



PUHINUI SCHOOL *Newsletter*



14 December 2016

Newsletter No. 2016/16

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The end of the term is approaching extremely quickly, with still so much to do. This is the last newsletter of the year and the very last one from me, as tomorrow is my last day as Principal of Puhinui School. I would like to thank a number of groups of people, who have made my stay at this fabulous school so enjoyable and rewarding:

To the many, many, B.O.T. members that I have had the good fortune to work with, thank you for your continual focus on what was good for children and for collectively having such a common sense approach to governance.

To the many great leaders within the school, who have shaped the school culture over the years to ensure that Puhinui School remained a friendly, welcoming place, where the focus was always on a holistic approach to educating all children, irrespective of the challenges and barriers that may or may not have presented themselves.

To the many, many staff, who have served our students so well over the years, thank you for your dedication, professionalism and enthusiasm for doing the very best for our students.

To the talented and committed support staff, whether their role was support for learning or administration functions, if it were not for you, the school would not have been able to effectively provide the high calibre education that it has year in, year out.

To our parents for your continual support of the school's values and vision to do the best for your children, thank you for having faith in us that we would look after your children every day and we would do the very best for them.

Finally, to the 3000 plus children who have left this school, having completed Year 6 during my 32 years as Principal, you are the main reason for this school being what it is today. You are the reason that I stayed for so long. I have followed so many of your stories, as you have moved along with your life's journey, and feel very privileged to have been part of those respective journeys. Good luck and good fortune to every single one of you, and thank you for helping me to have such a rewarding career.

INDIVIDUAL REPORTS: Every student should have brought home a report for their parents and/or caregivers today. Each report is a summary of progress and achievement across all curriculum areas. If for some reason, as a parent and/or caregiver, you have not received a report, please contact the school tomorrow on 278 8703.

ACHIEVEMENT DATA: As we all know, schools are much more than just reading, writing and maths. Education is about the whole person of which academic achievement is but only one facet of a person's development. Having said that, schools are required to report to the Ministry of Education and parents each year on the achievement of various cohorts in reading, writing and maths in relation to National Standards. The following information shows the percentages of students in those cohorts in terms of achieving At and Above National Standards.

Reading

All students 74%	Māori 73%	Pasifika 77%	Asian/Indian 78%	European/Other 81%
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Writing

All Students 83%	Māori 82%	Pasifika 80%	Asian/Indian 85%	European/Other 92%
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Mathematics

All Students 77%	Māori 73%	Pasifika 77%	Asian/Indian 78%	European/Other 81%
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As our parents can clearly see, the students at Puhinui School are achieving extremely well across all areas of the core curriculum. The other very obvious aspect to the data is that all cohorts are comparable in how well they are achieving, which speaks volumes about Puhinui School meeting the needs of all students irrespective of their ethnicity.

START OF THE 2017 SCHOOL YEAR

New enrolments Tuesday 24th January and Wednesday 25th January
8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Teachers only day Thursday 26 January (First aid training for all staff)
The school administration is open for new enrolments.
11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m

Auckland Anniversary Day Monday 30 January, a public holiday (School closed).

Students first day back Tuesday 31 January
Established students start back at the usual time of 8:50 a.m.
and go straight to their new classroom.

New students will meet in the auditorium with their parents at
10:00 a.m. where they will be assigned to their new classroom
and taken to meet their new teacher.

SCHOOL TERMS FOR 2017

Term 1	Tuesday 31 January to Thursday 13 April.
Term 2	Monday 1 May to Friday 7 July
Term 3	Monday 24 July to Friday 29 September
Term 4	Monday 16 October to Friday 15 December

LUCKY LUNCH WINNER: Well done to Attalia Tuisila from Room 10 who was the lucky lunch winner from the last newsletter.

BEST WISHES FOR THE SEASON: On behalf of the BOT and the staff I would like to wish all of our students and their parents a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope that all of our students have a great, relaxing break from school and return in 2017 ready for another exciting busy year at Puhinui School. To those students leaving Puhinui School to attend another school next year, I wish you the very best for your future studies and school life in general.

