



# EVERGLADE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Wednesday 08 March 2023

04/2023

Greetings to Everglade families.

Our first Visiting Performer presentation was held yesterday. The Nanogirl Superhero Science Show was a big hit with our pupils.



Performances such as yesterday add an extra dimension to learning; not only are they engaging and enjoyable, they can also inspire young people to think about future options, or simply recognise an aspect of life that they hadn't really thought about or understood before.

We arrange four Visiting Performer events per year. As much as possible, we aim for one each term. We can certainly say that our pupils enjoy them!



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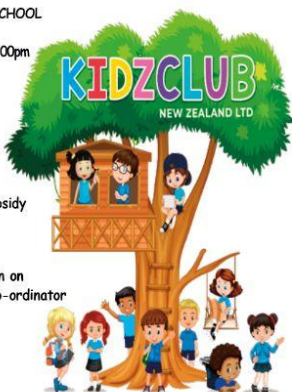
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Mrs Brenda Smith  
Mobile: 027 285 5326  
Email: [everglade@kidzclub.co.nz](mailto:everglade@kidzclub.co.nz)  
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### Dr Anae Neru Leavasa MP for Takanini

If you require advocacy, information  
or support please contact me

Takanini Office  
[takanini.mp@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:takanini.mp@parliament.govt.nz) | 0800 997 527  
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Authorised by Dr Anae Neru Leavasa MP,  
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Contact: Nimisha Gangoli  
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## Attendance Targets (Part Two)

Last week we looked at the government's target for attendance at school. We saw that the target for attendance is: **Seventy percent (70%) of pupils will be attending school for at least nine days out of ten every fortnight.**

We also saw that at Everglade School **in Term Four of 2022 we had a total of only 46% of pupils attending for nine days out of ten.** Obviously, we need to develop a change of mindset to close this gap. This is a long haul project, but it has to start with a determination to put school at the top for children.

### What does 90% mean in real terms?

A normal school term runs for ten weeks. That's around 50 days, give or take the odd public holiday etc.

To get better than 90% attendance, a child should miss **NO MORE THAN FOUR DAYS OF SCHOOL** in a term. When you think that a cold or some other ailment can take up that number of days, it means that there isn't a lot of 'give' in the system. At the same time, it is possible that without sickness a child could achieve 100% attendance.

This is the kind of thinking that will move our attendance forward; it is well established that children do better at school when attendance is high, so the more we see pupils at school the more we know we are on track for success.

### Keeping Safe when crossing the road (two points)

Many of our pupils cross Everglade Drive as they walk to and from school. The vast majority do this carefully and safely. Where we have a problem is when adults decide to cross in other places, and take their child with them. This sets a terrible example for other children, who may then be tempted to try the same thing. While adults can get away with it, this is not the case for school-age children.

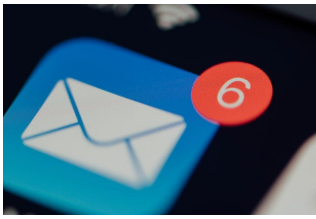
Please think of the example to others if you are thinking of crossing the road. The extra minute or so that it takes to use the crossing is an investment in all our children.

The second point regarding the crossing is also very simple: **Please cross within the lines.**

We are seeing an increasing number of people (mainly adults) crossing when the signal allows, but several metres away from the actual crossing. It's like using the crossing when you're not really using the crossing.

Once again, we ask that you think about this point. Using the crossing correctly is also an investment.





### **Messages to your child's teacher**

Nowadays most people communicate with their child's teacher using Class Dojo or perhaps email. Generally this works very well, and everyone is kept up to date.



### **However**

**If you have an urgent message for your child's teacher (or your child),** it is best to phone the office and ask for it to be passed on. Teachers will often not check messages from 8.30am until 3.15pm, as their focus is on their teaching. To be certain, it is best to call.



**Next newsletter: Wednesday 15 March**

**Regards**

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'John Robinson'.

**John Robinson**  
**Principal**