



PUHINUI SCHOOL Newsletter



26 May 2016

Newsletter No. 2016/07

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

BOT ELECTIONS: There were five nominations for the new Board of Trustees for Puhinui School, which negated the need for the school to have an election process. Congratulations to the new B.O.T. all of which are excellent representatives of the Puhinui community and, I'm sure, will serve our parents very effectively for the next three years. The new Board is:

Les Waimotu
Shane Haylock
Neroli Matautia
Rik Manaia
Martyn Chalmers

Both Mr Waimotu and Mr Haylock were members of the previous board who will both provide experience and continuity of governance. On behalf of the staff and parents, I would like to thank Mr Adrian LePou, Ms Abby Linstead and Mrs Leanda Moor, members of the outgoing B.O.T. for their excellent service to Puhinui School over the last three years as board members.

In the present school environment of self management, schools are very much reliant on the effectiveness and consistency of governance provided by the B.O.T. in partnership with the Principal and the senior management team of the school. We have certainly been very well served by previous boards over the years and this new board will be no exception. We all look forward with great optimism and confidence to the next three years at Puhinui School.

MIDDLE SCHOOL TRIPS: A number of our middle school classes visited the Auckland museum today with the remaining classes visiting tomorrow, Friday. The visit to the museum supports the present focus on science, extinct forms of life, focusing on the dinosaur age. This is a topic which really captures the imaginations of our middle school students, especially the boys. The trip to the museum, apart from being a lot of fun, will provide experiences, which will be the basis for both group and class discussions along with learning activities to engage students in using information in the promotion of their own learning.

WINTER SPORTS EXCHANGES: Over the last two weeks we have had two sports exchanges, one with Papatoetoe North and the other with Seventh Day Adventist School. In both exchanges our team members really enjoyed the games and played very well. The results were:

Papatoetoe North Exchange

Puhinui Soccer	A won	B won	Girls won			
Netball	A lost	B won	C lost	D lost,	E lost	F won
Rugby under 40s	won					

SDA Exchange

Puhinui Soccer	A won	B won	Girls drew
Netball	A drew	B won	
Rugby under 40 vs Kingsford		lost	

In both exchanges, all games were played with excellent sportsmanship being displayed from both schools.

SENIOR DOG MANAGEMENT VISIT: As a result of recent media reported dog attacks on children, we invited the 'Dog Management Team' to visit Puhinui School on Monday the 23rd of May to talk to our senior children regarding staying safe around dogs. The main point made during the presentation was that, dogs, irrespective of how tame they may seem, are animals and as such, can be unpredictable, in certain circumstances. The management team discussed some strategies that

could help all children in the event of an attack. However, as we probably all know, the best advice is to stay well away from any dogs which you don't know well and even then, monitor their behaviour for signs of aggression. One piece of advice given to our children by the visitors was that, in the unthinkable situation of actually being attacked by a dog, don't run, but curl up in a small ball and protect your face, while calling for help.

DROP-OFF ZONE: The drop-off zone in the mornings and for picking up children after school, appears to be working well with parents now being more familiar with just how it works and being patient and practical in order to make the facility work for everyone. A reminder that the expectation is that, in the mornings when parents are using the drop-off zone they do not leave their car to accompany their children to their class room. It is only a drop-off zone.

Stop, Park, Hug, Say goodbye, Wave and Drive away

Many thanks for your co-operation and for helping the facility to work effectively.

VULNERABLE CHILDREN'S ACT: All education centres from early childhood to secondary schools, as from April 4, 2016 are required to have policies, procedures and practices in place to comply with the recent Vulnerable Children's Act which became effective from the above date. This means that every possible mechanism is established to identify any suspected ill treatment and or abuse of children. To this end, the school also has to have protocols in place to ensure that all personnel employed in a school, and working with children, have been police vetted and have been identity checked through two separate recognised identity documents. This has been actioned at Puhinui School and our policy for identification of child ill-treatment and abuse, along with the resulting procedures, was shared with our parents at the 'Keeping Ourselves Safe' parent evening. Keeping Ourselves Safe programmes are delivered every two years at Puhinui School, where children are involved in learning experiences to help them to develop knowledge, strategies and the confidence to keep themselves safe in a range of different situations, where their safety may be compromised, including situations involving people that they know.

WRITING SAMPLE FROM A YEAR 5 STUDENT: This is an account of the walk up to the Mt. Eden summit from the Stardome, on the recent senior school trip.

I started to walk up a rocky pathway with swirls of invisible wind gusting around me, moving at high speed. I was walking up One Tree Hill. I had never been up there before so I was very excited. Sheep were everywhere around the area looking like big fuzzy fur balls, but more like mini white clouds. The numbers of sheep were to be avoided like prickly blueberry bushes. I felt like I had to be a Ninja to avoid them. I was determined to get through them. After walking a while, feeling exhausted, I was much higher than where I had started from and I was super scared of heights. I tried not to look down, not expecting that this old trick would work, but it did. After another few minutes of avoiding those smelly' blueberries' I was finally at the very top. It was an amazingly beautiful view even though I had sore legs from the walk. Well, after getting to the top I did the exact same things, but in reverse.

written by Jessica Nyugen from Room 6.

KIWI GAMES FUN SPORTS PROGRAMME: For children aged 5 – 11 years. Saturdays in Term 2: Starts 14th May; then 21st May , 11th June, 18th June, 25th June, and 2nd July. 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.

LUCKY LUNCH WINNER: Well done to Ashbir Kaur from Room 12 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 the draw for a free school lunch.

Parent's signature _____ Child's name _____ Room _____