



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 1 Week 5 Newsletter 2025

Kia ora e te whānau, nau mai haere mai ki te panui Wiki Rima

We have had a very productive two weeks. Our Waihi Beach Safety trips have gone well with many students who were initially reluctant to swim making a deliberate effort to participate in the opportunities provided. With New Zealand being surrounded by water, it is critical our tamariki are 'water wise' as the lessons learnt from the life guards may do exactly that save lives! Read the 'key messages' that were shared throughout the day, so that you can discuss these further with your tamariki at home.

By now your child will have completed a range of assessment activities in literacy and numeracy. The data derived from these will be used to inform planning, both at the school level, and in classrooms. At the upcoming student-learning conversations (SLCs) your child and teacher will make this available to share with you. Over the next week or so everyone will be setting SMART goals that will be shared and discussed with you also. Co-constructing these with whānau is an important part of the home-school learning partnership. In the meantime, ask your child what they have been focusing on at school, what the learning was and how they felt they were achieving in relation to it.

At Morrinsville Intermediate School we encourage all ākonga (learners) to engage in some 'home learning' during the week. We know many of our students have other commitments beyond school, so the expectations we set are ones that can be done independently to supplement what they are doing at school. Home learning may comprise:

- Reading for sustained periods of time (20 - 30 minutes each day)
- Complete 15 minutes of Maths Whizz Mon - Thurs (or a total of 60 minutes over the whole week)
- Learn their basic facts (having a solid understanding, and fast recall of x-tables contribute to making maths much more accessible across all maths strands, and in real life). Basic facts also includes addition, subtraction and division
- Complete any unfinished work from school

Congratulations to our Kapa Haka tutors (Kataraina, Elijah and Trust) who competed at Te Matatini in New Plymouth last week. It was awesome watching your very polished performance and showing our tamariki what hard work and dedication can achieve. Kapa Haka at MIS begins tomorrow in Block 3; I encourage your child to get involved and give it a go.

Kind regards

Jenny Clark

(Principal)

Featuring in today's newsletter:

Rangatiratanga Award

Gold for Glory

2025 Student Executives

Learner Profile

Student Learning Conversations

Learning Expo

Beach Safety at Waihi

Inter-Intermediate Cricket

Inter-Intermediate Volleyball

Roll Growth Classrooms

Class Refurbishments

Term Dates 2025

Term One calendar

Teacher Only Days



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 Involvement in Week 4:

Congratulations to the following students from Week 4: Henry P1, Eva P2, Anne P3, Tiana P4, Lahnae P5, Grayson T1, Embree T2, Jackson T3, Meadow T4, Dylan W1, Kate W2, Sapphire W3, Eric W4, CJ Science, Lauren Food Tech, Anahera Hard Materials, Eli Robotics, Grayson Art, Kyle Performing Arts.

Gold For Glory: At each assembly students are recognised by the principal for showing initiative, or going the extra mile by demonstrating our school vision, motto and values. The recipient in Week 4 was: Gabriela Dodunski. Well done!

Congratulations to our 2025 Student Executives:

From left to right: Eesha Murti, Dana Van Ras, Nathan Duncan, Rico Hirama-Hunuhunu, Maddie Hedley, and Dylan Hunt.

We know you will represent Morrinsville Intermediate as EMPOWERED students and do an amazing job in your new leadership role.

We would also like to acknowledge the other students who put themselves forward and presented speeches to their Teams and the seven finalists who all did themselves proud. Well done to you all on making the most of opportunities and giving it your best effort.



Learner Profile:



After much consultation our Learner Profile graphics are finally in place. They look awesome. We are busy 'unpacking' the meanings of the dispositions the EMPOWERED acronym is founded on (a synthesis of the key competencies). At home you could support us by talking with your child about this and how they can demonstrate these in their everyday lives:

EXCELLENCE - I aspire to be outstanding and achieve personal excellence

MANA - I uphold my own self-respect and that of others

PERSEVERANCE - I persist despite difficulty, to achieve success

OPPORTUNITIES - I seek a range of opportunities to extend myself (this means inside and outside the classroom)

WONDER - I am curious and seek to learn and understand

ENGAGEMENT - I get involved and participate fully

RESILIENCE - I deal with setbacks constructively

EMPATHY - I consider others' feelings and can accept others' points of view

DETERMINATION - I demonstrate grit and courage regardless of obstacles

Student Learning Conversations (SLC):

Student Learning Conversations will take place during Week 9. SLCs are a valuable opportunity to share how your child is progressing in their learning, and at school in general. S.L.C.s will be held on Wednesday 2nd April from 1.30pm to 7.00pm and Thursday 3rd April from 3.15pm to 6.30pm.

Please note: normal classes will finish at 1.00pm on Wednesday 2nd April and school will be open for an alternative programme for those who remain at school. However, if students do go home we ask that they learn remotely for the afternoon; they can work on their Writers Toolbox and Maths Whizz.

Parents / caregivers are all invited, and encouraged, to book a 15 minute slot to meet with teachers via www.schoolinterviews.co.nz. The event code will be shared via a separate notice closer to time.

Parent Learning Workshop Evening:

The connections between home and school are incredibly valuable in supporting the learning of our ākonga. As part of strengthening this connection we thought it would be beneficial to explain to our whānau what some of our structured learning programmes look and feel like in the classroom.

Each of the four workshops are planned to be about 15 minutes long and give you a brief outline of what it looks like at school and how they can be supported at home. Please join us for the evening to enjoy a hot drink and a bikkie and learn a little bit more about the amazing learning partnerships we have at Morrinsville Intermediate School.

Reading, Writing, Maths - Find ways to support your child as they learn using the New Zealand Curriculum

The learning partnership between home and school is valuable. Te Mahau (Ministry of Education) have put together a resource for parents to help support their tamariki. [Visit the link here](#) (below are screenshots of parts of the documents; they are very easy reading).

PARENT LEARNING WORKSHOP EVENING



Workshop Outline

- Literacy Centre
 - Purpose, process and supporting from home
- Executive Functions
 - What they are and how we can support their development
- Maths Whizz/PRIME/Maintenance
 - What a structured approach to Maths looks like at MIS
- Writer's Toolbox
 - What a structured approach to writing looks like at MIS

Thursday 20th March 2025

When: 6.00 - 7.00pm

Where: School Hall

Reading at home

Supporting your child's learning at **Year 7**

Make reading fun

- Help your child to follow a recipe and cook for the family.
- Encourage your child to read and follow instructions for playing a game, making or using a piece of equipment, or completing a competition entry form.
- Remember their reading doesn't have to be a book - it could be online content, magazines or newspapers.

Here's a tip: talk a lot to your child while you are doing things together. Use the language that works best for you and your child.

Talk about it

- Ask your child to talk about parts of a story they liked and why. Talk about the key facts, characters, plot, setting, theme and author's purpose. Have them retell the main ideas or

Read to your child

- Just because your child can read doesn't mean that they don't enjoy listening to someone else reading. It could be a non-fiction book on a topic they like or a short story or a longer book read in instalments. It could also be a more difficult book/article that your child needs your help to read and understand.
- You could also listen to audio stories together - you can borrow these from the library or download them.
- Encourage your child to read the lyrics to their favourite songs, waiata or haka. Talk about why the composer wrote the song. What were they trying to say?

Here's a tip: keep the magic of just listening to a good story alive by reading either made up, retold or read-aloud stories - with lots of excitement through the use of your voice.

Maths at home

Supporting your child's learning at **Year 8**

Talk together and have fun with numbers, shapes, games, and patterns

Help your child:

- find and connect numbers around your home and on family outings, for example, read the odometer on the car to see how many kilometres the car can go on a tank of petrol. Get them to note how much it costs to refill, then work out how much it costs per kilometre
- talk about sales in town - 15% off, 33% off, 20% off, half price. Look for the best value. What would the price of the item be after the discount? Is it better to buy two items and get one free or get 25% off the price of the items?
- budget pocket money and/or plan ahead to open a savings account or reach a savings target. Talk about earning interest. Calculate what interest would be earned using different savings schemes
- work out the amount of fabric needed to make a piece of clothing - how many square metres is needed?



Use easy, everyday activities

Involve your child in:

- planning to help make a dish or a full meal for the family or even a community event at the hall or marae - working out the cost of making it at home versus buying it already made, planning the preparation and cooking time - and focus on the ingredients and the amounts of fat and sugar, too

Beach Safety: Key messages

Over the past two weeks, our classrooms headed over to Waihi Beach to dive into the Beach Education Programme. Our tamariki got to know all about the surf lifesaving club and the equipment they use. They also learnt how to spot the four signs of a rip:

- discoloured water
- calm patches
- criss-cross waves
- debris

We also all learnt about the 3 R's if you find yourself caught in a rip: **R**elax, **R**aise your hand, and **R**ide.

Essential water safety tips we also taught, like never swimming when you're tired or lacking energy.

Each day wrapped up with some fun beach games and a chance to hit the waves on a boogie board!

A massive mihi to the Waihi Surf Lifesaving Club for hosting our students and giving them such a valuable experience, along with all our amazing parent/whānau helpers; we appreciate your support. See the last page for a few photos.

Inter-Intermediate Boys' Cricket:

Our II Boys' Cricket team had a great day representing our school on Tuesday, 25th of February. In the first game against Fairfield Intermediate we set a competitive score of 120 in 15 overs, but Fairfield chased it down in 12 overs. Our second game was a win against Te Awamutu as we chased down their score of 109 in just 12 overs, winning comfortably. The final match against Matamata Intermediate was a nail-biter, but despite our best efforts, their excellent fielding and match-winning catches on the boundary led to a close loss. A huge thank you to our parents; Laurina, Otis, and Yashwant for their help with transportation and support throughout the day.

Inter-Intermediate Volleyball:

On Tuesday 4th March, we took a boys and girls volleyball team to The Peak in Rototuna. We had some tough opponents and very close games but unfortunately did not come away with a win. It was great to see all our students having a go, playing as a team and most importantly showing Kia U Ki Te Pai in all that we did, on and off the court. Congratulations for trying your best and improving game by game!



Roll Growth Classrooms:

We were very excited to have our building consent granted two weeks ago to enable the next stage of our roll growth classrooms to begin. A lot of work was done to prepare the piles in readiness to lower the rooms. This happened last Friday - it was fascinating watching the process of jacking the classrooms up, removing the temporary piles, then hydraulically lowering the classrooms. It happened with fine precision much to the delight of many of our tamariki who were out watching it unfold - watch this space for some 'exciting writing'. The classrooms are now at ground level; decking, a ramp and the steps are now underway.




Classroom Refurbishments:

We have a very busy 'property' plan for this year. Once the roll growth classrooms are approved for occupancy two classrooms (T. 3 and T. 4) will move into the library and R. 12 for approximately three weeks while their classrooms are gutted and fully refurbished (using a very similar model to P. 1 - 4 that were completed a few years ago).

School Term Dates 2025:

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 Tuesday 16th December (12.30pm finish)

 MIS Calendar: FB/Newsletter [Click the link on the left to access our school calendar.](#)

Term Calendar One events:

Friday 7th March	Kapa Haka starts in school
Friday 7th March	Makuhari students arrive (approx 1pm)
Monday 10th March	Makuhari Powhiri 9.30am
Tuesday 11th March	Inter-Intermediate swimming
17th -18th March	Epro8 Event (in-school)
Tuesday 18th March	Inter-Intermediate Touch Rugby
Tuesday 18th March	Makuhari sayonara party (after school)
Wednesday 19th March	Makuhari students depart
Tuesday 25th March	Inter-Intermediate drama
Wednesday 26th March	Board Meeting 6.30pm
Wednesday 2nd April	Year 7 & 8 immunisations
Wednesday 2nd April	Student Learning Conversations 1.30pm to 7.00pm
Thursday 3rd April	Otago Problem Solving #1
Thursday 3rd April	Student Learning Conversations 3.15pm to 6.30pm
8th - 9th April	Epro8 Event (inter-school)
Thursday 10th April	School disco 7pm to 9pm (school hall)
Friday 11th April	Last day of Term One
Friday 18th April	Good Friday (public holiday)
Monday 21st April	Easter Monday (public holiday)
Friday 25th April	ANZAC Day (public holiday)
Monday 28th April	First day of Term 2

2025 Teacher Only Curriculum Days:

Term Two:	Tuesday 3rd June (after King's Birthday).
Term Four:	Friday 24th October (before Labour weekend).

Please visit our school website www.mi.school.nz

Like us on Facebook and download our free Skool Loop App to keep up-to-date with school activities and events.

