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December 2016

Prizegiving 2016

With all the events in a school calendar there are two special events that Mimi School has. The prizegiving is one of them. The other event is the Pet Day. Why are they special? It is a time in which we can come together as a community, share an experience together and to encourage each other. The prizegiving especially is a time to celebrate and reflect on another successful year in the life of Mimi School. It is a time to celebrate with the students. It is a time to share and enjoy the unique Mimi way.

What a difference a year makes in the life of a school.

With the staff it has meant fare-welling Tara and in a couple of days Mrs McDonald. These two

staff members have left a permanent mark on the students they have taught at Mimi School and I know they will continue to do so in their new places of employment with Tara in Melbourne and Mrs McDonald in Auckland.



We have welcomed Judy Fenwick and Maire Gill who have been Teacher Aides for this last term and who will finish up with us this week.

What else has happened this year?

Come with me now as we skip through some of the events of 2016.

In term one we attended a magic show in the hall with the other Tainui schools, and we had the junior camp at the Blyde's place. We had fishing, raft making, canoeing, and shell jewellery to make.



MIMI SCHOOL



where the country, coast, and classroom meet

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A large number of our students competed in the Weetbix Tryathlon and



twelve year five and six students competed in three teams in the Epro8 challenge which is a technology challenge competition on a big scale. This was the first year we have had teams involved in this competition. We finished the term off with a shared lunch and scavenger hunt.

Term two started with the students being involved in the Skills4Life programme which involved the students learning and practicing ball handling skills.



The students attended the Kaharangi Show at Urenui and they had a golf lesson using large soccer sized balls. During the term the students learnt a dance for the Winterfest. The Gummy Bear song will never be the same for any of us again.



The third term started with the students getting hockey coaching from a staff member from Taranaki hockey. The Life Education classroom rolled in with Harold on board for a couple of days.

The year six's had a big day out in attending the Lead Conference in New Plymouth. They also went to the Young Leaders day in Rotorua earlier in the year.



The term finished with speeches being presented,

the Tainui Cluster Cross-Country being held here,



and of course the Pet Day. My first one at Mimi School.



Term four started with Olly from Taranaki Athletics coaching the year four to six students in all the athletic disciplines leading up to the Tainui Cluster athletic day.



The year five and six students had sailing on the Wai-tara River

and the year four to six students finished the year with the camp to Green Pastures.



These are just some of the events throughout the year without even starting to mention the classroom programmes that the teachers organise, facilitate and develop with your children. They work hard for your children and are committed to their growing level of achievement.

A huge thank you goes to the Home and School committee and everyone that helped out in some way fundraising throughout the year. The Home and School pledged \$9000 for this year to be spent on the students. This involved giving the students a wide range of opportunities. We have spent just over that amount on the activities that have been mentioned earlier. A similar amount has been pledge for 2017 which is great news for your children.

At this point I would like to acknowledge the TSB Community Trust who have granted the school \$30 000 to spend on ICT this year. A new server, more chromebooks and ipads will be all in use to start the New Year. This is a huge jump start for our school.

There are a few families that this event will be their last because their youngest child will be moving on to an intermediate school. I would like to acknowledge the following families;

The Burnard family

The Butler family

The Foster family

The Groves family

The Kahui-Hill family

The Kumar family

The Lee family

The Redshaw family

Thank you for choosing Mimi School as a place to help your child prepare for the future.

During the year we had a large number of students involved in sporting activities inside and outside of school hours. These include the netball teams, the hockey teams (both the winter and summer league), the basketball team, the touch rugby teams and the interschool rugby team. Without the help of parents to coach and manage these teams this would not be possible. So thank you coaches and managers for sharing your knowledge, time and experience with our students.



The following students received awards at the end-of-year prizegiving:



**Betty Blundell Cup
for Junior Learner**

ARYA MATTOCK



Attendance Certificate

ARIA WALLACE

**Kay Sarten Cup for
Mathematical Achievement**

WILLIAM GROVES



To all the students whether you received a trophy or not you have all made progress and achieved personal bests at everything you have done. That is all that is needed to move forward.

To the parents of the students, thank you for giving me the opportunity to walk with your children on their learning journey. It has been a privilege.

As we finish the school year I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas.

Regards,

*Andrew Birchler
Principal*



**Baker Family Cup for
Literacy Achievement**

RILEY FOSTER

**Lowe Family Cup for
Academic Achievement**

MAIA SULZBERGER

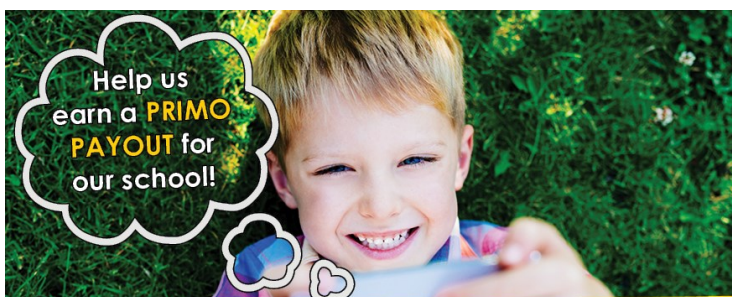


**Chris Wise Contracting Cup
for Diligence**

LUCY REDSHAW

**Radcliffe Trophy for
Leadership and Empathy**

ANASTASYA LITTLE



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Cup for Sporting
Achievement**

HANNAH LEE

**Baker Family
Environmental Cup**

ANI BUTLER





Firstly I'd like to congratulate Mr Birchler on surviving his first year at Mimi. It has been a very busy year and we hope you've enjoyed leading our school. We look forward to getting to know you more next year.

We have two new board members who joined us in July: Andrew Brendon, and Neil Davy. The rest of the board includes Andrew Birchler, Sarah Blyde, Davis McClutchie and our staff Trustee Nicky McDonald (who's leaving us), so the staff will hold an election in Term 1 to elect a new staff representative.

The board's main priority is student achievement, and this has been another top year for Mimi School.

The board recognizes that the character of Mimi and the quality of teaching takes substantially more effort and preparation from our teachers than if we were an urban school, and so we'd like to thank our teachers, teacher aides, and principal for the work you do every day to make this school a special place for our children. I'd also like to take a moment to commend the many parents and community members who volunteer to give their time to our school. You know who you are, and we know that our school would not be the same without you.

I had the privilege of going on the senior camp with a fun bunch of 35 students and 12 parents and teachers. I can tell you that this camp was very well run and a great time was had by all. I'd like to thank Nicole Megaw and Nicky McDonald for the time and effort they put into planning such a great camp.

A few highlights for me I'd like to share:

- We visited Bushy Park Sanctuary (a 100 ha predator-free native bird sanctuary) where we were lucky to see many Hihi (Stitchbirds), Toutouwai (North Island Robins) and a Tieke (Saddleback). Our guides were very surprised at the knowledge of our students on all things bush, birds and predators. They commented that they have never had a school through that knew as much as the Mimi kids do.

- Whilst at the playground at Kai-iwi beach, the fearless headed straight for the flying fox. As the time went on, more and more children (and adults) decided to give it a go until the majority had experienced flying over the river. The support and encouragement given by the children was awesome. The clapping and cheering to support the children who needed a bit of encouragement, and the help to pull the rope back to the platform was very special to witness. All of the children were a team, they know each other's strengths and weaknesses and it made me proud to be part of the Mimi School community.

And now I'd like to farewell everyone who's leaving us. Nicky McDonald, who started Mimi at the same time as my daughter Zsalea and who has taught Zsalea for the 4 years she has been at school.

Thank you for being a great teacher, we really will miss you! Good luck in the big smoke.

To our wonderful Year 6's; we wish you every success and all the best the world has to offer beyond Mimi. Make sure you keep in touch, we look forward to hearing of your future successes.

Happy holidays, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all. Thank You.

Donna Ellis
Mimi Board of Trustees
Chairperson



School starts in the new year on Wednesday, 1st February 2017.

The school will be open for any enquiries from Monday, 30th January 2017.

All students will be supplied with stationery on the first day of school, with an account for the cost of stationery sent out later in term one. Just like in previous years.

The school pool will be open over the school holidays.

Please consider there will be times when the pool will be closed because it is in the process of being treated or is due to be treated.

The cost of the key is \$15 for the season. Keys can be picked up from Sibylle Sulzberger (please ring 7523262) over the summer holidays.

TERM 1 CALENDAR

TERM 1 STARTS	<i>Wed 1 Feb</i>
WAITANGI DAY	<i>Mon 6 Feb</i>
*TAINUI BEACH ED	<i>Fri 17 Feb</i>
*TAINUI SWIM SPORTS	<i>Fri 24 Feb</i>
*WEETBIX TRYATHLON	<i>Wed 29 Mar</i>
*TAINUI TABLOIDS	<i>Fri 31 Mar</i>
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS	<i>Sun 2 Apr</i>
TERM 1 ENDS	<i>Thur 13 Apr</i>
GOOD FRIDAY	<i>Fri 14 Apr</i>
EASTER MONDAY	<i>Mon 17 Apr</i>
TERM 2 STARTS	<i>Mon 1 May</i>

** Trips out of school grounds,
(transport may be needed)*

Please contact Andrew or Sibylle at school for further information.



Our weekly pre-school sessions run on Fridays each week. These sessions are focused on developing the early skills that our children need to develop sound literacy and numeracy skills.

They are also intended to be a lot of fun for you and your kids as they become familiar with the classroom and classroom routines.

If you want to know more about our B45 pre-school programme phone the school office, or drop in and ask.

