

## WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL FOR 2024

Greetings and welcome back to school to all our students and whānau. A special welcome to new families that have joined our school whānau this year. We are looking forward to a fantastic year of learning at Wiri Central School.

At Wiri Central School we are committed to making sure that all students are able to access the resources they need to attend school, participate fully and to learn. The school provides all students with required stationery items at no cost to families. We operate a Breakfast Club each morning before school starts, students receive a piece of fruit daily for morning tea and lunches are provided through the Ministry of Education's School Lunch programme. We do not charge any school fees and day trips, sports excursions and school activities are paid for by the school. All you need to provide are your amazing children.

It is important to us that children attend school regularly, at least 90% of the time. Regular attendance is important if children are to make progress in their learning and maintain relationships with their peers. All students need to be present at school so they can participate and engage in learning. Students with high levels of attendance are more likely to succeed in their learning. We want all Wiri Central School students to succeed.

Our goal for student attendance is 90% or more. To achieve this students need to miss no more than 18 school days across the year (4-5 days per term). Please support your child to achieve this goal by ensuring they attend school every day, on time. It is a requirement that we report to the Ministry of Education about student attendance including reasons for student absences. It is therefore essential that you inform us of the reason for every absence your child has from school. If your child must be absent for any reason we ask that you contact the school. You can do this by phone, text or email (see contact details on the front of this newsletter).

At Wiri Central we value community engagement. By working together we can support and meet the needs of our children, your children. I welcome your contact anytime and I am looking forward to working alongside you all in 2024 as we support and inspire our students to achieve their best.

## INVERELL AVE ROAD WORKS

It is most unfortunate that the road works in Inverell Ave did not start as scheduled and look likely to continue for a few weeks longer. We are very aware of the disruption and additional safety hazards that this will cause to children arriving and leaving school. We ask for your help and cooperation to keep all of our children safe during this time.

Until further notice please use the gate behind Room 17 (entry from the reserve by the Wiri Community Hall) for entering or exiting the school grounds if you can. Please use the Wiri Community Hall car park or the Great South Road to drop off or pick up children. Our school road patrol monitors will temporarily support children to cross Inverell Ave opposite the Community Hall car park. The only students we would like using the front, Inverell Ave gate are those who live in Iona place, or odd numbers of Inverell Ave (the shop side).

We will keep you up to date of changes as the work progresses.

## THE SCHOOL DAY

The gate behind Room 17 (near the Wiri Community Hall) is opened daily at 8am. The front gate (when the road works are completed) will open about 8.10am. At 8.45am, when the music plays, students go to class to get ready to start their day. Learning starts at 9am.

The first play break for students is at 11 - 11.20am. Students eat their fruit in class prior to going out to play. The exact timing for fruit eating may vary across different classes or roopū. Lunch is eaten inside at 12.30pm and students' play break is 12.40pm - 1.20pm. Our school day finishes at 3pm every day.

## YEAR SIX CAMP 2023

Our Year 6 Camp is coming up . The dates for camp are **Wednesday 22 February to Friday 24 February**. On Wednesday and Thursday campers travel to Long Bay to complete a range of activities at the Sir Peter Blake Marine Education and Recreation Centre (MERC). Each afternoon following the MERC activities campers travel to Orewa Top Ten Holiday Park to stay the night. Friday is pack up day and travel back to school including a stop at Otahuhu Pools on the way. Our campers are expected to arrive back at school before 3.00pm.

There will be a meeting on **Wednesday 15th February at 5.00 pm**. The meeting will be in the school **staffroom**. This is a great opportunity to find out everything you need to know about camp. If you have a child in Year 6, please come along.

## WE ARE A HEALTH PROMOTING SCHOOL

We are **SMOKE FREE/VAPE FREE** and **SUNSMART**. Children are encouraged to put sunscreen on at home and to wear a hat in the playground. Sunscreen is also available at school. If you do not want your child to use school sunscreen, please talk to or write to your child's class teacher.

Wiri Central School is part of the '**Fruit in Schools**' programme. Every child receives a free piece of fruit every day. If your child is allergic to specific fruit, please tell the class teacher.

We request that students drink **only water** at school. A named water bottle can be kept at school for your child to refill. Students receive a **free, healthy lunch** every school day. Any dietary needs should have been recorded at enrolment however, if your child's needs change, please let the class teacher or school office know of any special dietary needs or food allergies.

Wiri Central School is part of the **Mana Kids programme** to prevent Rheumatic Fever and skin infections. Nurses are at school every morning to check any student with a sore throat or skin problem. If medication is required parents are contacted by the nurses. You are welcome to come and talk to the nurse at school about any medical concerns for your child.

**PLEASE NOTE: NO SWEETS, CHEWING GUM, BUBBLE GUM OR CHOCOLATES ARE ALLOWED AT SCHOOL.**

## WWW = WIRI WHĀNAU WAY

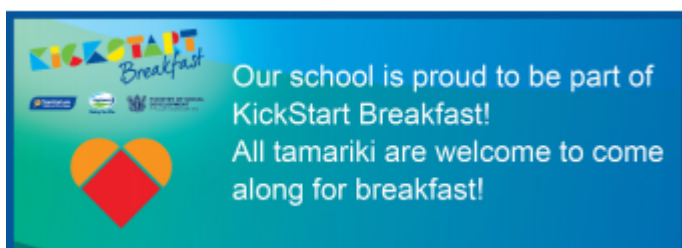
Why do we come to school? We come to school to learn.

To do this well we need to make sure that we always demonstrate our school values of **kotahitanga, manaakitanga, whanaungatanga and rangatiratanga**. Upholding our values supports our own learning and allows others to get on with learning. At Wiri Central School we use the Wiri Whānau Way to help everyone demonstrate the values and focus on learning.

For lots of different areas or situations around our school we have identified positive expectations for behaviour. The expectations relate to the four school values - **kotahitanga, manaakitanga, whanaungatanga and rangatiratanga**. Inside our classrooms and out in the playground we teach the expectations to students.

At the end of next week your child will bring home a copy of the class and playground expectations. Parents, you have an important part to play in supporting the Wiri Whānau Way. Ask your children to tell you about the expectations and how they can achieve them. Encourage your child to demonstrate the expectations and earn whānau tokens. In the middle and at the end of each term the winning whānau will enjoy an afternoon of reward activities. At the end of the year, the winning whānau will get to participate in a fun, reward trip.

## BREAKFAST CLUB



Breakfast Club is every school day morning 8.15 - 8.45am in Te Puna, starting next week.