



# MORRINSVILLE

## Intermediate School

**Kia U Ki Te Pai** Whatever You Do, Let It Be Your Best



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**Empowering Learners to Succeed**  
Hei whakamana nga ākonga  
i te whai ao

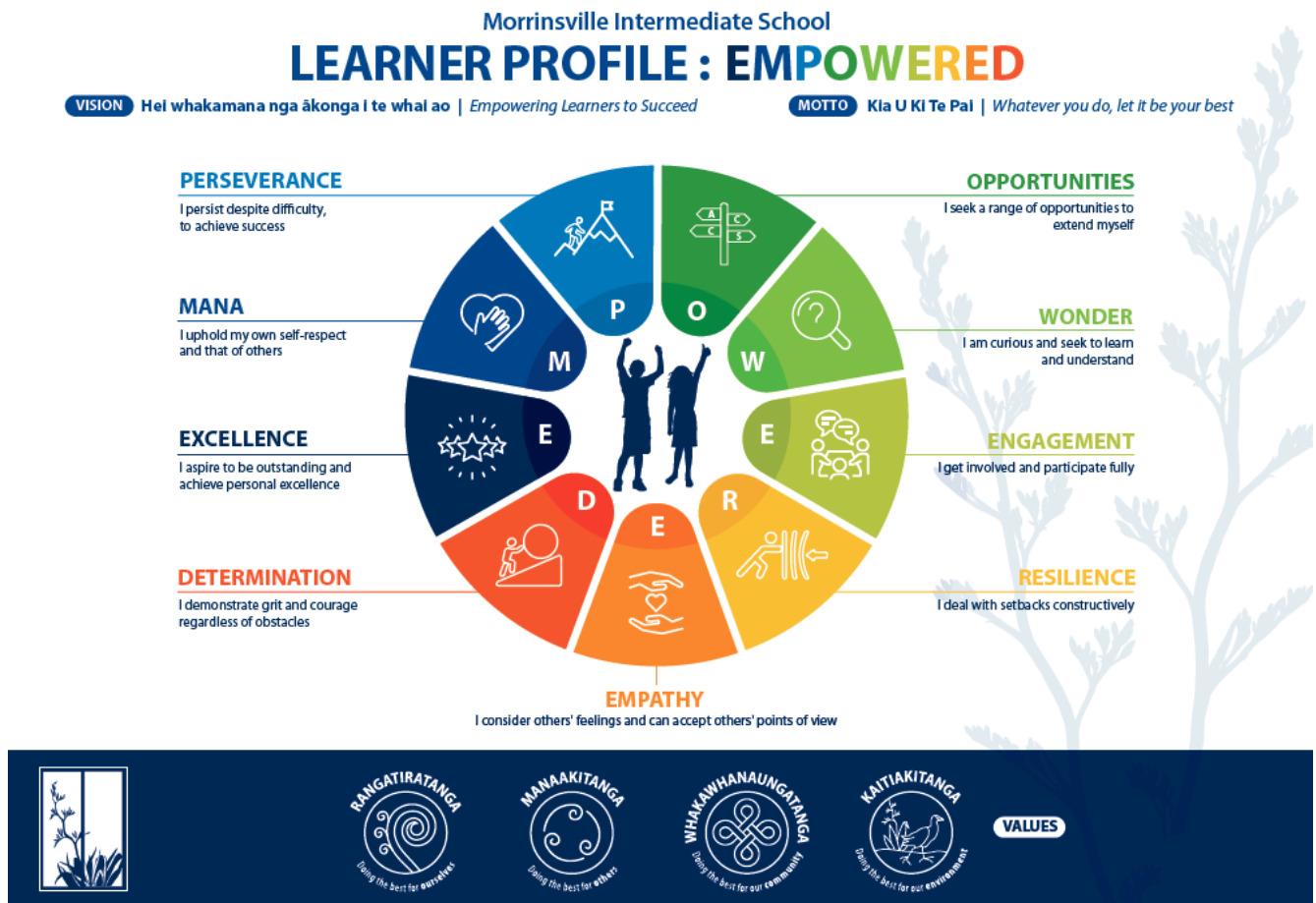
# Newsletter

## Term 4 Week 1 Newsletter 2024

Kia ora e te whānau, nau mai haere mai to Wiki Tahī panui - welcome to Term 4 and our first week's newsletter!

I trust you were able to enjoy some downtime with your child/ren over the break and had a chance to catch up with whānau and friends.

It is rather daunting to think we have only nine weeks and one day left in our 2024 school year; we need to make 'Every day count and every minute matter'. We have a lot of exciting learning opportunities planned and encourage our students to give every one of them 100% internal commitment. For our Year 8s, College is just around the corner and we want our ākonga (learners) to feel confident in their abilities heading into Year 9. Please encourage and support your child to attend school daily (sadly our attendance was only 88.6% in Term 3), and focus closely on their learning. 'To achieve you have to believe' and at MIS we believe every child can progress and meet personal excellence, as EMPOWERED learners (see our learner profile below).



**Today's learners are tomorrow's leaders  
– attendance is the first step to learning**



As you read this newsletter, we will have held our Livestock and Craft Day; well done and thank you to all ākonga who embraced the opportunity to get actively involved. Once again, we saw some amazing talent in the hall, with the myriad of craft and cookery items. A BIG thank you to our judges who continue to support this event. Prize giving will be held tomorrow at assembly; you are welcome to join us from 9.40 a.m.

We look forward to a great term ahead and to your ongoing support; please encourage your child to attend school daily and make positive choices .... poor behaviour will not be tolerated! With camp just around the corner, and privileges such as our Fun Day and the Year 8 Social, it would be sad to have to exclude students from attending these due to poor choices that negatively impact both themselves, and others. As a school, we work really hard to ensure we have a positive culture for learning; all our tamariki are expected to demonstrate our school motto, values and the dispositions of our learner profile (which are a summary of the Key Competencies) consistently.

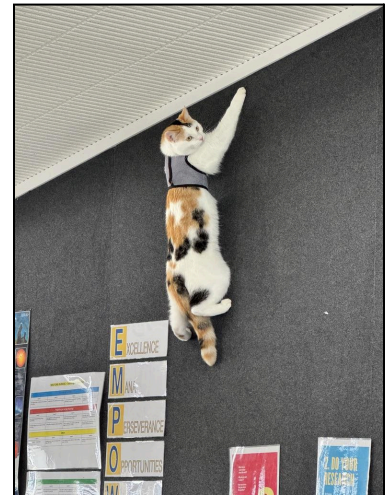
I have spoken to the school on Monday to ensure they have clarity about the expectations, and that anyone demonstrating behaviour that results in a stand down, or suspension, will likely be excluded from attending the Fun Day or Year 8 Social, which we deem to be a privilege and a celebration.

Finally, I want to wish everyone a fantastic camp at Aongatete; these start from Tuesday 29th October with R. 11 first, and then rolling through all classes. A LOT of preparation has gone into camp to ensure it is fun, and safe, for everyone. A special thank you to Mr Shane Day who is the teacher in charge of camp; he has put in hours and hours of work to set everyone up for success. As parents, please ensure you have thoroughly read all the documentation that has been shared with you, particularly about clothing/gear lists, food (no lollies or additional food please) and transport .... we are looking forward to hearing all the amazing stories about the adventures and activities from camp. Thank you also to all our staff and parents/caregivers who are attending; you are a vital ingredient in a successful camp and we appreciate your efforts and commitment.

Ngā mihi  
**Jenny Clark**  
**Principal**

**Featuring in today's newsletter:**

Rangatiratanga Award  
Term 3 Kia U Ki Te Pai Award  
Honours students  
Japan Tour 2024  
Japan Applications for 2025  
Summer Uniform  
Year 8 Social  
Taupo Maths Matters Competition  
Hauā and Hape' StoryWalk  
Attendance  
Term 4 Calendar (including link)  
School Term dates for 2025



Ruby decided to literally climb the wall during the small animal judging today 😊

**Rangatiratanga Award (doing the best for yourself):**

During Friday Assembly one student per class is acknowledged for demonstrating Rangatiratanga, specifically one of Key Competency indicators. The focus was Responsibility in Week 9 and Week 10:

Congratulations to the following students from Week 9: Henry Rm1, Ryan Rm 2, Lucas Rm 3, Jamie Rm 4, Rico Rm 5, Ella Rm6, Erin Rm7, Charlotte Rm 8, Caitlyn Rm 9, Corey Rm 10, Tristan Rm 11  
Food Tech: Harry R11, Hard Materials: Olivia R10, Science: Addison R8

Congratulations to the following students from Week 10: Decovan Rm1, Dawson Rm 2, Karlie Rm 3, Tautoko Rm 4, Lilly Rm 5, Bride Rm6, Brodie Rm7, Ally Rm 8, Kase Rm 9, Tessa Rm 10, Maddie Rm 11  
Music: Dakota R2, Lakshya R3, Indi R3. Food Tech: Lanae R5. Hard Materials: Quinn R6. Science: Eshan R10. Art: Colin R6

**Term 3 Kia U Ki Te Pai Award:**

The Kia U Ki Te Pai Award is presented to one student at the end of each term who shows outstanding commitment to our school vision, values and motto. It is one of our most prestigious awards.

Congratulations to Alena Kampenhout, our Term 3 recipient. Alena is a hardworking, polite and a positive role model who displays initiative and inspiring leadership skills. Well done Alena!!



### Honours Students:

Congratulations to Cahleisha Pakau and Micah Kraenzlin who earned and received their Honours Awards during assembly at the end of Term 3. You have both worked very hard. Well done!

Cahleisha gained Civics Merit, Academic Excellence, Double Sports Merit and Sports Excellence. Cahleisha achieves outstanding results and remains humble, she is an awesome sportswoman who has huge credibility among her peers, as she leads by example. Miharo mahi (awesome work)!

Micah gained Civics Excellence, Academic Excellence and Sports Merit. Micah has worked diligently, not only to achieve his merit points, but to ensure he consistently demonstrates our school vision, motto and values as an 'Empowered Learner'. Micah is an outstanding role model to his peers. Well done!



### Japan Tour 2024 and application for 2025

During the last two weeks of Term 3 seven students and myself flew to Tokyo as part of the annual Waikato Intermediate and Middle Schools (WIMS) cultural exchange with Shibuya Makuhari High School (MJHS). 60 students plus staff from seven schools took part. Our students were hosted by Japanese families and had many authentic opportunities to experience life in Japan, first hand. During the two weeks the students make many new friends, some of which will last a lifetime.

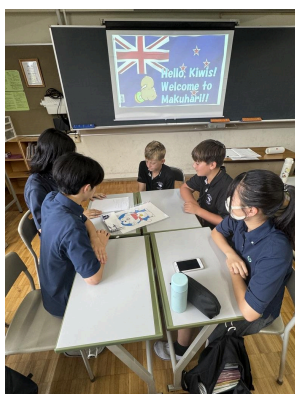


During the trip we spent time in three very different schools: MJHS, Minami Elementary School, and Makuhari International School; we loved spending time in classes as well as sharing some of our culture with them (including teaching them some games, and performing waiata and the haka). We also got to visit Tokyo Tower, Disneyland and Disney Sea, Asakusa (traditional Japanese markets), took part in a traditional tea ceremony and visited some amazing shopping malls.

Our seven students represented our school well and enjoyed their time; they are presenting at assembly tomorrow to share some of their special moments with the rest of the school.

I am starting the **application process** for students wanting to get involved in the cultural exchange programme for Japan in 2025. Information will be available from tomorrow for any students interested in applying to travel to Japan - one of the prerequisites is that they must host a Japanese student in March, when MJHS visit New Zealand. We will need 20-25 **host families from March 6th - 18th**; this is open to any student at MIS.

Our **trip to Japan is scheduled from September 8th - 21st**. I am opening applications for this immediately and wish to have selected the tour group before the end of Term 4. Forms are available from the office for both hosting purposes, and for those students applying to travel.



### **Summer Uniform:**

With the start of Term 4 we are back in Summer Uniform, this means students are required to wear regulation navy shorts or our school skirt (no track pants in T4) and regulation, black roman sandals or black shoes and ankle socks. Sandals are also a requirement for college so if parents need to purchase new sandals for Term 4 they will also be worn the following year.

All students have been issued with a school-owned sun hat as part of our Sun Smart Policy. Students will be responsible for their hat throughout the term and are asked to wear them during the school day whenever they are outside. These hats are to remain at school at all times. Also a reminder to name all uniform items so they can easily be returned if they end up in the Lost Property cupboard.

NB: our Prospectus also states that no make-up is to be worn (including false eyelashes), or coloured nail polish. Hair longer than shoulder length needs to be tied back using plain coloured hair ties (ie. black/brown). Only ear piercings are permitted (two in each ear maximum).

### **Year 8 Formal Social:**

On Wednesday 11th December, we will be holding the Year 8 Formal Social in the school hall from 7.00pm to 9.30pm. This is always a special night for our Year 8 students and a chance for teachers and students to celebrate their two years together at Morrinsville Intermediate.

All children attending are required to wear 'tidy' clothes e.g. a skirt, a dress, a collared shirt (button-up or polo), suitable dress trousers or tidy chinos / jeans (preferably not blue and without rips), and suitable shoes for dancing. A tie or bow tie is optional. We do not expect parents to spend a fortune on expensive hair-dos or designer clothes. Please remember, this is a social not a ball.

### **Taupo Maths Matters Competition:**

Our four Maths teams headed off to Taupo last term to compete in the annual Taupo Mathsmatters Competition.

All MIS teams competed and collaborated well and one of our Year 8 teams (Jack, Micah and Gabriel) came in second place! In addition, Gabriel came second overall after a tiebreaker in the individual competition. Well done to you all!

#### Results:

MIS Y. 7A team = 8th place

MIS Y. 7B team = 10th place

MIS Y. 8A team = 2nd place (1st overall in the individual section)

MIS Y. 8B team = 11th place

A big thank you to parents Greg, Daniel, Raelene and Peter for taking the students down and supporting them throughout the evening.



### **Hauā and Hape' StoryWalk:**

At the end of Term 3 a group of our students (past and present), along with Miss Foulds and Mrs Baxter attended the grand opening of our 'Hauā and Hape' StoryWalk. This project has been in the works for almost a year, and we couldn't be happier with the end product.

The StoryWalk starts at the Rotary Centennial Walkway (opposite our bus bay) off Coronation Road and goes through to the George Street playground. Be sure to check it out!



### **Attendance:**

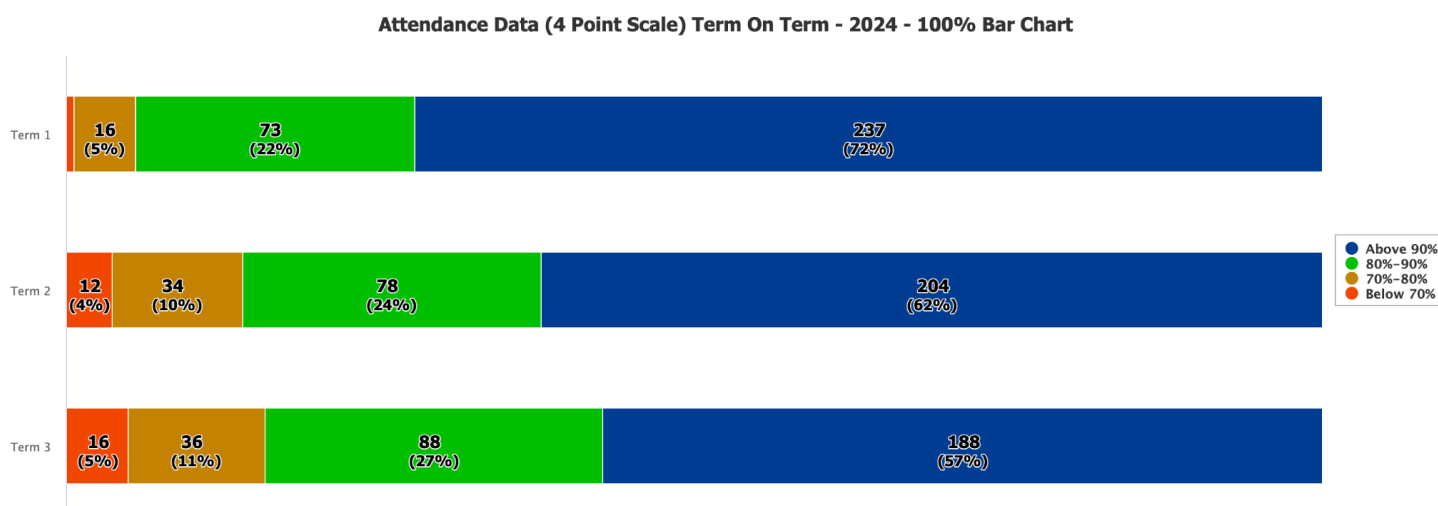
As a school, we are wanting to ensure all our students attend regularly i.e. at least 90% of the time to ensure continuity of learning and the ability to form positive relationships with their peers. Well done to the 226 students who have attended school regularly so far this year, and especially to the ten students who have attended 100% of the year. Miharo! (awesome). The government has now set a goal of having students a daily attendance rate of 94% by 2030:

## Why is Attendance important?

Attendance is linked to both student wellbeing and to attainment. Ministry of Education insights studies<sup>[1]</sup> show that attending school and kura regularly is, on average, associated with more positive wellbeing outcomes. Ministry analysis found that 15-year-old students who reported skipping a greater number of days of school in the previous fortnight reported worse outcomes on average for a number of measures of wellbeing; school work-related anxiety, sense of belonging, exposure to bullying, motivation and experiences of teacher unfairness.

Attendance is also linked to student attainment in secondary students. Recent research<sup>[2]</sup> shows that each additional half-day of absence from school and kura is associated with a consistent reduction in the number of NCEA credits students subsequently attain – whether that is a student moving from 100% to 99% attendance or moving from 71% to 70% attendance. Students who are absent even 5-10% of the time (which is still considered “regular” attendance) nevertheless obtain fewer NCEA credits than those with higher attendance rates. In short, evidence suggests that there is no “safe” level of non-attendance which has no impact on student and ākonga wellbeing and attainment. (<https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/statistics/daily-attendance>)

Unfortunately, our Term 3 attendance data was disappointing showing a further decline in regular attendance from terms one and two:



We strongly encourage you to ensure your child attends school **every day** in Term 4 to maximise their learning potential. We were doing well in Term 1 with 72% of students attending regularly, with this dropping to 57% in Term 3. While I know there have been some nasty bugs about in Terms 2 + 3, we need to focus on reducing the number of unjustified absences. These include tired students, going on holidays (extended weekends and overseas trips) during school time, taking time off for birthdays, visiting relatives, staying home to help on the farm, or around the house, having hair cuts etc.

If your child is tired, please ensure they are not having access to devices after bedtime, and that they are ‘switching off’ for at least an hour before they go to bed ( 11 - 13 year olds need between 8-12 hours of sleep every night). Being online replicates daylight and keeps the brain alert.

We look forward to regular attendance in Term 4, with your support. Further information for parents/whānau can be found in [this link](#).

**Calendar Events:** [Term 4 School Calendar](#) [Click the link on the left to access the Term Four calendar.](#)

### Term Four:

Thursday 17th October  
Friday 18th October  
Monday 21st October

Livestock Day  
Craft and Livestock Day prizegiving (approximately 10.15 am)  
Camp parent helpers meeting 6.00pm

Wednesday 23rd October	'Red Carpet' Event, screening of The Time Travelling Waka (see details below)
<b>Friday 25th October</b>	MOE Curriculum approved <b>TEACHER ONLY DAY (school closed)</b>
Monday 28th October	LABOUR DAY - PUBLIC HOLIDAY
29th Oct - 11th November	Aongatete Camp - class by class
Wednesday 30th October	Board Meeting 6.30pm
Thursday 31st October	II Speeches / II Kapa Haka / Morrinsville Group Day
Tuesday 5th November	II Softball
Thursday 7th November	II Music
Wednesday 13th November	Sports, Cultural, Civic Photos
Thursday 14th November	School Athletics competition
Friday 15th November	School sprint finals
Tuesday 19th November	II Lacrosse
Wednesday 20th November	'Special Persons' Day 11.00 a.m. (more information to follow)
Tuesday 26th November	II Athletics
Wednesday 4th December	Y6 Orientation Day at MIS and Y8 Morrinsville College
Wednesday 4th December	Board Meeting 6.30pm
Monday 9th December	MIS Fun Day
Wednesday 11th December	Year 8 Formal Social 7.00pm to 9.30pm
Thursday 12th December	End of Year Reports go home
Friday 13th December	End of year prizegiving 11am to 1pm
Monday 16th December	Last day of school 12.30pm finish (buses will be early too)

**2025 School Term Dates:**

Term One:	Monday 3rd February to Friday 11th April
Term Two:	Monday 28th April to Friday 27th June
Term Three:	Monday 14th July to Friday 19th September
Term Four:	Monday 6th October to Monday 16th December (12.30pm finish)

**2025 Teacher Only Curriculum Days (approved by MOE)**

Term Two:	Tuesday 3rd June (after King's Birthday)
Term Four:	Tuesday 28th October (after Labour Day)

Our primary schools have been consulted on these dates to ensure we work toward the same dates making it easier on families.

**POSTPONED DUE TO THE TANGI OF THE MĀORI KING**

**Morrinsville Intermediate Presents**

**'The Time Travelling Waka'**

We invite our community to come along to view our 2023 school production screening in a 'red carpet' event

**WEDNESDAY 23rd OCTOBER @ 6.30pm**

Coffee truck and food truck selling hot chips, hot dogs and drinks from 5.00pm - 6.00pm

Kapa Haka roopu performance 6.00pm - 6.30pm

**Intermission:** Snacks available for purchase.

**Entry fee:** Canned/packageged food item per whānau to support the local food bank.



**POSTPONED DUE TO THE TANGI OF THE MĀORI KING**

End of year prizegiving cups and trophies are now due to be returned to school. Thanks.

