



Newsletter Issue 11

Thursday 24 March 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Tēnā koutou katoa

I have really enjoyed seeing more parents on site and at events over the last week; at merit assemblies, helping at Challenges week and helping out at the swimming sports. This will continue next week when the Excellence Certificates are presented. As you will be well aware there are changes in terms of the vaccination mandates, and the size of indoor and outdoor events. This has no immediate effect on school aside from the requirement of school staff to declare their vaccinations status. We are tracing our positive numbers and household close contacts and as soon as we see a pattern of them consistently falling, then we will slowly ease restrictions for parents and visitors on site. We do hope this will be before the end of the term.

## CHANGES TO ISOLATION RULES FOR HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS

**The Ministry of Health has provided further clarity on when household contacts should isolate.**

For households where someone has COVID-19, the Ministry of Health recommends you apply the following guidance.

- If someone becomes a confirmed COVID-19 case, then that case and all other people in their household must isolate for seven days.
- If someone else in the household then tests positive for COVID-19 during those seven days:
  - ◇ the isolation period for that person only re-sets – that person must isolate for an additional seven days from the day they test positive or symptoms begin
  - ◇ other household contacts who do not test positive are still able to leave isolation after the original case has completed their seven days isolation.
- For the next 10 days after a household completes seven days isolation, evidence shows that due to their exposure to COVID-19 they are less likely to catch or transmit the virus. This means:
  - ◇ if someone else in the household tests positive within those 10 days, the whole household will not have to re-isolate, only the positive case
  - ◇ if someone else in the household tests positive and it has been more than 10 days since the household completed isolation, household contacts should re-isolate along with the new case for seven days.
- Any person who has had COVID-19 within the last 90 days/three months will not need to isolate as a household contact unless they become symptomatic and test positive again. This is because reinfection rates for people who have had COVID-19 are low for the three months after they have the virus.

Remember, Day 0 for isolation is the day symptoms began or the day the positive test was taken (whichever came first). You should then count your seven days from there, returning to school on day 8.

# MERIT CERTIFICATES Y2, Y4, Y7

It was fantastic see more children receive Merit Certificates this week. Tomorrow the Year 5 students will be presented with their Merit Certificates and the photos along with the names will be published in the next newsletter.





Merit Awards - March		
Yr	Rm	Name
2	4	Thomas S
2	4	Frida G
2	4	Abigail P
2	5	Chris C
2	5	Frankie S
2	5	Harrison H
2	6	Matthew B
2	6	Hugo M
2	6	Cecilia A
4	16	Amelia B-D
4	16	Hudson M
4	16	Joel J
4	16	Sophie R
4	16	Emma D
4	17	Max D
4	17	Isla L
4	17	Kylie T
4	17	Alice P
4	18	Vika D
4	18	Isabella C
4	18	Harry H
4	18	Nate A
4	18	Micah H

Merit Awards - March		
Yr	Rm	Name
7	28	Dorea M
7	28	Jamie W
7	28	Isaiah H
7	28	Jona J
7	28	William H
7	29	Wonseop H
7	29	Avani K
7	29	Will B
7	29	Beren M
7	29	Rebecca R
7	29	Vlad B
7	30	Leah S
7	30	Seoyoon C
7	30	Jah M
7	30	Christie B
7	30	Cooper H
7	30	Ronan N

### PLEASE USE THE CROSSING

Walmsley Road is very busy in the afternoon. We encourage all parents to use the patrolled crossing as this provides a good example to the children. Young children will often copy what adults do and this could be very dangerous. Thank you for your co-operation to keep your children safe.

## YEAR 7 CHALLENGES WEEK

### Vector Wero Whitewater Rafting & Totara Park

Our first outdoor adventure challenged the students to work as a team and navigate the rapids on the Tamariki River at the Wero Whitewater Park. The rafting guides helped our students down the dips as they cheered each other on through the rush of the rapids. Once the course had been mastered as a team, the next challenge was to take a leap of faith and plunge themselves feet first into the water, without a raft. The children excitedly bobbed through the bubbling rapids, returning safely back to base. Adrenaline levels high and confidence boosted, the team retreated to the forest to enjoy the birdsong and shade of the Nikau trees at Totara park for lunch and a walk. A wonderful start to Year 7 Challenges Week.

Kate Abela



### Muriwai

On Wednesday 16 March, Year 7 students were welcomed by the Surf Lifesaving Beach Education team at Muriwai. The morning was spent learning about first aid, the IRB (inflatable rescue boat), jet ski rescue and other essential life saving equipment. Our instructors (Jack, Rhys, Liv, Val and Elise) also taught our students how to identify dangerous rips and the children enjoyed acting out skits related to different life saving situations. After lunch, our wonderful parent helpers came into their own, forming a safety barrier "box" around our students in the big waves at the beach. The children loved boogie boarding and playing games in the surf. Our own principal, Sean Valvoi, accompanied us on the trip, which was a great opportunity to meet lots of students and parents.

Julie Oakford

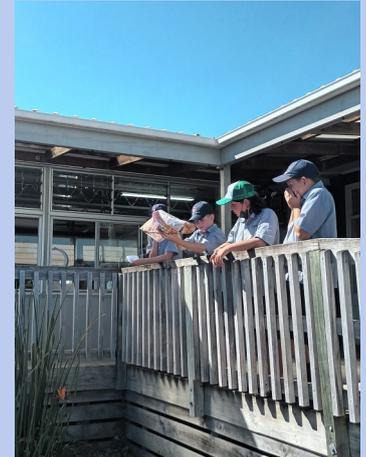


## YEAR 7 CHALLENGES WEEK

### In-school challenges

We spend a lot of Challenges Week on trips outside the school, so it's a nice break to spend a day at school working in teams across the three different classrooms to complete various fun challenges. This is a great opportunity for students to work alongside peers they wouldn't normally work with and make new friends. The challenge voted "best one of the day" was the Egg Challenge, which involves teams building a contraption out of newspaper, straws, string, masking tape and popsicle sticks. This contraption must hold their egg safely when it is dropped off the Year 7 deck. There were a lot of broken eggs (and some broken dreams) but a surprising number survived the fall to win chocolate prizes. The ingenuity of some of these egg-holding devices was very impressive!

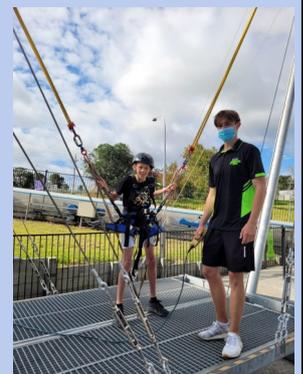
Julie Oakford



### Auckland Adventure Park

Finally on our fourth day of Challenges Week, it was time to visit Auckland Adventure Park based in Silverdale. From the adrenaline pumping adventure rides right through to the kids play area, there was something for everyone to push their limits. Children enjoyed flying high over the trees and luge track on the dual zipline. They were fired into the sky on the shooting star vertical bungee. The children enjoyed the 4D cinema with moving chairs. They ripped down the Luge Track with speed bumps and steep drops and were able to play on the open playground with carnival style rides. Lastly, they enjoyed the added bonus of meeting the animals onsite. The stars were the pigs (Marmite and Pumpkin). The Year 7 students built their confidence by pushing their boundaries and supporting their peers in the challenging experiences. Auckland Adventure Park was a fantastic finish to our action packed Challenges Week.

Sam Harrison



### Out-of-Zone Places

There will be 5 places for students who live outside the school enrolment zone who turn 5 after 1 May 2022 and before 8 June 2022.

There will be 10 places for students who live outside the school enrolment zone who turn 5 after June 7 2022 and before 18 October 2022.

Applications **opened on Wednesday 23 March**, with the ad appearing in The East and Bays Courier.

Applications will **close at 3pm, Thursday 5 May 2022**. If a ballot is required this will be held on Friday 6 May 2022.

The ad was also sent out to our community via eTAP.

Out-of-Zone Applications for 2023 will be advertised to the community in August this year.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday 25 March	Year 5 Merit Certificate Assembly Swimming Sports—Year 6 and Year 7 Final Day for Student Leader Applications
Tuesday 29 March	Excellence Awards Y1 & 2
Wednesday 30 March	Excellence Awards Y7 & 8 School Leader Pitches 1.30pm
Thursday 31 March	Excellence Awards Y3 & 4
Friday 1 April	Excellence Awards Y5 & 6
Tuesday 5 April	Citizenship Awards Y1 & 2 Starting School Certificates PTA Meeting 7pm
Wednesday 6 April	Citizenship Awards Y7 & 8 Combined Board Meeting for the Kāhui Ako 6pm at Glendowie College
Thursday 7 April	Citizenship Awards Y3 & 4
Friday 8 April	Citizenship Awards Y5 & 6 Student Leader Presentation Assembly 2pm Y5 to 8

### SCHOOL YEAR DATES

Term 1	8 February—14 April
Term 2	2 May—8 Jul
Term 3	15 July—30 September
Term 4	17 October—16 December
<i>Teacher Only Day—Tuesday 7 June</i>	

In the next newsletter I will report on the swimming sports this week and also the Y5 Merit Certificates tomorrow.

A huge welcome to our new students who have started at our school since 14 March. Welcome to Elise C and Will R in Room 2 and Cora V in Room 7. Welcome to the following students and their families who are new to St Heliers School; Madi M in Room 7 and her sister Aless M in Room 8, and Max S in Room 8.

I continue to feel very privileged to be the Principal of such a wonderful school with polite, respectful and confident students who can talk about their learning and staff who are dedicated and committed to the children's wellbeing and academic progress. From those parents I have met, everything I have been told is true, our parents are very supportive, caring and thoughtful and there is a real sense of community.

Noho ora mai

Sean Valvoi