



Kaeo School



Learn, Love, Contribute, Grow
 Aim High—Stand Tall - Taraia nga taumata E tu teitei
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**Term 2
Week 3**

Hello,

Last week we had a problem with children bringing vaping equipment to school. This in turn led to the discovery that a further child had tobacco products and a lighter in their possession. Over the years there have been very few instances where this behaviour has occurred. I could probably count the instances on one hand.

As always, problems like this are a prompt for reflection and learning, for us all to consider what has led to this occurring. Certainly, there is an element of children making the mistakes that children have always made. It would be remiss to forget that illicit smoking has occurred in school for many years (though it must be said, not usually at primary schools) but all the same it has always been something that is unwanted and has consequences.

The appearance of vaping has added a further dimension to this problem. I know little of the attraction of vaping but from a few minutes research it is clear that it does no one any good health wise and that the effects of vaping are largely still unknown. Indeed, that same short search of the internet throws up a number of instances where children, especially boys, have been grossly affected by vaping.

Regardless, vaping and smoking for that matter are illegal on school grounds and so this must not occur and when it does is not solely subject to the schools rules and expectations but also the legislation around this – in short anyone is breaking the law that vapes or smokes on school grounds in New Zealand.

What can parents do to help? Not smoking or vaping is the best thing as parents behaviour is the best model for their children, but if you choose to do so manage this well and ensure that children do not have access to vaping devices and or cigarettes. Talking to children around the unsafe nature of these things for them will also help, as will ensuring that children are not affected by second hand smoke or vape.

I have mentioned Dame Whina Coopers well known advice before but it remains, as always, relevant –

Take care of our children. Take care of what they hear, take care of what they see, take care of what they feel. For how the children grow, so will the shape of Aotearoa."

Paul Barker.

Students of the Week

Congratulations to our Students of the Week for Week 2 – Lucy, Lucious, Cassie, Montana, Cynthia and Lilly – nice work!



Market Day

Our annual Market Day will be held in a few weeks. If you have anything that you would like to contribute for sale (no electronics, please) send it along or deliver it to school. All of the proceeds from Market Day go towards our Honours Board celebration at the end of the year. A great opportunity to clear out the clutter and support the children at the same time!

Attendance

Another week of very good attendance with just under 93% achieved again – thank you to everyone that has helped in this regard. A gentle reminder please that children should only be absent from school if they are unwell or are attending tangi or the like. Trips shopping or to Auckland or Whangarei are not legitimate reasons for being absent from school and should be undertaken in the weekends or holidays please.

Dates for your diary

May 23 BOT Meeting
 June 2 Teacher Only Day – Parent Interviews.
 June 6 Queen's Birthday Holiday
 June 24 Matariki Holiday
 June 27 BOT Meeting
 June 29 Art Exhibition Opens
 July 1 Cross Country – Totara North
 July 6 Art Exhibition closes
 July 8 Term Ends 1pm