

PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

Kia ora e te whānau,

School lunch changes

As a school we are incredibly disappointed and concerned about the changes occurring for our tamariki from next year in regards to school lunches. This lunch programme is such an asset for our school, students and community. Ngāti Kahungunu make delicious, nutritious and hearty food for ALL of our students and we have seen an increase in attendance and student engagement in learning since this has occurred.

I know the news has lots of people commenting about parents needing to just step up and feed their children. At South School our families work hard to provide kai for their children- but it comes at a real cost. Our families prioritise lunches for their children but sometimes this comes with sacrifice - adults not eating properly or a bill may not be paid to make this happen. All our families love their children and work incredibly hard to provide for them. School lunches being provided has removed that stress off whānau in a time where money is tight.

What are the lunch changes from next year?

Next year our year 0-6 students (Te Kākano and Te Tipu) will continue to get their meals and fruit as normal until the end of 2026. From next year our year 7 and 8 students (Te Puāwai) will be funded at less than half of their current funding (and almost half of what the rest of our students will receive) at \$3 a day. They will no longer be allowed to be fed by Ngāti Kahungunu and instead the school will be required to order kai for them through an on-line portal.

The food that will be available has been described as "long shelf life food". It has been compared to what the food Kids Can currently offer - muesli bars, fruit pottles and cans of beans. The options will be confirmed over the next 8 months but the nutrition requirements have been made much looser and the nutritionists that designed our current lunches have been made redundant. There is no funding for cooks to make food or for the administration of the ordering, managing and delivering of this packaged kai to students. Schools can fund this through their current operations grants (which is where we pay our teacher aides, support staff, power, purchase learning resources etc from). This grant will not be increased to cover the cost so we would need to reduce spending in another areas to cover this cost.

At Dannevirke South School we believe this is unfair to our students as we will have 3/4 of our school eating amazing nutritious food and our seniors will be eating out of packets. We are also concerned about the lack of funding to help manage and deliver the new system for seniors. We will not withdraw from the programme as we believe it is essential for our tamariki and community but we will be advocating for this change to be reconsidered.

Whānau Week next week

Week 5 every term is a time we call Whānau Week. We hold no meetings this week and ask all teachers to be out of school by 3.30pm. This is a week for teachers to go home early, connect with whānau and do things that "fill their bucket". We want to acknowledge the complex job that is teaching and the many extra hours our staff do. We are lucky to have such supportive and dedicated teachers here and this week is a small way that we help to support their well-being. Thank you for your support with this.

Staff Only Day NEXT Friday 31st May

Just a reminder that school will be closed next Friday (31st May) for a staff only day – this is a compulsory Ministry of Education Professional Learning day. Staff will not be on site as we will be working at another school.

Heather's Retired

Our amazing cleaner Heather Hauraki has retired after many many years of wonderful service—thank you Heather. We are happy to welcome Renee Rautahi onboard as our new cleaner.

Nga mihi nui
Caroline

CALENDAR

DATE 2024	EVENT
Fri 24 May	School Sausage Sizzle fundraiser -Morning Tea
Tue 28 May	Class Photos and Individual Photos
Fri 31 May	Kahui Ako Staff only day
Mon 3 June	Kings Birthday Public Holiday
Thur 6 June	School Cross Country - whole school
Wed 26 June	Production – Town Hall 6.30pm
Thur 27 June	Production – Town Hall 6.30pm
Fri 28 June	Matariki Public Holiday
Fri 5 July	End of Term 2

WHAT HAS TE PUAWAI BEEN LEARNING?

In Te Puawai we have been learning about statistics. We have used a collection of data and have learned about three different averages which are mean, median and mode. To work out the mean average we used the total amount of the numbers and divided this by how many numbers are in the data set. To work out median we put the data in number order, from smallest to largest, to figure out the middle number in the data set - if there are two



middle numbers you add them up and divide by two, giving you your median. Finally to work out mode you have to figure out which number occurs the most in the data set.

Toni-Rose and Jaxon

Grandparents/Special Person Day

It was lovely to see so many special visitors at our kura last week for our first Grandparents Day. We got to share the school day with our special person and finished off with making them something to take home.

Mackenzie said "I liked having my Aunty here". Gemma said "I loved doing arts and crafts because we got to spend time with our grandparents and make stuff". Alby said "I liked Nana reading with me".

We have many messages saying how our visitors felt very welcome and how much they appreciated spending time with their grandchildren at school.



REMINDERS

- ⇒ DSS Dental Clinic ph 0800825583
- ⇒ Follow us on Facebook

Remember!!!



South School Facebook page

www.facebook.com/Dannevirke-South-School-101397252247314

How to Report an Incident

We ask our children to report any incidents they think are bullying related to the duty teachers, their class teacher or any adult they trust. If your child shares an incident with you please contact your child's teacher or our school office who will fill in an initial KiVa form. The form will be completed and shared with the KiVa team who will investigate the incident. The KiVa team will then be in contact with the child who reported the case.



TE TIPU IS TRAINING HARD

Te Tipu have been out running twice a week in preparation for the school cross country. They have been working hard and pushing themselves, which has shown an increase in their fitness levels. We are so proud of our tamariki and are counting down to cross country day!



SAUSAGE SIZZLE
FUNDRAISER
FRIDAY 24 MAY
\$2/SAUSAGE

CASH/EFTPOS OR ACTIVITY FEE
(\$\$ due Wednesday 22 May)



PRODUCTION PRODUCTION PRODUCTION
TICKETS GO ON SALE WEEK 5 - MAY 2024
\$10 PER TICKET

COMMUNITY NOTICES

RAISING ACHIEVEMENT

FREE PARENT SESSION

Come along and find out how to use the free resource

Raising Achievement is dedicated to supporting parents with understanding their children as learners.

- improve student achievement in reading and spelling
- structured literacy approach
- resources and strategies complementary to all school programmes.

7:30pm via Zoom

Monday 20 May or Wednesday 19 June

Go in the draw to win a copy of the Wobbly Kids for parents

email
admin@raisingachievement.co.nz
to register

www.raisingachievement.com.au

FREE Community Movie!

1pm Saturday
8th June

RATED PG



~ With support from The Dvke Community Board ~

PETER THORBURN
Director of M.E.S.S
(Meth Education & Solution Services)

METH
EDUCATION & SOLUTIONS

Addressing the complex relationship of methamphetamine, family harm and mental health

Is meth having a negative impact on your life? Do you want to learn more about its impact on people and communities? This workshop is for you!

Workshop presenter, Peter Thorburn triumphed over a 23-year battle with addiction, including eight years of P dependency, time as one of NZ's most notorious meth cooks, and a stint in prison. Following his prison release, Peter experienced a profound transformation and has spent the last 18 years working as an addiction and mental health specialist and advocate.

MONDAY 10 JUNE 2024
10.00 AM - 4.00 PM
THE HUB, 23 GORDON ST,
DANNEVIRKE

REGISTER NOW

office@tararua-reap.co.nz
06 374 6565

TARARUA REAP
Rural Education Active Programme