



# FAIRFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Tautapatia te pono - Dare To Be True*

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Hamilton 3248

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Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Room No: \_\_\_\_\_

## Newsletter No 6: 23rd May 2019

Dear Parent / Caregiver,

A warm welcome to all our new students and families: Pianika, Tewaiora, Ramya, Rocky and Folauhola.

### TEACHERS STRIKE - Wednesday 29th May—SCHOOL IS CLOSED ON THIS DAY

As many of you will be aware, there is a nationwide teachers strike on Wednesday 29 May. We greatly appreciate the community support that we have already received following the decision by teachers and principals to strike.

The decision to take further strike action was not taken lightly by any of us. For the first time, both primary and secondary teachers are striking together because the crisis in education hits us all very hard and we need the Government to understand how serious it is.

Schools are grappling with the fallout of a 40% nosedive in the number of people training to be teachers between 2010 and 2016, even while the population grew by 400,000. While the situation improved a little last year and the Government has announced an urgent \$95m package to recruit teachers, this is not sufficient to address the crisis.

Schools struggle daily to find enough teachers to meet their relief teacher needs and this will worsen as winter approaches. There is also a desperate need for more support for children with additional learning needs. The fact is that teaching is no longer considered an attractive profession due to long-term under-funding of the education sector. A significant pay jolt is part of the solution, alongside significant improvements to our heavy workloads. Otherwise our schools will end up with larger class sizes and more teachers leaving. He waka eke noa. We're all in this together.

If you would like to join the teachers on their March, they will be meeting at the Band Rotunda at 11.30am at Ferrybank Park, Hamilton. 12.00pm - March up Victoria Street  
12.30pm - Rally at Garden Place.



NZEI  
PEIA

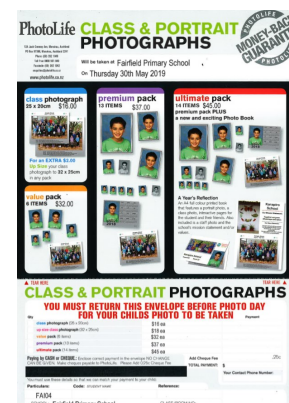
### PHOTO DAY IS THURSDAY 30TH MAY

*LAST DAY FOR ALL ORDERS AND PAYMENT IS TUESDAY 28TH MAY.*

When returning orders, please ensure the correct money is securely sealed inside your child's individualised envelope.

OUR OFFICE IS UNABLE TO CHANGE MONEY FOR YOU.

If you make payment online directly to the Photolife bank account you must use the details on the envelope so that Photolife can match your child. *Last year several payments were made directly to the Photolife bank account without any references and subsequently children were not photographed.*



### HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION CONSULTATION

Every two years, our school is required to consult with the community regarding what we teach in the health and physical education curriculum. In health and physical education, the focus is on the well being of the students themselves, of other people and of society through learning in health-related and movement topics.

The key areas of learning are:

- Personal health and physical development
- Movement concepts and motor skills
- Relationships with other people
- Healthy communities and environments

Learning about pubertal change begins at Curriculum level 4 (approx. Years 5&6) and is planned and taught in conjunction with our public health nurse. Parents will be notified well in advance and have the option to withdraw their children from pubertal change sessions. Should you wish to view the entire Health and Physical education curriculum, please ask at the office.

### Board of Trustees Elections 2019

#### Declaration of Parent Election Results

At the close of nominations, the number of valid nominations was equal to the number of vacancies required to be filled, I hereby declare the following duly elected:

**Kerapa Broughton, Priscilla  
McQueen, Simon  
Knight, Karen  
Pooley, Gavin  
Toki, Lyn**

**SCHOOL  
TRUSTEE  
ELECTIONS**  
 Make a difference  
Ki te whakapiki

#### Declaration of Staff Election Results

At the close of nominations, as there was only one valid nomination received, I hereby declare **Naufahu, Mefi** duly elected.

*Sandy Koning - Returning Officer*

## Grandad

At the end of last year, Natahlia from Room 4 had a high quality piece of writing submitted to the publishers at Toitoti. Her writing was selected and has been published in the latest Toitoti journal. Natahlia, who has now moved on to Intermediate, was recognised at our recent whole school assembly and presented with her own copy of the journal.

Congratulations Natahlia - fantastic achievement.

As I crouch in the La-Z-Boy my grandad once sat on, I picture the distinctive tufts of grey hair that covered his wrinkly forehead. I remember his deeply wounded arms and slender chicken legs. His flushed cheeks and droopy smile were a sign that he wasn't having a good time.

His soft ears jiggled like jelly every time he moved. His hazel eyes stared at me as wire-like veins protruded from his saggy neck. The pitch black jersey he wore was the colour of the night.

The baggy sleeves led to a grey and black upside-down wristwatch. He dragged his left arm up to the purple bags that darkened every day and gazed hopelessly at the time on his watch.

After a while, he reached for the steaming bowl of hot chicken noodle soup. His mouth opened slowly and made a loud slurp before it shut again.

It's been quite a week for Veyda-Blu who has been acknowledged as a bravery Superhero. Veyda-Blu received an ASB St John in Schools super saver bravery award at our recent whole school assembly. Her story also appeared in the New Zealand Herald yesterday and she featured on TVNZ 1 Seven Sharp last night. Way to go Veyda-Blu!

# Supergirl to the rescue

## Daughter grabs wheel after Dad has seizure

Tom Rowland

**W**hat do Superman, Wonder Woman, and young Veyda-Blu Toko-Gaylor have in common?

The 10-year-old is the world's newest superhero after she saved her dad, grabbing the wheel as he had a seizure while driving.

Reuben Gaylor and his daughter were driving along State Highway 39, on their way home to Pirongia in Waikato on February 8, when he had a violent seizure. It happened while they were travelling at 100km/h across a narrow bridge.

Gaylor remembers throwing his arms in the air, violently thrashing in his seat and screaming at the top of his lungs. After that pitch black "The last thing I remember is travelling on the road, and then the next thing was waking up in hospital hours later," Gaylor said.

But his daughter Veyda-Blu grabbed the side of the steering wheel and guided the car to the side of the road as its speed dropped.

"It was just my first instinct to put

my hand on the wheel and keep it steady," said Veyda-Blu, who had not previously seen her dad having a seizure.

"The roads were bendy but as the car was slowing down I was able to pull us over to the side."

The car struck just a glancing blow on the side of the bridge. Veyda-Blu was able to guide it to a safe stop at the side of the road and immediately called 111.

"Some people from behind us came and checked on me, before that I called the ambulance which is something I've learnt to do at school."

While waiting for the ambulance Veyda-Blu called her mother and calmly explained the situation, then called her uncle in Pirongia.

She also relayed to the attending ambulance officer her father's details, his previous history of seizures and exactly what happened.

Gaylor's last seizure had been six years ago. He has had several tests to find out if he suffers from a condition, but he does not.

"We have talked to her about how I've had one before, but she has never seen it before," Gaylor said.

The family now live in Hamilton and on Tuesday, at a special assembly at Fairfield Primary, Veyda-Blu was recognised with an ASB St John in Schools super saver bravery award - which included a certificate and a superhero cape.

Fairfield Primary deputy headmaster Rob Newton said Veyda-Blu showed that ordinary people can be superheroes.

St John community programmes manager Julie Taverner told the pupils Veyda-Blu showed bravery beyond her years with her actions on the day.

Veyda-Blu's mum, Tarryn Toko, said she was proud of the maturity her daughter showed in a life or death situation.

"For her to see that for the first time and push through that and show the maturity to take the wheel and bring the car to a safe stop, that is just incredible bravery."



Reuben Gaylor

Veyda-Blu Toko-Gaylor was recognised with a bravery award.

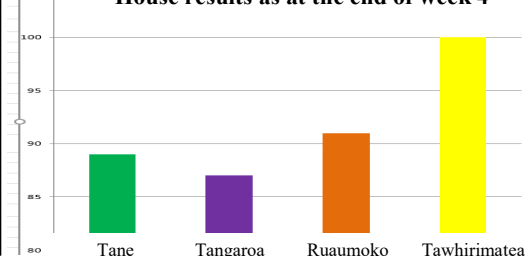
Photo / Tom Rowland

## DO WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER?

If you have moved house recently, or have a new phone number, please ensure the office has been updated with your details.

Txt your new details to: 021502978 or call into the office.

House results as at the end of week 4



Kind regards

Rob Newton  
ACTING PRINCIPAL



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