rugby Tournament



On Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May our team took part in the interschool rugby competition held at Springvale Park. St Johns came 3rd over all with the whole team displaying and executing a wide range of

skills. Thank you to the parents that assisted with transport on the day and cheering the team on during their four games.

## Term Dates

Term 2	Last day Friday 6 July
Term 3	Monday 23 July - Friday 28 September
Term 4	Monday 15 October - Friday 14 December



## Night at the Library

On Tuesday 15th May all the Librarians from our school went to a fun night out at the Whanganui District Library. We met Librarians from other schools and did 3 different activities, including going behind the scenes, a tour of the library, the library bus and issuing books. We finished the night having supper. What a night we had! By Jacob & Ella (Head Librarians)



## Have you got any new or used sports gear you're no longer using?

REPLAY is a community organisation collecting new & used sports gear to pass onto local active kids in the Whanganui community who may not be able to access their own.

St John's Hill School is kindly supporting REPLAY, a collection bin will be located next to the school noticeboard between now and the end of Term 2.

We'd appreciate any donation of sports gear such as rugby balls, basketballs, netballs, footballs, hockey sticks, rugby/football boots, shin pads etc that are still in a good, re-useable condition. Please see their website for further information. Thank you!

[www.replay.org.nz](http://www.replay.org.nz)

## Infectious Diseases

This information has been sent through to school by our Public Health Nurse —Trish Silk.



## Colds and Flu

Please keep infected children home from school to stop the spread of germs.

## Gastroenteritis (Diarrhoea and Vomiting)

Gastroenteritis is usually caused by a virus. Symptoms include crampy abdominal pain, vomiting, diarrhoea and fever. It usually passes in a few days and kids recover with rest and plenty of fluids. If symptoms continue, advice from GP should be sought. Please remember children **should remain off school until 48hrs after** the last loose bowel motion and vomit.