



PUHINUI SCHOOL



# Newsletter

22 August 2019

Newsletter No.14/2019

Dear Parents/Caregivers and Families,

**TERM 3:** We are halfway through Term 3 already! Wow it goes so fast. There are many things happening at school and the next 5 weeks will be very exciting with science week being our main focal point this term. The classes are full of science experiences and experiments. We can't wait to share our science with you. Please remember, on the afternoon of Wednesday, the 18th of September there will be a parent and family open science day. This is your chance to see science in action in each class across the school.

**CHOIR:** Last week our School Choir participated in the New Zealand Choral Federation "Auckland Kids Sing" competition. The choir has been participating in the competition for a number of years under the guidance of Mr Read. As Choirmaster he has continued to grow the quality of performance of our students. Each year the choir has been closer and closer to achieving the overall first place position. We can proudly say this year, Mr Read and the choir achieved a gold standard, first for best test piece and the overall first place for best choir. Congratulations to all those who were involved in supporting the students and although we are proud of the first place, we are extremely proud of how the students love singing and have become accomplished singers. This will be something they can carry with them and enjoy with others in the years to come. A special thank you to Mrs Ngaire Bird for your continued support of the choir and her wonderful piano playing.

**This letter was sent from a parent from Royal Oak School about our Puhinui Choir:**

*I was at the Town Hall yesterday watching Kids Sing as my son, who is at Royal Oak School, was participating. I wanted to take this opportunity to tell you how outstanding your school's choir performance was. I, and many of the parents around me, were simply blown away by the maturity of the performance- the children were just incredible. While all the schools were great, yours was quite simply head and shoulders above the others. Also noticeable was how obviously the children were enjoying themselves. I would appreciate it if you could please pass this message on to all the children involved as well as the singing teacher(s). They are a credit to your school.*

**NZ MĀORI CONSULTATION:** Next Wednesday we have a NZ Māori parents and whanau hui at 2 p.m. in the library. A letter has gone out to all students who identify as NZ Māori. We welcome all whanau to this shared time. It will be a chance for us to share some of the things we are doing here at Puhinui in learning and in tikanga Māori.

**TENNIS CLUB:** The Papatoetoe Tennis Club have an open registration day on Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th September from 1- 4 p.m. Racquets supplied. This is a free fun event with BBQ, prizes and giveaways. Great for the children and a good chance to get them off the devices. Papatoetoe Tennis Club is on Sutton Crescent.

**DAFFODIL DAY:** Next Friday, the 30th of August there will be a gold coin donation fundraiser for Daffodil Day. This is a Cancer Society appeal. According to the Cancer Society one in three people will be affected by cancer. In exchange for a gold coin donation each student will receive a Daffodil Day sticker. For more information please visit the <https://www.daffodilday.org.nz/>.

**OKE GARDEN PROJECT:** Next week on Thursday the OKE charity are set to build in a day a

Puhinui School Garden! They have numerous sponsors and workers who will be working to construct our gardens. The project includes raised garden beds, fruit trees, fruit vines, herbs, a garden shed, a shaded seedling house and a wide range of native trees. Although we have a good number of people already organised to help through the OKE charity, we would love to have a small number of family representatives help on the day too. We would especially like to invite any grandparents along. If you are interested in helping could you please complete the contact details below and return the slip to the school office. From the slips returned, our garden leaders will contact 5 people to help in this project as Puhinui representatives. **(Grandparents especially)**.

Your name:

Contact number:

Name of child at Puhinui School from your family:

**PAPATOETOE INTERMEDIATE ENROLMENTS:** Enrolment packs were sent out on the 24th of July to families for Year 6 students who wish to attend Papatoetoe Intermediate in 2019. In zone enrolments are due to the Intermediate by this Friday, the 23rd of August. Out of zone applications close on Wednesday the 5th of September. Enrolment forms can either be taken directly to the Intermediate or left at the Puhinui School office with copies of their birth certificate or passport attached. For more information please see the enrolment pack information already distributed or contact the school office.

**STAFF MEETING:** On Monday evening as part of our staff meeting teachers were asked 3 simple, and powerful questions relating to our purpose as educators. Each teacher wrote their replies on sticky notes and we pinned them to the whiteboard. Here are a few examples of teachers responses. It hopefully helps you see that our teaching staff are motivated, purposeful in what they do and passionate about the students they help each day here at school.

1. Did you have an inspirational teacher?
  - a. Mrs Colyer, was extremely passionate and made an effort to pass that passion on to her students.
  - b. Mr Elliot, he had a great sense of humour, was kind but firm when needed. Always had a kind word for children.
  - c. My inspiring teacher was Mrs Irwin. She was passionate about education and the world around her. I learnt so much from her I wanted to be able to inspire kids the same way she inspired me.
2. Why teaching?
  - a. To inspire the next generation to try their best, to provide a safe and fun environment for all the children so they can take risks and try new things.
  - b. All I ever wanted to be, I loved playing teachers after school.
  - c. To make a difference and be that inspirational teacher for someone.
3. What makes your job satisfying?
  - a. Children becoming passionate about their learning.
  - b. Seeing the children grasp a concept that I have taught and being excited about it. Their smiling faces.
  - c. When I feel I have had a really good day of teaching.

Thank you teachers, the hard mahi is worth the reward.

**ASSEMBLY:** Please note we are making an adjustment to the seating arrangements at assembly. When family come to assembly from this week on, they will be seated on the entrance side of the auditorium. This will give us the extra space on the bleachers for the extra students we have at Puhinui. Currently our roll is at 661 students. We look forward to seeing you this week at 1.50 p.m. for the whole school assembly.

**ROOFING UPGRADES:** The Junior and Senior blocks have now been completed being re-roofed. Next week work will begin on Rooms 15,16, 17 and 18. Once these classrooms are complete there will be one last block to complete - The Gail Waterhouse Te Ara Centre.

**LUCKY LUNCH WINNER:** Well done to Mannat Sidhu 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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Please sign and return this slip to school next term so your child's name can be entered in a draw for a free school lunch.

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_