



PUHINUI SCHOOL Newsletter



16 June 2016

Newsletter No. 2016/08

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

FIRE DRILL: On Wednesday the 8th of June, the whole school was involved in a fire drill practice to ensure that, in the unthinkable situation of a fire occurring at school, everyone will be prepared and will know what they, as individuals and collectively as class groups, need to do. The evacuation of all buildings to safe spaces on the front and back fields and checking that everyone is accounted for are the first two priorities. This, of course, needs to be accomplished as fast as possible and with the least amount of panic, noise and fuss. All classrooms, break out rooms, corridors, toilets and play areas are checked by designated personnel, before the individual class rolls are called.

Congratulations to all children and teachers for the excellent practice, which went without a hitch, with everyone being accounted for within 3 to 4 minutes of the first continuous bell sounding.

ART ENHANCEMENT: In weeks 7, 8, 9 and 10 Puhinui School is hosting the zone art enhancement in the technology room. Two students from each school in Papatoetoe attend the enhancement programme along with our own students, every day from 9.15 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. for the duration of a week. A new group of students attend each week, so over the four weeks 80 students from the Papatoetoe Schools benefit from the 'art experiences' as well as the opportunity to work with other children of like minds and interests. Two of our art specialist teachers will be working with the students, each spending two weeks teaching the enhancement programme over the four week period. Many thanks to Mrs Jessica Pearse from Room 1 and Miss Serena Walker from Room 9, for sharing their artistic expertise and time, inspiring the budding young artists from the Papatoetoe area.

MR 'MACCA' MANAWAITI: Mr Manawaiti, our caretaker, is leaving on Friday the 17th of June, after working at Puhinui School in the role for the last 14 years. Macca started at Puhinui School in 2002, having left his job at the Manukau Bowling Centre, which happens to be his passion, having played bowls at a provisional and national level. We wish to thank him for his service and dedication to caring for and keeping the school well-maintained and looking clean and tidy over those years. During his time at the school, he has become a local identity through the many and varied interactions he has had with our community, other schools and many, many contractors and trades people. Macca and his wife Pauline have sold their house and moving from Papatoetoe to Papamoa, where they will be close to family. We wish both Macca and Pauline the very best for their new life in the Bay of Plenty.

ASSESSMENT INFORMATION AND REPORT WRITING: At present, teachers are writing individual student reports from the assessment information gathered over the first two terms of this year. Assessment data can be in many forms including:

- standardised tests which are nationally normed.
- class and group tests in reading and maths.
- anecdotal information through teacher observations and discussions with the student.
- examples of student work and their involvement in the learning.
- how students involve themselves in the learning process.

Reports on progress, in terms of national standards, will be sent home on Monday the 4th of July.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES: These are scheduled for Tuesday the 5th of July and Wednesday the 6th of July. This is an opportunity for teachers and parents to discuss the reports received on the Monday, in order to ensure all students have positive outcomes in terms of their learning and involvement in school opportunities for the rest of the year. We look forward to seeing our parents taking advantage of the opportunity to discuss their child's report with the class teacher.

NEW BOT: Our Board of Trustees met on Monday the 13th of June and for three members, it was their first meeting. As a school, we are indeed very fortunate to have BOT members of such quality.

The new members have Mr Waimotu and Mr Haylock, both having served for some time on boards, to work along side them. As a board we have made a great start to the three year governance term of this present board.

NATIONAL STANDARDS PROGRESS: One of the educational issues discussed by the board was that of National Standards and progress being made by our students in the core curriculum areas of reading, writing and maths. As a school, we are very much on track to achieve at a similar standard in terms of National Standards to that of last year. Our curriculum target is for 75% of students achieving 'At' or 'Above' standard in reading, maths and writing.

WINTER SPORTS: We are well into our winter sports programme, with the zone field day in rugby, soccer and netball scheduled for next week on Tuesday the 21st of June, at Bruce Pulman Park in Takanini. Our last two exchanges with Papatoetoe South and Papatoetoe Central Schools have been most enjoyable with all teams playing well. Our team members are working well in team situations and developing a very healthy attitude towards sports. The results for the two exchanges were as follows:

Papatoetoe South

Soccer	A Team Won	B Team Won		
Netball	A Team Lost	B Team Won	C Team Won	D Team Won
Rugby	under 40 Kg Won			

Papatoetoe Central

Soccer	A Team Won	B Team Drew		
Netball	A Team Lost	B Team Won	C Team Lost	D Team Won
Rugby	under 40 Kg Won			

Our final exchange before the zone field day is scheduled for today, Thursday the 16th of June. Many thanks to our coaches, who spend a great deal of time working with and coaching teams in all of the three codes, soccer, netball and rugby.

SCIENCE ROADSHOW: A group of senior students will be attending the Science Roadshow, which is scheduled for next week Wednesday the 22nd of June at Papatoetoe Intermediate School. This is an opportunity for our students to explore various science and technology concepts through hands-on experiences. The purpose of the interactive approach to science and technology is to create excitement and a curiosity in the students to think about science and technology and hopefully discover scientific principles.

UNIFORMS: All Puhinui School uniform items have a school logo embroidered on them. Some students are wearing items of a similar green which is in fact, not part of our uniform. When purchasing items please ensure that all items have the school logo on them.

If any families have uniforms or underwear they wish to discard, we would appreciate you considering donating the items to the school in order to bolster up our spare clothes reserves. Spare clothing is essential in a school environment, in the event of a child having a toileting accident, falling over in muddy conditions, or spilling art materials over themselves. We also have a need for any unwanted uniforms for children that are without warm clothing on cold days. Many thanks to those families who can and do assist the school in this way.

KIWI GAMES FUN SPORTS PROGRAMME: For children aged 5 – 11 years. Saturdays in Term 2: Started 14th May, 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 Eli Uasi from Room 13 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 _____