

Kia ora koutou, talofa lava and warm greetings to our Weymouth Community, parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, cousins and our beautiful tamariki.

**MALO AUPITO** - What a fabulous week it has been. We are celebrating Tongan Language Week and I have been heart warmed by the amount of our students that are showing they are confident in their language, culture and identity. Our Tongan students and their families have been so supportive with our teaching and learning programmes to ensure we celebrate their diversity and share their culture with all of us. If our children are strong in their first language then English is easy to pick up. I have seen this first hand this week with all our children doing the morning messages for the whole school. Thank you to all our families that also supported cooking a wonderful meal for our staff. It was absolutely delicious.

I have now been to all our classes and said hi and I have been thoroughly welcomed back. I have had hugs from parents and children and of course my amazing staff. Each day is a struggle and I still have tears but I am slowly getting back into life at Weymouth, the best school in the whole wide world. A huge thank you to my amazing Leadership Team for taking care of everything while I was away and to my awesome staff for covering classes when teachers were away. You are truly beautiful people and I feel humbled to lead this school.

**ATTENDANCE & ENGAGEMENT -** The Ministry of Education have a new strategy out for ensuring all our children come back to school. It is important you send your child to school every day. Covid has meant we have lots of catch up with learning to do, so we need your beautiful children here to support their learning.

**LATENESS** - I notice many of our students arrive after 9am. It is important children come to school at 8.30am when the classes are open and prepare themselves for the day. Teachers have already spent the morning getting ready for the day, so it is vital children come on time.

Next week I will be gathering some data of all our children that come late to school. We will close the gates at 9am and record each child that is late. At the end of next week I will share the results with you all.

Every day we begin with Te Reo Maori for the first 30 minutes of each day. So every child must be here for this special part of our day.

**STUDENT VOICE** - Over the next few weeks, I will be working with all our classes to gather their voice. This is the time we begin planning for 2023. I am keen to find out what we are doing good, what we can do better and how we can make our school the place every child wants to come to every day. We will then work with our Board of Trustees and our teachers to determine our strategic direction for 2023. We will build on our platform we created this year.

**COUNTIES MANUKAU SPORT -** Thank you for bringing in the balance bikes and teaching all our juniors how to balance and ride a bike. They had so much fun.

**OUR NEW FALE** - We have recently had five fale built. These will be used for outdoor classrooms and a quiet space where children can sit and reflect. They are not yet completed but when they are finished we will have an opening ceremony for our children and families.

Malo Aupito Whaea Saane

## Tongan Language week





Tonga looks like golden, hot sand with a glorious glistening ocean.

Tonga smells like a tropical breeze as well as fresh, fertilized Heilala flowers.

Tonga sounds like musical drums, crabs clicking and clacking, with the splats of raindrops to top it all off.

Tonga tastes like tropical, treasured seafood and cooked crab claws.

Tonga feels like sturdy palm wood trunks with coconuts and their brown and hairy shells.

By Arbaaz Humphreys Rm 14



## Pasifika Group Performance

Last Wednesday our Pasifika Group performed at the Pacific Rugby Aotearoa Tournament in Pukekohe. The students were very happy and excited to perform at the tournament. The Pasifika group performed during half time of a rugby match between Manurewa High School and Wesley College. The girls were a little nervous during their dance and the boys performed admirably. We received high praise and thanks from Ti who organised for us to perform. She even shouted all our kids yummy ice cream. Malo 'aupito Ti.



THANK YOU Weymouth Primary Pasifika group for your awesome performance at our PAC tournament yesterday.

The Secondary School kids as well as the spectators absolutely loved it. I think the boy's performance was a crowd favourite! The girls were a little shy, but that's a given when you are performing to strangers.

On behalf of Counties Rugby, I just want to thank you as well as the staff involved for accepting our invitation. This will be an annual event and we hope we are able to showcase your kids for future rugby events.

I've attached videos my colleague captured.

Fa'afetai Lava,

*Ti Tauasosi Girls Rugby Coordinator* 

## JPCOMING EVENTS and Notices



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Greetings from The Leaders of Learning: Saane Faaofo Oldehaver, Moana lese, Danielle Katavich, Vada Miers, and Linda Hodge

WEYMOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

23 Evans Road, Weymouth Ph: 269 0588 Fax: 269 0599 Website: www.weymouthprimary.school.nz Student Absences Ph: 269 0595 or email attendance@weymouthprimary.school.nz attendance@weymouthprimary.school.nz