

Newsletter June 15 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Walking in someone else's shoes is a difficult concept and yet it is what many of us have to do as our new normal evolves. The world is different and education, employment and families have changed. Recently I saw a school who introduced a sharing centre at school. It was a movable shelving unit where the school community could give and take items they needed. The community gave shoes, food, blankets and more. The premise was **"Give what you can and take only what you need"**

It is something I would like to explore at school. I just need some clever people to help create a unit like the picture attached. I would see this being an accessible place for the community to access and support.



We have now started to gather blankets, clothes and non-perishable items at school so we can help our own people through the difficulties of winter and post COVID issues. If you have items then please bring them to the office and we will start to gather some stock and begin our sharing stall as soon as we can. We hope that the support we can offer will remain "High Trust and follow the philosophy mentioned above,



**"Give what you can, take only what you need!"**

**If you know of anyone needing support please let Mark know at school and we will do our very best to support them in any way we can. This could be food, clothes, blankets, agency support and maybe just a phone call to check in.**

**Hit Play** - Last week we had an incident outside the school involving a HitPlay staff member. I wish to inform you that this situation has been dealt with by the employers and we can assure you all that the school was made aware and followed up with the appropriate agencies. Thank you to those who brought it to our attention. HitPlay apologizes for any distress caused by the

staff member and her partner's actions. At this point she will not return to site as the investigation into the situation continues. We have been informed that the families who had children at the morning session will be called.

**Equitable Digital Access** - Internet access for our children has been incredibly helpful over the lockdown period. The Government has asked us to ensure you all have access to the internet and I can make an application for you to receive free internet for 6 months if you have nothing currently or your connection is poor. You need to contact me and we will fill in the necessary information. I only have this week to do the information gathering and ask you to act quickly.

**Allergies for our children** - we have some children at school who suffer strong reactions to food allergies and this is just a reminder to be aware of doing your best to support this. Several children have peanut allergies as well as egg and dairy. We ask that you do your best to refrain from egg sandwiches in the senior school and of course advise the children that sharing lunches should not happen because of the allergies. I am sure you understand that we want to keep the children all safe. Thank you.



### **Drama Lessons - Are we interested??**

*Marrzipan is a revolutionary self-confidence programme that operates in over 100 schools nationwide. The Marrzipan Method uses performing arts as a tool to help children increase their social skills, self-belief and sense of fun! Our teachers are heavily trained in this philosophy - they live and breathe it! Our small class sizes allow us to tailor our programme to the individual, including those with ASD, anxiety, and selective mutism. We also cater for those students that adore performing, and provide another avenue for them to express that. At the end of term, we perform a play to parents and friends, where the results of the term can be seen, and confidence levels skyrocket!*

- Classes are funded by parents who sign their children up, however some schools will choose to fund the programme for select students/classes.
- No admin is required by the school - yay!
- Lessons run for 45-60 mins with a maximum of 10-14 students in order for us to focus on the individual.
- Our classes run before, during or after school and are private to students of your school.
- We always run a non-obligatory trial lesson for interested students.

Please feel free to have a look around our website as well [www.marrzipandrama.co.nz](http://www.marrzipandrama.co.nz).