



442 Manawaru Road RD1 Te Aroha 3391 office@manawaru.school.nz Phone: (07) 884 6691 www.manawaru.school.nz

Find us on



Our focus this term is being a recogniser of structure and norms

27 November 2020

Empowering learners for their future

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Kia ora whanau

Since returning back from school after Lockdown the staff has made a conscious effort to include mindfulness into our practice. Room One has also extended this to include kindness and gratitude. Practising gratitude can help foster positive emotions - something we could all use a bit more of at the moment! Gratitude relates to thankfulness and appreciation. This can be particularly useful during challenging times as it gives students an opportunity to notice and reflect on the positives in the world.

Following on from our donation to Waikato Hospital's Neonatal Unit (helping to create a library so new mums can read to their babies) we looked to do more. As a class we looked at many ventures but the one we all chose was to sponsor two kids for the Shoebox Christmas. You see not every child looks forward to Christmas, and with Covid-19 resulting in job losses, financial pressure and interruptions with schooling and social routines, this Christmas will be particularly hard for many New Zealand children.

Room One loved the idea that we could do something to make sure that at least two Kiwi kids have something to look forward to this Christmas. Great debates/discussions were held as to what was going to go in our 'shoebox'. Of course we had to make sure we got value for money so their eyes for bargains were super focused.

Room One didn't do this for the kudos or for pats on the back. The two children that we sponsored will never know from whom their gift came from. However, the opportunity to help someone less fortunate has been a real eye opener and has highlighted just how fortunate they are themselves, and in turn I hope, has made them more grateful.

At the start of this week we received an email that we would like to share. It's about what our shoebox means to our sponsored child and it made us feel all 'goosebumby' inside!

While we can't send you a picture of the child receiving it, here's what will most likely happen when your gift is handed over to its new little owner. They'll hold the wrapped box out in front of them, soaking up the fact that it's meant for them. The anticipation of finding out what's inside might make their little hands shake just a bit. When they get the word from the nearby grown-up, they'll tear through the paper with excitement and abandon.

They'll take the koha you lovingly prepared out of the gift, look at it, maybe do a double take, grin and then hold it up in the air as if to say "look, look, this is mine, it's for me."

If there's anyone close for them to shout to, they will. They'll yell about what they've been given, not showing off but sharing the joy of the moment. Joy that you gave them. But for all the yelps, squeals and the cyclone of wrapping paper, the truest thing I've heard from tamariki like the one soon to be opening your koha is:

"Someone who I don't know cares about me." That's what your gift says. Thank you for caring enough to make a difference. This one moment, and one reminder that their community has their back, is an important one.

Nga mihi Mel Sargent

Ahakoa he iti, he pounamu. Although it is small, it is precious.

COMING EVENTS

December

- 1 Room 1 and 2 hosting Tatuanui School here.
- 4 Year 8 Trip.
- 8 Hearing and Vision technician will be at school after lunch.
- 9 Top Town at school.
- 10 Prize-giving and Final Assembly for the year.
- 10 Last day of school for children.
- 11 Teacher Only Day.

February 2021

2 First day of school for Term 1 2021

REMINDERS

If you would like to pay by internet banking for stationery (e.g. Prime Maths books) or T shirts, etc. our school bank account number is:

03 1573 0013006 00

The Fundraising Club account for any sausage sizzles or fundraising things is:

02 0436 0071213 00

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Monday, 30 November 5:30 p.m. In the school staff room All are welcome to attend



SCHOOL BANKING



The First Credit Union provide a school

banking service for all pupils at Manawaru School. Getting started is easy - just pick up an application pack from the school office, fill in the application form and place it in the red box in the school office.

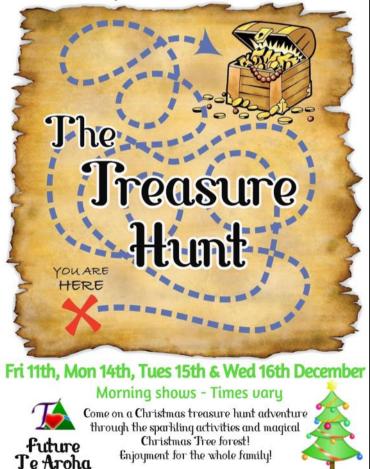
If your children are already doing school banking, remember that the school banking is collected on Wednesday each week! Next week is the last pick up for banking for this year.

MANAWARU HERITAGE CENTRE

Coffee Morning Wednesday 2nd December at 10:00 a.m. in the Heritage Centre Come and hear what has been going on Open to our lovely volunteers and anyone else who wants to get involved. Contact Vicky on 021 048 3593 or <u>manawaruheritage@gmail.com</u> for more information Looking forward to seeing you there!

The next one will then be on the 3rd February 2021

Once Upon a Christmas



only \$6

per person!

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13 Boundary St

futureta@xtra.co.nz

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Te Aroha

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