

Chelsea School Newsletter

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Week 7, Term 3, 2020

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- Thu 17 Sep: Y3-Y6 X-Country
- Fri 18 Sep: Y0-Y2 X-Country
- Tue 22 Sep: Y0-Y2 X-Country rain day
- Thu 24 Sep: Y3-Y6 X-Country rain day
- Mon 21 Sep: BOT Meeting 7pm in the Staffroom
- Thu 24 Sep: PJ & Pizza Party 5.30-8pm
- Fri 25 Sep: Term 3 finishes. **School closes 2pm**

Kia Ora Whānau

Welcome to week 7 of Term 3. Firstly, a massive thank you to all of you for your support of teaching and learning at home over the past 2.5 weeks. We feel incredibly lucky to have such an engaged community who are ever supportive of us. We have had a great couple of days together and our learners are very happy to be back in class with their friends.

Local Curriculum Design

In and amongst all of the disruption that 2020 has brought we have been working away on our new local curriculum review and design.

An important part of this process has been to look closely at our values and DNA to make sure that these are still in line with our beliefs as a school and community. We thank those who responded to our survey earlier in the year. We analysed the results of this carefully, and your voices formed an important part of our review. We have also talked to focus groups of learners to ask for their thoughts and feelings.

Our staff have spent a number of sessions working together and with an external facilitator (Jan Hill, from The Education Group) to clarify our thinking and to pull all of these threads together.



What is our why?

Growing Great Learners

Te Whakatipu Akonga Miharo

Our vision 'Growing Great Learners' is the common goal we are all working towards. Thanks to Stan and Kelly for their work on crafting a Māori translation of our vision: 'Te Whakatipu Akonga Miharo'.

Values should be the driving force of any organisation that sit at the heart of all decisions and planning. Values are different from our DNA and we have spent time together as a staff to clarify the role and purpose of each. Our thinking is outlined below.

Values

Our values are beliefs that we hold. Our values help us to **grow great people**.

DNA

The Chelsea DNA represent key competencies or skills we need to develop so that we can help to **grow great learners**.

In our next newsletter, we will explain the process we are working through to streamline our DNA. This week, we will share where we have arrived at after many hours of thinking and analysis in relation to our school values.

Existing Values	Feedback and thinking from community, learners and staff	Conceptual Values that we are moving towards
<p>Excellence</p> <p>Responsibility</p> <p>Honesty</p> <p>Respect</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While we all agree that our existing values are important, they may not completely capture the values we wish to see grow and develop in our learners. Values have been overshadowed by DNA. They are not as widely referred to as DNA. There are key beliefs and understandings that we value as a community that do not fit under the existing values - these are kindness, empathy, belonging As a staff we love the idea of conceptual values as they have more depth to them than the existing words that we use. 	<p>Manaakitanga Care and empathy Respect Integrity</p> <p>Whanaungatanga Belonging/Inclusion Connection Partnerships Relationships</p> <p>Kaitiakitanga Responsibility Guardianship -</p> <p>Ako Lifelong learning Learning from each other Learner Agency Collaboration</p>

Where to next

We have set aside more time to develop definitions for these concepts in coming weeks. Defining the types of thoughts, actions and behaviours that illustrate these concepts is key. They must be accessible to all stakeholders: staff, learners and community.

We will also be inviting focus groups from our community to come and feedback to us about the changes we are making. We are hopeful that we will be able to make this happen within Term 4.

Hero Learning Stories

It has been lovely to read the learning stories that are being published on Hero. These learning stories capture 'breakthrough moments' of our learners, or situations that require celebration.

Every child in our school will have one learning story published by the beginning of next term. If you log into Hero, you should see these under the 2020 Report tab. You should also be notified if your child has had a learning story published. If you are having any issues with Hero, please contact sven@chelsea.school.nz for support. We have noticed that most of the initial glitches that we were dealing with have been sorted by the Hero technical team.

Level 2 Reminders

- Please check that your child has a drink bottle at school. These can be filled at the classroom taps throughout the day. Drinking fountains are turned off.
- Parents and family members who are coming into the school site are encouraged to wear masks. We would also encourage this at pick up time when people are standing quite close together at the gates.

Construction Progress

Space 3 & 4 learners are all settled into the library and LHQ (room opposite the library) while their classrooms are refurbished.

The construction company is making great progress. All linings have been ripped out, plastering and painting done, and wall coverings scheduled for next week.

All of our learners have been briefed on safety plans, and know which areas of the school to avoid. We are hopeful that this stage of work will be completed just prior to the holidays, so that stage 2 can commence (Spaces 5 & 6).



Cross Country

Year 0 - 2: Friday 18th September (saver Tuesday 22nd)

Year 3 - 6: Thursday 17th September (saver Thursday 24th September).

As our students have been training so hard in preparation for the cross country we have decided we will run these events. Please note however that the inter school cross country for Year 4 - 6 has been postponed until Term 4 with the date TBC. We would love for parents to be able to come along and support but as you are aware we are uncertain at this time as we may still have Level 2 (or 2.5) restrictions in place. If this is the case we will make arrangements to live stream these events.

Dates for 2021

We have now set our dates for 2021. Term One will start on Wednesday 3 February and the last day of school will be Wednesday 15 December 2021.

Enrolments for 2021

We are now accepting enrolments for the 2021 school year. For children who are living outside of the school zone, please either contact Sandra, at the office office@chelsea.school.nz for an out of zone ballot form or download one here [2021 Ballot Application](#). These forms need to be received at the office, no later than Wednesday, 14 October for you to be included in the ballot. To assist us in allocating the number of available spaces for out of zone families, we would appreciate all in zone families completing an enrolment form as soon as possible. [Enrolment form](#) Thank you for your help with this.