Newsletter No.8 23 May 2023

ATTENDANCE

Student attendance has a very big impact on student engagement and achievement. All students need to be present at school so they can participate and engage in learning and develop friendships and social skills. Students with high levels of attendance are more likely to succeed in their learning and have positive relationships with their peers. We want all Wiri Central School students to succeed.

Our school attendance target is for all students to attend 90% of the time. Last term 53% of students achieved the 90% target. Winter can be a hard time to avoid colds and illness and maintain attendance so we support wellness at school by:

- heating the classrooms the heating system has been activated, it comes on early in the morning to warm classrooms prior to teachers and students arriving at school
- providing students with KidsCan jackets
- providing classrooms with KidsCan tissues and encouraging students to use these and avoid spreading germs
- providing classrooms with handwash, paper towels and hand sanitiser for regular use
- Our Mana Kidz Clinic operated by a health worker and a public health nurse is open daily at school. Children and/or whānau are welcome to visit the nurse. The nurse and health worker check and swab sore throats daily and follow up with whānau when further treatment is required

Regular attendance is important if children are to make progress in their learning. If your child must be absent for any reason, please contact the school to let us know, talk to your child's teacher, the leader of learning or principal. Please support your child's learning by helping them to achieve the 90% target.

ARE YOU AND YOUR WHANAU PROTECTED FROM MEASLES

Aotearoa New Zealand is at very high risk of a measles outbreak. Measles spreads easily and quickly, usually between people who are unimmunised or only partially immunised. It can be serious and life threatening. In the 2019 measles outbreak in Aotearoa more than 30% of the people infected had to be admitted to hospital.

The best protection against measles is the free measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine. It will protect you and your whānau, and prevent the virus from spreading. You will be protected against measles if you:

- · had 2 doses of the MMR vaccine
- · had measles previously
- · were born before 1 Jan 1969.

If you're unsure if you or your tamariki have had any or both doses of the MMR vaccine, check by calling your GP or hauora provider. Alternatively, check your Plunket Well Child Tamariki Ora book. If you're still not sure, be safe and get immunised – there are no safety concerns with having an extra dose. MMR vaccines are free at your local health provider and many pharmacies.

If you would like any further information about measles or the MMR vaccine, you are welcome to contact our Mana Kidz Clinic nurse (Eseta) on 027 276 7568.

In the event there was an outbreak of measles at school it would be very important for us to know which students may be at risk and to let parents know. To do this we require current vaccination information for your child. Many of you will have provided this on enrolment however we are aware that we do not have this information for all students. We will be contacting families over the next few weeks to confirm vaccination details and thank you in advance for your support. While recommended, it is not a requirement for children to be vaccinated, we just need to know if they have (and sight the record) or if they are not vaccinated.

FAREWELL WHAEA RA

After many years of working at Wiri Central School our Social Worker in School, Ra Paniora, is leaving her full time position. Ra will be continuing to work part-time at Family Works Northern and we will still get to see her, just not as often. We wish her all the best for the future. There will be a school assembly on Thursday (25 May) at 10am to farewell Whaea Ra. Parents/whānau are most welcome to attend.

Our school will be getting a new social worker however at this time we are not sure exactly when that will be. The Social Worker in School contracts are managed by Family Works Northern. They will continue to support us in the meantime. If you require any urgent support please contact the principal, Jan Donaldson or one of our deputy principals, Anet Conroy or Chris Morunga.

BOOK FOCUS

Reading on the... Have you sent a photo of your family reading together? Be in to win!! Send your photo to <u>office@wiricentral.school.nz</u> and you could win a \$50 voucher. Entries close on 1 June.

Book Fair During the two weeks of Book Focus we will be having a book fair. There will be a large number of books on display in Te Puna for you to buy at a discounted rate. This display will be available for you to browse any time during the fortnight. There is a special grandparent morning tea on Thursday 15 June. A parent session is on Friday 16/6 starting at 11:30am.



There are a number of interesting competitions to promote reading. Talk to your child to find out what is happening. "Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body"

SATURDAY NETBALL

Last weekend was the second round of competition games. Wiri 1 put up a courageous fight and managed to score 2 goals. Player of the Day-Helen Lesa. Wiri 2 scored 6 goals. The Player of the Day was Naveyah Hape-Kora. Wiri 3 scored 7 goals. Wiri 4 scored an amazing 9 goals and Harlyn Sa'u was Player of the Day.

PINK SHIRT DAY

Thank you to everyone who donated to this cause and wore pink on Friday. We raised \$239.90 for the Mental Health Foundation.



