



## School Newsletter

17 June 2021

Dear Parents

I would like to thank you for your support in keeping your children at home or organising childcare for our Teacher Only Day held before Queen's Birthday Weekend. I appreciate this can be an inconvenience for parents. I am grateful and appreciative that you put up with a disruption to your day in order to support our staff and school

It is with sadness that I inform you that one of our teachers, Nicki Frisby, who teaches in Room 12, has recently been diagnosed with sarcoma cancer. Nicki begins her treatment next week and as a result will be away from Ilam while she focuses on her treatment and recovery. Many of you will know Nicki, and I'm sure send your thoughts and prayers as she deals with this challenging situation.

This newsletter contains information on the following topics:

- **Absences and Lateness**
- **Matariki Open Evening - Wednesday 7 July 2021**
- **Kapa Haka Performing at Matariki Open Evening**
- **2021 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)**
- **PTA**
- **Kirkwood Intermediate - 2021 New Enrolment Scheme Consultation**

### **Absences and Lateness**

Attending school on a regular basis is very important and, in New Zealand, a legal requirement. Every day counts towards children's learning. Regular attendance is needed for children to continue learning and improving. To this end it's essential that parents place importance on regular attendance. If children are sick, then of course they should stay at home until they are well, however if they are not sick they need to be at school. If you are having any difficulties in getting your child to school, we want to help. Please do not hesitate to talk to, or email, your child's teacher, our Deputy Principal, Belinda Kennedy ([belinda.kennedy@ilam.school.nz](mailto:belinda.kennedy@ilam.school.nz)) or myself if you are having challenges with getting your child to school.

In the same way, while it can be a challenge to get out of bed on these winter mornings, a reminder that the day's learning at Ilam begins at 8:55am. A number of children are arriving at school after the 8:55am bell has rung. This is disruptive for classes as late children enter, and also means that the late children are missing the important set-up for their day. Children are welcome at school from 8:30am. Arriving at this time or shortly afterwards allows time for socialising with friends, talking to their teachers and getting organised for the day ahead. Please try and have your children arrive at school on time.

### **Matariki Open Evening - Wednesday 7 July 2021 (6.00pm - 7.30pm)**

What is Matariki? Matariki is the Maori name for the star cluster known as the Pleiades. Traditionally for Maori when the cluster appeared just before dawn in late May or early June, it signalled the start of the Maori New Year. For some tribes, the rising of Puanga (Rigel in Orion)

signals the start of the New Year. This year, Matariki will be rising between Friday July 2nd – Sunday July 11<sup>th</sup>. To celebrate Matariki, Ilam School invites families to an open evening where tamariki can share and celebrate their learning from the term. **Classrooms will be open to families following a welcome assembly at 6:00pm.**

### **Kapa Haka Performing at Matariki Open Evening**

On Wednesday 7th of July, Ilam School will be holding an opening evening to celebrate the learning the students have been a part of during Term 2. As this coincides with Matariki, there will be an assembly held in the hall at 6.00pm prior to classrooms opening. During this assembly, our Kapa Haka will be performing some waiata.

Tamariki involved with Kapa Haka will need to meet Mr Withers on the middle court at 5.50pm ready to perform on the stage at 6.10pm. Once the assembly ends, tamariki can wait in the hall for their parents to collect them or join their families before heading to classrooms. For this occasion, tamariki can come dressed in their non-uniform clothes. If your child is able to join us on this exciting occasion, please complete the online permission form below by **Friday 2nd of July**. [Kapa Haka Performance Permission Form](#)

### **2021 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)**

Registrations are now open for the 2021 ICAS exams. Like last year the 2021 ICAS will be completed online. The dates for the 2021 examinations are below:

Writing – Monday 9 August 2021

Digital Technologies - Tuesday 10 August 2021

English - Tuesday 17 August 2021

Science - Monday 23 August 2021

Spelling Bee - Wednesday 25 August 2021

Mathematics - Tuesday 31 August 2021

To enrol for **ICAS**, visit our school website (<http://www.ilam.school.nz>) and select 'ICAS 2021' from the home page to see more information and the enrolment form for each year group. **Bookings and payments must be received by Friday 2 July 2021. No payment, no entry! NO CASH PLEASE**

### **Ilam School Parent Teacher Association (PTA)**

The next PTA meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 6th July starting at 7:30pm. All parents are welcome to attend. If you, like a number of our parents, cannot attend PTA meetings but would like to be informed about PTA events, where you might be able to help out, please email [pta@ilam.school.nz](mailto:pta@ilam.school.nz) and you will be added to the 'friends of the PTA' email list.

### **Kirkwood Intermediate - 2021 New Enrolment Scheme Consultation**

Recently the Ministry of Education has begun consultation around a new enrolment scheme for Kirkwood Intermediate School. You can read about this proposal at <https://consultation.education.govt.nz/education/kirkwood-intermediate-new-enrolment-scheme> and complete the survey to place your feedback. All students who are currently enrolled before the new enrolment scheme commences are entitled to remain enrolled. Siblings of current students will have priority access to any out-of-zone places offered by the school. Consultation closes on 09 July 2021.

Noho ora mai (All the best)



Paul Dolan  
Tumuaki/Principal