

We continue to be impressed with your children and their enthusiasm for learning. Thank you for sending them to us each day. Across New Zealand there are concerns that many children are still not attending school even though schools are safe places to be. I understand that there is a lot of worry about COVID 19, but as a school we're following key health measures to keep children as safe as possible.

We:

- wash hands regularly with soap
- use hand sanitiser
- cough and sneeze into our elbow
- keep our distance
- clean surfaces
- stay at home when sick

If your child is absent it is very important that we know why. You can text on 027 614 2515.

If we don't hear from you, as a safety protocol to keep all children safe, Tania will either phone or text you by 10.30am.

If you have concerns about sending your children back to school in these uncertain times feel free to come and chat with me. Remember that we have Liz Kerapa our social worker who can also offer support. Her contact number is 027 563 1018.

Year 6 students who will be enrolling at Fairfield Intermediate next year will be visiting the school on Thursday 10th September for an orientation morning. Children will have a taste of what an Intermediate offers and usually come back to school extremely excited. There are Fairfield Intermediate Enrolment packs at the office if you would like to pick one up.

Last year, the government introduced a school donation scheme. Under the scheme, schools received \$150 per student to cover all costs related to curriculum. The scheme will continue in 2021 and Bankwood School is opting into the scheme again, which means that we will not be asking for school donations next year.



**Regards, Kay Cleaver, Principal.**

# Room 1 Writing

School uniforms should be compulsory because children want to represent their school and be part of something. It stops you wasting time in the morning trying to find something to wear. Lastly you feel proud because you are representing your school and the people that have come before you.

By Jaymin



School uniforms shouldn't be compulsory because you lose your sense of being an individual because you can't choose what you want to wear. Secondly it makes you feel different from everyone else because no one wants to look the same. Lastly school uniforms should not be allowed because we should have a choice of what we want to wear and they are too expensive.

By Jazmine

I feel music has the power to heal because it reminds us about special times and special people in our lives. It has the power to heal because it reminds us of the loved ones that have gone. Music makes you want to dance and sing. When I wake up my sister puts on the song that reminds us of our Grandpa

By Sela



Music has the power to heal because it makes you feel good and happy when you put on a good song. I feel music has the power to heal because it can calm you down. It has the power to remind you of memories and people you have shared them with. Music is good for the soul.

By Ashley

In my opinion I think social media should be banned and have age restrictions for all unnecessary apps and websites. Social media should also be banned for kids under 7 years old because there are a lot of dark and scary apps that tell kids to do inappropriate things. In my conclusion social media should be banned because people compare themselves to people living successful lives and they will get insecure and have negative thoughts about their life which they shouldn't.

By Lokeni

I feel that school should not be shorter because if it was shorter, we wouldn't get through all the core subjects. This would mean we would have to cram in more work in less time. If the school day was shorter it would make kids lazy as they would go home and stay on their device and not do any chores to help out around the house. In conclusion school hours are perfect the way they are and it keeps our minds thinking about positive stuff.

By Rowan

Social media should be banned because you can get scammed and lose a lot of money. It is not nice to get ripped off when you work hard for what you have. Secondly people get addicted to screens and find it hard to live in the real world. I believe social media needs better security systems so children under 9 years old can't get into them. People like to compare their lives with others and most are living a fake life just for likes which is sad.

By Jess

I strongly agree that zoos should be banned because animals don't get enough shelter and they could freeze in the cold winter. Secondly animals are locked up like they are in prison. They lose their freedom and will start to feel sad and depressed. Thirdly the people that own the zoo just use it to make money and don't care about the animals that are locked up.

By Esene



I feel zoos shouldn't be banned because it lets kids learn about them and it is special to see animals in real life. Secondly zoos can help save animals from getting extinct and wiped out. They are well looked after and fed healthy food which they might not get if they are in the wild. Lastly zoos shouldn't be banned because if they are unwell or hurt, zoo keepers are able to find the right medicine to help them.

By Detroit