



PUHINUI SCHOOL



8 September 2016

Newsletter No. 2016/12

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

PAPATOETOE SCHOOLS' ART EXHIBITION: The primary and intermediate schools in Papatoetoe contributed to the art exhibition held at Papatoetoe North School on Tuesday to Friday of last week. The exhibition was amazing and a great testimony to the quality of art teaching happening at all of the schools in the area. Congratulations to all of the Puhinui Artists who had work on display, fantastic. Also, many thanks to our teachers for selecting the pieces of art and also many thanks to Serena Walker and Jessica Pearse, two of our teachers, for organising the transportation of the art and displaying it at Papatoetoe North School.

TECHNOLOGY VISIT: On Tuesday of this week, our Year Six students visited Papatoetoe Intermediate to experience first hand the technology options for next year. These options include subject areas of food tech, hard and soft materials, visual arts, performing arts and music. It was also a chance for our students to become familiar with the size and layout of the school. They saw and spoke to a number of ex Puhinui School students, which made them feel far more relaxed about moving next year to a new environment. The organisation and content of the visit was excellent and much appreciated by our teachers and students.

CHESS TEAMS: Chess is certainly gaining momentum at Puhinui School, with a record number of teams entering the last tournament. We have a number of teams entered in competitions this Thursday at Rosehill Intermediate in Papakura. Many thanks to Glenn Tabor from the PACT organisation and to Steve Pedersen from Puhinui School, for their coaching and organisation. All the best to our chess players for your respective games today.

PAPATOETOE GYMNASTICS CHAMPIONSHIPS: Our gymnastics teams have been training regularly in preparation for the zone gymnastics championships scheduled for Tuesday the 20th of September at GymCity. We wish our gymnasts the best of luck for their respective competitions.

SOCCER CHAMPIONS: Both our soccer teams won the Papatoetoe area competition in Term 2 which confirmed the eligibility of the A Team to compete in the South Auckland Champion of Champions competition scheduled for Tuesday the 20th of September. The Puhinui team will play teams from all of the suburbs in the Manukau Counties and Franklin area, at the Papakura Army Grounds Soccer Fields, off Walters Road, Papakura. We wish our A soccer team the very best for what will be a very competitive competition.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ZOO TRIP: Last Friday the 2nd of September and Tuesday of this week, all of our middle school rooms visited the Auckland Zoo as part of their science topic, 'The Living World'. There was much excitement, as there always is, with any trip to the zoo. Our students had a fantastic time with each and everyone of them enjoying their favourite aspect of zoo life. The experience was certainly very motivating for students back in the classroom in terms of the quality of both discussion and written language. Many thanks to those parents who assisted with the supervision of students. Your help was very much appreciated.

MĀORI CONSULTATION: Yesterday, the 7th of September we met with parents from our Māori Community, to share information pertaining to Māori student success at Puhinui School. Our Kaiārahi and kapa haka groups shared some of their work with our parents. Our Māori Professional Network Team, discussed how a Māori perspective is integrated into our curriculum and some of the opportunities and initiatives available to Māori children at the school. There was also discussion regarding te reo at all levels of the school and also how our Māori students are achieving in regards to National Standards in Reading, Writing and Maths.

SCHOOL CHOIR CONCERT: Our school choir is performing for our community next Wednesday, the 14th of September commencing at 6.30 p.m. sharp, in the school auditorium. We are fundraising for 'Heart Kids NZ' so there is a gold coin donation on entry, and baked goods and refreshments for sale during the interval. As many of our parents will know, this opportunity to hear our choir is something not to be missed.

NZEI PAID UNION MEETING (Reminder from the newsletter 18 August)

- When** Next Friday the 16th of September
- Where** Manukau Vodafone Event Centre
- Who** NZEI (early childhood and primary school teacher union members)
PPTA (secondary school teacher union members)
- Why** To collectively oppose the governments proposed changes to the future funding of education.

The Government has announced a proposal to dramatically change the way schools are funded. If the new proposal was to be implemented, Principals and Boards of Trustees would have to make trade-offs between teaching staff and other costs that schools face.

Teachers are very concerned that the proposed global budget would result in:

- Fewer teachers being employed in a school resulting in larger class sizes.
- The quality of teaching being compromised
- Reduced working hours for teacher aides and support staff
- Less job security for teachers
- Greater complexity in the financial management of the school

The NZEI and PPTA, on behalf of their 60,000 union members across the sector, are providing the opportunity for their members to demonstrate their opposition to the Government's proposal.

In order for teachers and support staff to attend the paid meetings Puhinui School will be closed for instruction on Friday the 16th of September from 12.40 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.

It is very important for union members in our schools to attend the arranged meetings in order to have their say about better funding for schools rather than the model being proposed. On Friday the 16th of September, students will be sent home at 12.40 p.m. We apologise for the inconvenience that this will cause to parents and families.

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 this newsletter and return it to school, so we can make appropriate arrangements for your child/children.

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

LUCKY LUNCH WINNER: Well done to Gurbir Singh 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.



.....
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 _____

Signed _____ Name _____ Phone number _____

