

## Kaitiakitanga - Protecting Our Big Backyard

17<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Dear Parent/Caregiver

We are extremely fortunate at Te Atatū Intermediate to have Orangihina (Harbour View) nature reserve right on our doorstep. We have organised for every class to visit Orangihina with their classroom teacher during Week 6,7 or Week 8 of this term to participate in the Wild About Te Atatū programme run by the Environmental Team at Community Waitakere. The purpose of the visit is to give all students an opportunity to learn more about our unique local environment and our roles as kaitiaki in helping to protect our big backyard.

The 1 hour 30 minute session will focus on:-

- What makes Orangihina Reserve and its estuary so special and unique?
- **Bird Watching** – Use binoculars to observe & identify the different types of birds found at Orangihina and feeding on the mudflats.
- What are the threats to the birds and why?
- **Tracking Tunnels** – View tracking tunnel cards and identify the foot prints of pests to discover what introduced predators are found at Orangihina.
- What actions can be taken to control introduced predators? How can we help?.....

Room \_\_\_\_\_ will visit Orangihina on \_\_\_\_\_.

Leaving school at \_\_\_\_\_ and will return to school by \_\_\_\_\_.

Students will be walking (10 minutes) to the site and meeting Community Waitakere at the Harbour View carpark. You are more than welcome to join your child for the session. Any help with walking the students down and back to school would be greatly appreciated. If you are able to help your child's classroom teacher please tick the permission slip below.

Students will **need to wear covered footwear** (ideally old trainers or gum boots) and have a sun hat and pack a rain jacket just in case! They can also bring a water bottle.

If the weather forecast does not look good the visit will be postponed.

Please do not hesitate to contact me ([amber.a@teatatu.school.nz](mailto:amber.a@teatatu.school.nz)) if you have any questions about the trip.

Kind regards



Amber Aratema

I give permission for \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_ to attend the class visit to Orangihina.

Parent/caregiver signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please tick the box if you are able to help walk students down and back.

Please return permission slip to your child's classroom teacher.