



PUHINUI SCHOOL



Newsletter

27th July 2017

Newsletter No. 12/2017

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

WELCOME BACK: We have had a great start to our first week back in Term 3. We hope you have had an opportunity to have some quality family time during the school break and that your children had a chance to rest and recharge ready for another term of learning. Teachers and students have made a great start to the term. Across the school we were straight into our learning programmes with students very focused and enjoying being back at school. Term 3 is usually one of our most productive learning terms. It is the term when we see good progress for many children as they build on the quality learning of Terms 1 and 2.

EXCITING TERM 3 EVENTS: This term has a number of exciting events for us to look forward to. The choir will be performing at the Auckland Town Hall and at the Vodafone Events Centre. The rugby boys will be heading to the Auckland Champion of Champions Tournament. We have the school cross country as well as the zones cross country, later in the term we have the gymnastics zones and rippa rugby. Our Maori whanau community engagement meeting will be held later in the term. One of our most exciting school-wide events will be our science week. This will be in week 7. Throughout the week our students will become investigative scientists. Please keep Thursday the 7th of September free, the classes will be inviting parents along for the afternoon to showcase what they have been learning, as well as to give you all a chance to be involved in some fun 'wow' science experiments.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SWIMMING: This term the Middle School have the 'Field of Dreams' community swim scheduled on Wednesdays throughout the term. This is an opportunity for the students to learn how to swim from trained instructors at the Papatoetoe Pools. A number of positive outcomes arise from this opportunity. Firstly, it continues to provide our students with practical learning, where they go beyond the classroom and experience life skills. It opens their eyes to life learning and is a mini adventure they can look forward to each week. Secondly, and most importantly, it continues to help students increase their water confidence and swimming ability. This is especially important for children in New Zealand because of our easy access to, and social activities that regularly are based around water.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFF AND CHILDREN: A big welcome to all our new students particularly our 5 year olds who have started, or about to start school for the first time here at Puhinui School. To our new parents and families, welcome to our school. A special welcome to Miss Delshad Sidhwa who will be teaching our Room 1, Year 5 and 6 students and Miss Kathryn Franklin who will teach in Room 26 with our Year 0 and 1 students. We are excited to have you join our teaching staff and look forward to working with you. On the 31st of July, Mrs Anna Alder will join us as our Social Worker in Schools (SWiS). She will help support families and students at Puhinui School and will work closely with our SENCO, Mrs Lorraine Borrie. A special welcome back to Miss Rachel Gagen who has returned to Room 21 from her overseas adventure. Miss Grace Farrant has moved into Room 13 to teach throughout the rest of the year.

MIHI WHAKATAU: As part of our welcoming for new students and staff members we will be having a special welcome on Friday morning. This is a chance for us to formally welcome and bring our new students and staff members into our Puhinui whanau. Our mihi whakatau will begin at 9.10. a.m. Parents are welcome to attend. Please note there will be no Friday afternoon assembly this week.

SAFETY AFTER SCHOOL AND PICKING UP STUDENTS: Thank you parents, we have seen an improved effort with safety around our drop off and pick up times. Please keep up the good work as we keep in mind our values of Community and Respect as adults, for our children. In regards to the parking bay area off Grayson Avenue, could parents please remember not to double park as this can be dangerous for the students walking in front of cars about to leave the parking bay. If you need to, please keep driving and park further down where there are available parks. Sometimes it may mean you have to

drive out and around the block and then come back into the school. Much safer to be a little inconvenienced and ensure our students remain safe. Please give this due consideration, thank you parents.

SCHOOL UNIFORM: The beginning of the term is a timely opportunity for everyone to check and ensure the Puhinui School uniform is being worn with pride. Parents please check your child has the correct school uniform. Please consider purchasing the polar fleece to keep your child warm if need be. Undergarments may be worn, as long as they are not showing. For example a long sleeved undergarment worn under a short sleeved polo shirt. A reminder girls tights need to be green or black. Uniforms can be purchased from our supplier, Angels Fashions, 98 St George Street, Papatoetoe. We have some second hand uniforms available at school, please call in at the office, if you are interested.

VALUABLES AND CELLPHONES AT SCHOOL: From time to time students for one reason or another bring valuable items or money to school. Ideally we would prefer valuables didn't come to school as we can never guarantee they will not be misplaced or damaged in some way. If for some reason students do end up bringing such items to school, please ensure they handed into the office for safekeeping. The best safeguard however, is to keep them at home.

MUFTI DAY FUNDRAISER: Well done and thank you to all the students who brought in a gold coin for our mufti day last term. As a school we raised \$725.50 for the Westpac Chopper Appeal. Good work!

TERM OVERVIEW: Parents please take note of special dates and activities on the Term 3 overview accompanying this newsletter. Please take particular note of our Science week and parents day, our choir festival dates and our Maori consultation hui.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance rates for last term were 92%. This is overall very pleasing, considering it being winter, and usually students are more likely to be absent due to sickness. Having said that, it is interesting to see that students are more likely to be away on a Monday and Friday. It makes us wonder as teachers and as parents about how we consider children and their wellness. Are we more likely to be sick on a Monday and Friday? This is something for us to keep thinking about and being aware of.

Lateness in the winter months is also an area of focus for us. We strongly recommend trying to keep a consistent routine in the morning. Please allow your child enough time to eat breakfast and complete all the beginning of the day tasks in time for school. The school day begins at 8.50 a.m. We recommend that the students arrive beforehand to organise themselves for the day.

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:

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| In zone enrolments | Returned to Papatoetoe Intermediate by 25th August at the latest |
| Out of zone enrolments | Returned to Papatoetoe Intermediate by 18th 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.

KIWI GAMES FUN SPORTS PROGRAMME: For children aged 5 – 11 years. Every Saturday during August: Starts 5th August, then 12th August, 19th August and 26th August. 9.30 a.m. - 11 a.m. at Papatoetoe East School, 138 Tui Road. Gold coin donation. Contact Mr Glenn at PACT Office 279-8340 or 0274 381646 for more information.

LUCKY LUNCH WINNER: Well done to Sukhleen Kaur from Room 14 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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Please sign and return this slip to school tomorrow so your child's name can be entered in a draw for a free school lunch.

Parent's Signature _____ Child's Name _____ Room _____