



# PUHINUI SCHOOL

# *Newsletter*

31 January 2024

Newsletter No. 1/2024

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to Puhinui School. We hope you have had an opportunity to spend time over the summer as a family and are relaxed and ready to have your children back at school. 2024 is going to be an exciting year at Puhinui. We continue to work hard to ensure we offer a curriculum that develops the whole child and prepares them to be enthusiastic learners. To our new students and their families, I hope your first few days at Puhinui School will be positive and you feel settled at your new school. Welcome also to our new teachers and staff members.

**SCHOOL MOTTO & VALUES:** Our school motto is 'Others before Self' When the school was established in 1953 the school motto followed not long after. It is a significant part of our history as a school and we hope that we are teaching the tamariki elements of our motto throughout their time at Puhinui School. Our values were developed in the early 2000's and over a number of years during this time they evolved into the values we currently have: Respect, Resilience, Integrity, Opportunity and Community. They are part of the tradition of the school and just like our motto we hope to humbly and quietly develop each value as part of our daily learning with the tamariki.

**STATIONERY LISTS:** Please be aware we have sent home stationery lists for your child and for the particular year group they are in. Our stationery is reasonably priced and the benefit of purchasing from the school is that everything that is required is in the stationery box your child will require for 2024. Please note that we do have resource costs such as photocopying and applications for student use at school and accessible from home. It also includes costs that are related to supporting learning services.

**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.

**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 a learned behaviour, as is being punctual. By establishing good routines at home children learn how to manage their time well. Please help us by building good morning routines and habits to ensure punctuality.

**END OF THE SCHOOL DAY:** Parents please talk to your child about what your end of the school day routines are. Do you meet them by their class?, Do they wait in the waiting drop off zone area?, or Do they walk home? Wherever your meeting place may be, please discuss it and also please think about a 'what if' plan too. What if I am late picking you up? If in doubt, children should come to the office and we will follow-up with home. Please be on time for picking your child up. If you know you are going to be consistently late please enrol them in SKiDs after school care (details are below). For the next few weeks our teachers will be focusing on our end of day routines so that tamariki are in good habits for the year. We will be making sure children are leaving promptly at the end of the day. Parents please note, tamariki are not allowed on the playgrounds after school.

**GRAYSON AVENUE ACCESSWAY & DROP OFF:** We are lucky to have the Grayson Road entrance and drop off zone. Parents please use this area as it was designed and intended to be used. The parking is limited and cannot accommodate parking for everyone. In the morning please pull into the drop off area

and your tamariki hop out and walk up to school, while you drive away. In the afternoon please wait patiently in the line of cars and when it is your turn, pull into the drop off zone, wait for your child in your car. They will come to you and then please drive carefully away from the drop off area. It can be a very busy time and it does require patience and support from all our families. When we are all in sync we are keeping tamariki safe. Staff members are on duty to help facilitate and encourage road safety in and around our school. Once again, we appreciate your assistance in keeping our students safe. The Grayson crossing chain is put up at 8.20 a.m. and 2.50 p.m. and will be open again at 8.50 a.m. and 3.10 p.m.

**WAITANGI DAY:** Please remember that Waitangi Day is next Tuesday, 6th of February. This is a public holiday and school will be closed. Please note we have school on Monday 5th.

Reminder: Monday 5th school is open as usual, 8.50 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.

Tuesday 6th school is closed for Waitangi Day

Wednesday 7th school is open as usual, 8.50 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.

**PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES:** Parent Teacher Conferences have been tentatively scheduled for Wednesday the 28th of February (week 5). More details will follow closer to the time.

**SWIMMING SPORTS & SPLISH, SPLOSH, SPLASH:** Next week (Week 2) on Thursday 8th February we will have our Middle and Senior School swimming sports. Junior School will hold their Splish, Splosh, Splash event. This is a range of water based activities that are fun and encourage water play. Notices are due out shortly, parents are welcome to come and attend these events.

**CURRICULUM SWIMMING:** Swimming is a compulsory part of the New Zealand Curriculum. If your child has a medical condition preventing him or her from swimming, a signed note from parents is required. Please ensure your child has their togs and towel on their swimming days. Please name all items. Our aim is to ensure all students have the confidence they need to enjoy water activities and so they are safe from harm in and around water.

**HATS COMPULSORY IN TERM 1 AND TERM 4:** Please ensure your child is wearing their school hat this term. Hats can be purchased from the school uniform provider, Angels Fashion, 98 St George Street, Papatoetoe. Hats are brimmed, gold in colour and have our school emblem on them. Students must wear their hats when outside. If they have not got a hat they will be expected to be sitting in the designated shady areas of the school. Please name your child's hat and please label it on the inside where it is not visible and not too large that it can be seen. This keeps our hats looking tidy. Please include your child's room number. Only our gold school hat is to be worn and is part of our uniform.

**PUHINUI SWiS:** Social Workers in Schools (SWiS) is a free service available to our children and their whānau 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 of the service. Please feel free to contact our school SWiS (Shital Naidu) through the Office, or by one of the following:  
[shital@puhinui.school.nz](mailto:shital@puhinui.school.nz) or 0274102148 .

**DENTAL HUB:** Dental services are accessed from 2C Grayson Avenue. The parking directly outside the clinic is provided for dental staff and parents of children being treated. The dental hub's phone number is 09 2781975.

**SKIDS:** Our before and after school care providers have resumed their services. To contact SKiDS, ring Becca at 0800 754 377. Text 022 473 0281 or email them at [puhinui@skids.co.nz](mailto:puhinui@skids.co.nz). Get started by enrolling on AIMY PLUS <http://skids.aimy.co.nz> .

**LUNCHES:** Pie sales will resume on Friday the 9th of February. Orders are taken in the auditorium before school and delivered to your child's room at lunchtime. Pie orders are on Mondays and Fridays each week.



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Please sign and return this slip to school so your child's name can be entered in a draw for a free school lunch.

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

## **2024 STAFFING:**

Principal: Mr M. Elder      Deputy Principal: Mrs S. Valeli      Deputy Principal: Mr L. Mose  
Assistant Principal: Miss A. Cave      Special Education Needs (SENCO): Mrs L. Borrie

Senior School:	Mr M. Khan	Room 1	Yr 5
	Miss K. Hayes	Room 3	Yrs 5 & 6
	Mrs B. Wright (TL)	Room 4	Yrs 5 & 6
	Miss H. Sharp	Room 5	Yrs 5 & 6
	Miss A. Garvie	Room 6	Yrs 5 & 6
	Mr D. Scott	Tūi	Yrs 4,5 & 6
	Miss J. Revilla Royo	Kea	Yrs 4,5 & 6
	Miss N. Surgison	Pīwakawaka	Yrs 4,5 & 6

Middle School:	Miss N. Chand	Room 15	Yrs 3 & 4
	Miss N. McCoskrie	Room 16	Yrs 3 & 4
	Mr S. Jolly (TL)	Room 17	Yrs 3 & 4
	Miss L. Ehrhorn	Room 18	Yrs 3 & 4
	Miss R. Doppenberg	Room 19	Yrs 3 & 4
	Miss R. Hu	Room 20	Yrs 3 & 4
	Mrs R. Reddy	Room 21	Yrs 3 & 4
	Mrs N. Lameko	Room 22	Yr 3

Junior School:	Mrs A. Mala	Room 9	Yr 2
	Ms N. Chhima	Room 10	Yr 2
	Miss Z. Sayed	Room 11	Yr 2
	Mrs A. Minnaar	Room 12	Yr 2
	Mrs J. Virk (TL)	Room 13	Yr 2
	Ms P. Kirkwood	Room 14	Yr 2
	Miss J. He	Room 7	NE/Yr 1
	Mrs K. Kaur	Room 23	Yr 1
	Miss J. Heo	Room 24	Yr 1
	Miss S. Ashley	Room 25	Yr 1
	Miss A. Magali	Room 26	Yr 1
	Miss A. Robinson	Takahē	NE/Yr 1
	Miss A. Robertson	Kiwi	NE/Yr 1
	Mrs K. Harland/ Miss A. Cave	Kākāpō	NE/Yr 1
	Miss A. Cave (TL)		
	(TL – Team Leader)		

Tech Shed Teacher: Mr B. Read

Release Teachers 2024: Mrs J. Ravji, Ms G. Berry, Mr A. Khan, Miss K. Brown

ESOL Teacher/Release Teacher: Mrs M. Doubleday

Secretary/Admin: Miss L. Campbell, Ms S. Kumar, Miss H. Brennan

School Librarian: Mrs J. Gow

School Caretaker: Mr C. Valeli

**PUHINUI BOARD MEMBERS:** Our school is lucky to have a very experienced and highly competent Board. They represent you, our parents and whānau. The Board works towards achieving the best possible outcomes for the school, and the tamariki. The Board meets regularly throughout the year and are responsible for the overarching governance of the school.

**Presiding Chair,** Simon Kent

**Staff Rep,** Lua Mose

**Principal,** Mark Elder

**Parent Reps** Phillip Wihapi, Luke Doubleday, Helena Yuhoi-WongKing, Martyn Chalmers (also finance team).