



PUHINUI SCHOOL

Newsletter



18 August 2016

Newsletter No. 2016/11

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

HEALTH ISSUES: In any school, there is a chance that children and staff may be susceptible to becoming infected with any one of several conditions and/or diseases. Some of the more common conditions and or diseases include:

Nits

Scabies

Impetigo

For any families who discover that their child or children have any of the above, they need to seek medical assistance. We have information in the school office offering possible courses of action that parents can take to address the above. A very brief guide would be:

Nits

Wash the hair, apply a conditioner and use a very fine nit comb to rid the hair of the lice and eggs attached to the hair itself. This procedure needs to be repeated every three days for three weeks to interrupt the breeding cycle of the lice. A chemist will recommend other suitable treatment to clear the head of lice more quickly and efficiently.

Scabies

The treatment of scabies requires the involvement of a pharmacist or doctor.

Scabies can affect the whole body so cream needs to be applied all over, even to areas which are not itchy.

The cream needs to be applied at night before going to bed and washed off by showering in the morning.

Sheets, towels, face-cloths and clothes worn against the skin, in the past week, must also be washed in hot water to kill the mite.

Everyone in the house needs to be treated with the same treatment, which includes washing their sheets, towels, face-cloths and clothes, worn against the skin, in the last week. The scabies mite can live up to two days away from the body. For clothes or articles, which cannot be washed, these can be sealed in an airtight plastic bag for a week, which will kill the mite.

Impetigo (School Sores)

These sores are caused by viral bacteria and are transferred by touch. They can become infected, weepy and contain pus.

The treatment includes general care to wash hands and tend to any cuts, bites or scratches in the first instance. For crusty developed sores, the following needs to happen:

Soak the sore with soap and warm water, with half a teaspoon of salt dissolved in the water. This will remove the scab and soften the sore.

Dry the sore with a clean paper towel and apply antiseptic cream or antibiotic cream. Cover the sore with a gauze and/or fabric plaster rather than a plastic plaster.

If sores do not start to heal within two days see a doctor. These sores are very infectious so infected people shouldn't share clothes, towels or bedding.

If parents wish to discuss their child's condition and are unsure of what action to take, please ask either a chemist, doctor or contact the school for a Public Health Nurse's advice.

PAPATOETOE INTERMEDIATE ENROLMENTS: All parents with children in Year 6 will have received a notice from Papatoetoe Intermediate informing them of the enrolment process for 2017. The two important dates are:

In zone enrolments

Returned to Papatoetoe Intermediate by 23rd August at the latest

Out of zone enrolments

Returned to Papatoetoe Intermediate by 12th October at the latest

Enrolment forms can also be returned to Puhinui School office with a copy of the child's birth certificate attached. If your child is not New Zealand born, please attach a copy of their passport showing the necessary current, relevant documents.

PASIFIKA MAMMAS: This week, on Wednesday and Thursday, our senior classes were working with Pasifika tutors experiencing aspects of Polynesian culture. Some of the activities in which they were involved were weaving lei in the first workshop and music, dance and drums in the second. The tutors were very skilled and provided great instruction and motivation for our students.

JUNIOR SCHOOL TRIP TO AMBURY PARK: As expected our junior students from rooms 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 21 and 24 thoroughly enjoyed the experience at Ambury Park Farm and are very much more informed about farm animals. Once again thanks to those parents accompanying our students.

PAID UNION MEETINGS:

- When** Friday, 16th September 2016
- Where** Vodafone Arena, Manukau
- Who** NZEI (Early childhood and Primary union members), PPTA (Secondary teachers)
- Why** To oppose the governments proposed changes to the future funding of schools.

The Government has announced a proposal to dramatically change the way schools are funded. Principals and Boards of Trustees would have to make trade-offs between teaching staff and other costs schools face. Teachers are very worried that the global budget would lead to:

- * fewer teachers and larger class sizes
- * less job security for teachers
- * lower quality teaching
- * fewer hours for teacher aides and support staff
- * more complex financial work for Boards of Trustees

The Government's current funding review is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to better fund education. NZEI Te Riu Roa and PPTA are the unions that represent more than 60,000 teachers and support staff from birth to year 13. They have asked all members at our school to attend meetings in September to hear more about the proposal and help determine the education sector's response.

The meetings are paid union meetings, which means **Puhinui School** will be closed on **Friday the 16th of September** between **12.40 p.m.** and **3.00 p.m.** while staff attend the meeting.

It is important for union members in our school to attend these meetings to have a say about how we get better funding, rather than the bulk funding being suggested. We will therefore be sending children home at 12.40 p.m. to enable staff to attend the union meeting. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. If it is absolutely impossible for your child/ children to come home or be picked up at 12.40 p.m. please complete the slip at the end of the newsletter and return it to school, so we can make appropriate arrangements for your child/ children.

SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY: Unfortunately our scheduled day for the cross country last week was far too cold and miserable to expect children to be outside for extended periods of time, necessitating its postponement. We held it on Tuesday of this week. Congratulations to all of our students for their effort, enthusiasm and support for other runners in their respective races. From this event we will establish our Puhinui School cross country team to compete at the zone event to be held in week 8, the 13th of September at the Puhinui Reserve at the end of Prices Road, Wiri.

PARKING: A reminder to our parents that although they may use the dental clinic parking area in order to turn around to head back towards the island, they are not permitted to park there. There is very clear signage stating that that parking area is solely for staff and clients of the dental clinic. They are well within their rights to contact the police if people ignore the sign.

Also, please be mindful when parking on residential side streets. Only park where permitted and please do not park across driveways as this is not only illegal, but hugely inconveniences our local residents.

KIWI GAMES FUN SPORTS PROGRAMME: For children aged 5 – 11 years. Remaining Saturdays in Term 3: 20th Aug, 27th Aug, 3rd Sept and 10th Sept. 9.30 a.m. - 11a.m. at Papatoetoe East School, 138 Tui Rd. Gold coin donation. Contact Mr Glenn at PACT Office 279-8340 or 0274 381646.

LUCKY LUNCH WINNER: Well done to Alejandro Munoz from Room 9 who was the lucky lunch winner from the last newsletter. On Mondays or Fridays, the lucky lunch winner is able to order their free lunch from the auditorium.



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It is impossible for my children to be picked up at 12.40 p.m. on Friday the 16th of September.

Name _____ Rm _____

Name _____ Rm _____

Name _____ Rm _____

Signed _____ Name _____ Phone number _____



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Please sign and return this slip to school tomorrow so your child's name can be entered in the draw for a free school lunch.

Parent's signature _____ Child's name _____ Room _____