



# ABERFELDY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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31st October 2023

Greetings to all Parents, Caregivers, and whanau.

And just like that - we are at the end of another year! We are all extremely sad to be farewelling Josh / Mr Paton, who is leaving us at the end of this year to move to Wellington to follow his wife's passion and dream job. The school, staff and BOT would like to thank Josh for the amazing job he has done at Aberfeldy School over the last two years. It has been a massive learning curve for Josh, and he has put in the hard yards to achieve everything that he has. We hope that Josh is able to transfer these skills and qualifications learnt and gained, to another teaching position in Wellington.

So, once again, we are on the look out for an amazing principal to lead our kura through the next steps in our journey. Along with a new principal we are also looking at reviewing and writing our Curriculum Delivery Plan / our Localised Curriculum and, as always at this time of year, looking towards our new Charter and Annual plan, which is now being called an implementation plan.

There are lots of exciting times ahead of us. With this comes the opportunities for change and a great time for our stakeholders (friends, family, whanau, past and present school and community members) to have a say in what shapes our school. What do you think makes us unique, what you would like to see us keep doing and what you would like to see change? Keep an eye out for Surveys, emails, or even phone calls asking for your opinion on things. Thank you to those that completed the last survey on the qualities / characteristics that you would like to see in a new principal.

## **PRINCIPAL APPOINTMENT PROCESS:**

An Appointment Committee has been formed to guide us through the process of finding and appointing a new principal. Ideally we will be able to appoint and advise of, a new principal before the end of December, with the person starting in Term One, 2024. If this is not possible, and we need to continue to look for the right person then we are able to use an "Emergency Principal" until the role is filled. So, it will still be life as normal for the children - no extended holidays!!!

## **END OF YEAR - START OF YEAR:**

Aberfeldy School finishes for 2023 on Tuesday 12th December. We will be finishing slightly earlier at 2.00pm. The day will be mainly a clean up / pack up day around the school, with some sports and swimming. There will be a shared lunch at 12.00 noon, so please send along a plate of kai to share, and then swimming for the afternoon.

Parents and whanau are welcome to come along and join us for lunch and take your children home

with you.

School returns in 2024 on Monday the 29th January. This will be followed by a short week in the second week due to Waitangi Day.

## **MITRE 10 TOUGH KIDS:**

### **This Friday 1st December.**

Town children will be picked up from homes slightly later than normal (8.20am onwards); rural children will need to be at school by 8.15am to allow to travel in to town.

This is a HUGE event, children need to stay with their groups and listen to instructions. The school will have a "base" that the children can return to if they do get lost, but this shouldn't happen. Any parent help would be much appreciated.

This is a long, hot day, but heaps of fun for the children. The day starts at 9.00am.

Please note - if you do NOT want your child photographed please advise as there are coloured bands for these children to wear.

Children need to bring snacks and lunch if they do not want the school lunches (which will be at the event), plenty of **water to drink**, a **sunhat**, and a change of clothes (as they are usually sprayed by the fire engines). Children should wear suitable clothing for running in and doing the activities - and they will get wet and dirty!

The first race for our students is the Year 3/4 boys at 10.00am, followed by the girls at 10.30am; Year 5 / 6 boys race at 11.00am followed by the girls at 11.30am and then there is prize giving for these year groups. The Year 7/8 boys race at 12.30pm followed by girls at 1.00pm. THEN at 1.30pm any parents, teachers, whanau etc have the opportunity to run through the course (*you need to register and sign a waiver on the day*). Final prize giving is at 2.00pm. Children will be home by around 2.30pm, unless you wish to take your children home with earlier.

## **END OF YEAR SCHOOL TRIP:**

### **Tuesday 5th December.**

The school is going to the Dinosaur Museum in Raetihi next Tuesday, and then we will go across to Ohakune to do Rock Climbing at the Vertigo Climbing wall after first having lunch at the Carrot Park.

All children will come to school as per normal and should be home around their normal time as well.

**PRIZE GIVING - COMMUNITY DAY:**

**Friday 8th December:**

We will have a Community / craft type day at Aberfeldy School on Friday 8th December. The students will partake in activities in the morning. There will be a shared lunch at 12.30pm followed by our end of year prize giving at 1.30pm. End of year reports will be given out on this day.

**YEAR 8 DINE & DANCE:**

**Friday Evening - 8th December:**

Mr Paton will talk with the whanau that this involves.

**FUN DAY WITH MANGAMAHU SCHOOL:**

**Monday 11th December:**

We will be joining with our Mangamahu School friends for a fun day on Monday 11th December to wind up our school year. Town children will be picked up later than normal from 9.00am onwards and Aberfeldy rural children will need to be at school by 8.45am.

9:30am: We are meeting up with Mangamahu School at Kowhai Park.

10:30am: leave Kowhai Park

11:00am to 12:45pm: Skating RINK - where the children will skate and then have lunch.

1:00pm to 2:00pm: SPLASH CENTRE

2:15pm onwards children will be arriving home.

**LOOKING FORWARD to 2024:**

The Aberfeldy School Board of Trustees will keep you informed of the Principal position over the school holidays so keep an eye out for emails.

The school may look at providing stationery packs for 2024 (which you will purchase from the school).

It is expected that there will be little changes to the day to day running of the school in Term One.

A newsletter will be sent home closer to the start date, with relevant information. Please ensure your van fees are up to date for this year, to ensure you place on the van for next year.

If you know of other students that may benefit from the unique things our small school offers, please make sure you put them in touch with the school.

