



PUHINUI SCHOOL



Newsletter

15 February 2019

Newsletter No. 2/2019

Dear Parents/Caregivers and Families,

Our first 3 weeks at school have been very busy and very satisfying too. Our teachers talked about having high expectations of ourselves as educators and of the students. It has been pleasing to see how well students have responded to these expectations. From next week our programmes will be fully in place. Music lessons begin and the band begin tutorage with the Tironui Trust. Extra support programmes begin on the 25th of February.

'SPLISH, SPLOSH, SPLASH': On the 5th of February our Junior School enjoyed 2 fun days of 'Splish, Splosh, Splash' activities. These activities have two important functions. Firstly, for students to enjoy and have fun activities including, slippery water slides, jumping through sprinklers, a water obstacle course, blowing bubbles and other fun water based games. The second function being to help students develop emergent confidence in and around water. We hope the parents who attended enjoyed seeing the children enjoying the various activities.

Here are two Junior student stories from 'Splish, Splosh, Splash day':

Last week we had splish splosh splash. We went with the Junior School, Room 10, and teachers. I went on the waterslide super fast like flash. After that activity, we went to the water guns. I had so much fun shooting the cheeky duckies. Then we went to the pool. It was super warm. I had a blast and I was happy!

Faith Parkes, Room 10

I liked sliding on the water slide. I was very excited.

Roman Rakete, R13

SWIMMING SPORTS: Yesterday, we had Middle school and Senior School swimming sports. Both syndicates have a range of swimming activities they participate in. There are fun non competitive activities for the students who are continuing to develop their water confidence. We also have competitive activities for confident swimmers and for students who will be part of our swimming squad. It was interesting to see the progression from Middle School through to Senior School in confidence and ability. In the Middle School team there was a greater focus on building water confidence. All students participated and all students had lots of opportunity to be in the pool for a wide range of events. In the seniors there was a greater focus on competitive events. This is pleasing to see, because it shows how the students in Years 5 and 6 have progressed from initial water confidence and are now learning to develop their ability to swim freestyle, backstroke and breaststroke. Once again it is pleasing to see the number of students who took part in the numerous swimming events. The final events of the day were relays and the water bomb comp! Congratulations to Eva and Khale who were our bomb champions this year. A special mention to our bombing judge and ex world champion bomb athlete Miss Alayne Miller. A final big thank you to the teachers for their preparation and the way they all worked together as a team to ensure the students had a memorable swimming sports day.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES: Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Wednesday the 27th of February (week 5). These are beginning of the year conferences to discuss how your child has settled back in at school and any insights or issues the teachers may wish to discuss with you. School will finish at 2 p.m. on the 27th of February. A parent conference letter will be sent home next week.

TERM ONE CALENDAR: For information relating to special events and dates this term please go to the Puhinui School website (<http://www.puhinui.school.nz/>). Up-coming events are shown on the bottom right hand-side of the home page. Underneath there is a link to the school parent calendar.

PUHINUI SWiS: Social Workers in Schools (SWiS) is a free service available to our children and their whanau here at Puhinui School. These services are designed to provide assistance to families who may be experiencing difficulties or challenges. The wellbeing of children is the key focus and the service aims to create more positive outcomes for children/families. Please feel free to contact our school SWiS (Anna Alder) through the Office or on one of the following: anna.alder@fwn.org.nz or 021 737 899.

SCHOOL HOURS: The school day for students commences at 8.50 a.m. and ends at 3.00 p.m. We ask that parents ensure that their children are at school in plenty of time to organise themselves for the start of school and have time to talk to and play with their friends before the class bell rings. The breaks during the day are:

Morning break 10.50 a.m. to 11.10 a.m.

Lunch break 12.40 p.m. to 1.40 p.m.

VISITING SCHOOL: A reminder if you are visiting the school, or dropping items off for your child, please make sure you come to the office. All visitors must sign in, this ensures we know who is on our site at all times. For parents collecting students early for appointments the office require you to sign them out. The office can coordinate all visitors and your enquiries.

PUNCTUALITY: Please keep in mind the importance of punctuality. It is the responsibility of our parents to ensure their children are at school on time. Lateness is learned behaviour, as is being punctual. By establishing good routines at home children learn how to manage their time well. Parents please work with us in relation to improving our student punctuality. The school bell rings in the morning at 8.50 a.m., please ensure your child is at school between 8.20 a.m. and 8.40 a.m.

SCHOOL DONATION: The school donation for students attending Puhinui School for 2019 will remain the same as the last several years. The cost per child is \$40 for the year with a maximum cost to any family, irrespective of the number of children, being \$80 per year. The donation can be paid on a term by term basis of \$10 per term, per child.

CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS POLICY: From time to time, parents may have a concern or something they wish to raise with the school. In the first instance, we encourage parents to talk with their child's teacher, as soon as possible and while it is still a small concern. Our teachers are always ready to listen and help clarify any misunderstandings. Please note that our concerns and complaints policy is on the school website for any parents who wish to view it. Please go to the website if you wish to check the process for concerns and complaints. www.puhinui.school.nz

SKIDS: Our before and after school care providers do a great job caring for and providing families with a service before and after school. To contact SKIDS, ring Becca at 0800 754 377. Text 022 473 0281 or email them at puhinui@skids.co.nz. Please see our website for more information, or call into the office for a pamphlet. You can also visit them in the Tech Room after school if you wish.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE: As you will be aware our Public Health Nurse (PHN) Leata is at Puhinui School on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She runs a Manakidz Clinic that offers free sore throat and skin health assessment and treatment. This is a free service, so please do utilise the Public Health Nurse at school. She can be contacted at the school on Tuesdays or Thursdays, or on her mobile number 021 241 6711.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES: Parents please note our learning times are very focussed and it is important that programmes run consistently day in and day out. We would appreciate that you keep birthday cakes and party packs for home. If they come to school they will not be handed out until the end of the day.

LUCKY LUNCH WINNER: Well done to Kingston Teiho-Ryan 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 _____