

# EVERGLADE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Wednesday 06 July 2022

2022/17

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

As we look forward to the end of term this Friday, we also look further ahead to a number of things coming upin Term Three.

We continue to work towards 'building back' to full operation. We have made some steps here, and at the same time we continue to be careful. It appears that we are likely to get another round of sickness (Covid, Flu etc) hitting the community, so the steps we take going forward need to be clear and careful.

Term Two ends this Friday 08 July. Classes will finish at 3.00pm (the normal time.)



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**Mid Year Summary Reports** have been published today. From tomorrow morning you will be able to book a day/time for a **Three Way Conference.** This will come out on HERO tomorrow. Those who book earliest get the best choice of times.

With the ongoing narrative about another Covid surge, winter sicknesses etc, it is sensible to expect that **the first part of next term (at least) will see a lot of illness.** At the same time, we are working towards 'building back' to full school health and operation. This is not a simple 'one step' process; we will be aiming to phase in the return of various opportunities and activities.

At the start of next term we will give you some detail of how this might look. Again, we want to take clear steps while being careful. It's a bit of a balancing act.



#### Scooters

I was asked last week if/why we do/don't let **children bring scooters to school.** The simple answer is "Yes we do."



Like anything else, we expect our pupils to use equipment sensibly. Children who ride carefully, avoiding situations that are not responsible, are absolutely fine. From time to time a pupil might be told to leave their scooter at home for a while, due to behaving in an unacceptable manner. These instances would be fairly rare.

#### We had a visitor last week...

The people at Counties Manukau Sport called up to see if someone could come around with some new netballs for our teams. Of course, we said "YES!"

It turns out the deliverer was none other than **Gina Crampton**, **Northern Stars player and new Captain of the Silver Ferns team** heading to the Commonwealth Games later this year. That was a surprise.

Gina interacted well with our pupils and was kind enough to let a photo be taken.



# Writers' Piece



This edition comes to us from Room 17.

## What's happening to our Native Bushes?

On Thursday, 16th June 2022, Team Pohutukawa went on an Educational Trip to Aronia Park. Our class's turn was at 11:15 am. We walked to the Park and found Sterling and Ross from the Manukau Beautification Trust waiting for us. They both took turns speaking to us about pests affecting our native bush and how to get rid of them using traps.

Firstly, they talked to us about why pests were introduced to New Zealand from other countries in the past. They told us that introducing animals means that animals were brought from another country for a purpose. For example, Possums were brought to New Zealand from Australia because of their fur. These could make New Zealand start a fur industry like Australia. They also added that weasels and ferrets were introduced from Europe to kill rabbits. There were too many rabbits eating plants and grass and were annoying to farmers.

Secondly, she explained how possums and other introduced animals became pests. While possums were good for Australia, they became a problem in New Zealand by killing native animals and eating away leaves of our native plants and trees. In New Zealand, possums multiplied quickly due to no predators. This is why possums became a problem. There was also a discussion about what the words endemic, endangered and extinct mean.

After that, Sterling and Ross told us about how to trap pests. If we wanted to trap pests, we needed to get an ink trap and place peanut butter in the middle of the trap. Then we needed to put it in the bushes and gardens. They told us we needed to wait for about two or three days to see footprints of animals. We could then search online to find which pests were in the bush. After that, we should buy the right trap for that pest or animal and use it to get rid of them. One of the traps that they showed us was a T-rex Trap. Once placed, the animal will directly get trapped in the neck and die.

We found the discussion very interesting and educational. They made it very lively by interacting through questions and answers. The most enjoyable moment of the lesson was looking at the stoat, ferret, weasel, possum, and the rat. They were taxidermy - the art of preserving an animal's body with stuffing. What was your favourite part of this recount?



## School Board Elections: Nominations from 15 July.

It's board election time again. Next term we will be electing board members for the next three years.

Nominations are now open. Call for Nominations goes out on the 15th of July. Remember, nominations remain open until midday on 3 August.

The link is <u>www.myschoolelection.nz/mynomination</u> .



### Term Dates 2022

Term Three starts on Monday 25 July and ends on Friday 30 September

Term Four starts on Monday 17 October and ends on Friday 16 December

Next newsletter: Wednesday 27 July

Regards

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John Robinson Principal

