



Kaeo School

Learn, Love, Contribute, Grow
Aim High—Stand Tall - Taraia nga taumata E tu teitei
www.kaeoprimary.school.nz
www.facebook.com/KaeoSchool

Phone: 405 0099

Term 1
Week 2

Hello everyone,

School attendance is in the news again today with Associate Education Minister David Seymour signalling that he wishes to introduce fines and penalties for parents whose children are unjustifiably absent from school.

In an article in the New Zealand Herald Mr Seymour is quoted as saying:

"We will be signalling, as the PM has, that is it a duty to send your kids to school. And we will be investigating whether we should actually start using the power to fine, as they have in the UK, more frequently."

And the article noted that:

Currently, parents can be fined if their child is repeatedly absent from school ... The fines are up to \$300 for a first successful prosecution and up to \$3000 for subsequent prosecutions.

No one associated with Kaeo School for any length of time will be uncertain about how important we view regular attendance at school but we understand that what appears to some to be a black and white issue is often more complex than it first seems. That is why we work hard to encourage attendance and to support families overcome any difficulties that they may have getting children to school.

We have great pride that our school's attendance levels exceed those of other schools similar to ours (thanks everyone) but we should of course not become complacent and everyone one should make a strong commitment to ensure that their child attends school unless there is a legitimate reason not to - such as being sick, attending tangi, or a family emergency.

Let's keep leading the way attendance wise- and if we can help in any way please let us know.

Nga mihi,
Paul Barker.

Students of the Week

Congratulations to our first Students of the Week for 2024 – Tupu, Matthew, Tyzjon, Legacy, Nico and Airini. Nice work guys!



Meet the Teacher Night

A reminder that tonight is 'Meet the Teacher' night – a chance to get to know your child's new teacher and to hear about the priorities in your child's classroom for the year ahead.

We will meet in the hall at 5.30 first for a short talk before heading off to classrooms to meet the teachers. This is not a formal one on one interview time (that will come later in the term) but rather a chance to put a face to a name and to build the positive relationship with your child's teacher necessary for a successful 2024.

Afterwards we will have free sausage sizzle and the pool will be open for a swim until 7.00pm.

We look forward to seeing you tonight.

"Reflect upon your present blessings, of which every man has many - not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some." - Charles Dickens.