

February 2025

Dear Parents and Whanau

With New Zealand surrounded by coastline, beach safety education is vital, our school is participating in a Beach Education programme conducted by Surf Life Saving at Waihi Beach, Waihi.

**Team Piako: Rooms P1, P2 and P5: Friday 28th February - Week 4**  
**Rooms P3 and P4: Monday 24th February - Week 4**

**Team Topehahae: Rooms T1 and T2: Monday, 3rd March - Week 5**  
**Room T3 and T4: Tuesday, 4th March - Week 5**

**Team Waitakaruru: Rooms W1 and W2: Thursday 27th February - Week 4**  
**Rooms W3 and W4: Tuesday 25th February - Week 4**

Beach Ed. is a full day beach and surf safety course delivered by qualified surf lifeguards. Some modules covered at Beach Ed. include:

- A tour of the club
- Teaching of surf safety rules
- Identification of, and how to escape, a rip current
- Beach games - relating to a skill to stay safe on the beach including a sand sculpture of a rip current
- How to set up a beach patrol - reinforces safety messages
- Water activities - may include mock rescues, bodyboards, channel/hole identification, survival using flotation devices.
- Role of a lifeguard
- Lifeguard in a rip
- Sun smart

There is no cost to you, as the costs are covered as part of our government donation scheme.

To meet the adult:student safety ratio around water, we require 12 adults to help with supervision for the day. Adults will need to be prepared to be in the surf with the students. If you are available for the day, please indicate on the permission slip.

The outline of the day is as follows -

- 7:45 - Meet in the dome
- **8 am sharp - Depart school to Waihi**
- 9.15am (approx) - Arrive at Waihi Beach
- All day - Beach Ed programme
- 2pm - depart Waihi
- 3pm - arrive back at school (if your child is a bus student please make alternative arrangements for pick up from school)

Students will need to bring -

- Morning tea, snacks, big lunch and a water bottle
- Togs, towel and a hat
- Wetsuit if they have one
- Sunblock - please apply before coming to school and reapply throughout the day
- Sunhat

Students can wear suitable non-uniform clothing to and from school on their Beach Ed day. As students will be taking changes of clothes, towels etc please ensure that all items are named.

As beach safety is an important part of our Health and Physical Education curriculum, specifically keeping ourselves safe at the beach, we ***expect all students to participate***. If you or your child has any concerns please don't hesitate to make contact with your child's teacher.

If you have any queries about this day please phone the school office on 07 889 6629.

Regards

Keryn Vette

(Organiser)



**BEACH ED / SURF LIFE SAVING NZ PERMISSION SLIP - RETURN TO YOUR TEACHER ASAP**

I give / do not give permission for \_\_\_\_\_ in Rm \_\_\_\_\_

to attend the Surf Life Saving Education on \_\_\_\_\_ (please write in teams date)

- I am able to assist as a parent helper **in the water** on the day (tick if you can attend, thanks)
- Name of Adult attending \_\_\_\_\_ Contact \_\_\_\_\_
- If I am attending as a parent helper, I will travel by bus  OR take my own vehicle

Please state medical conditions and relevant medications that your child may have or need.

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In the event of injury or illness I give permission for first aid to be administered:                      Yes    No    (please circle)

Doctor: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: Parent / Caregiver \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Parent / Caregiver \_\_\_\_\_