



Newsletter

7 September 2017

Newsletter No. 15/2017

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

CHOIR CONGRATULATIONS: On Wednesday night the Papatoetoe primary and intermediate schools combined choir performed for their parents and family at the Vodafone Events Centre. Our community were treated to an evening of beautifully arranged and presented songs. Each school had an opportunity to sing a selected song for the audience and they were all very good. A big congratulations to the students who sang on Wednesday night at the Vodafone Events Centre, you were awesome! It is wonderful to see the enjoyment the choir students have shown in singing and the growth they have made as singers. We look forward to hearing more from them in Term 4. Congratulations and thank you to Mr Read, our passionate choir master and Mrs Bird, our wonderful pianist.

MĀORI GATHERING: Next Wednesday the 13th of September we have a Māori whakawhanaungatanga (relationship building gathering) at 3.15 p.m. in the auditorium. A letter will be sent out in the coming days to all our Māori Whanau. Please keep this date free, we are looking forward to seeing you next week.

CROSS COUNTRY TEAM: Reminder that next week our cross country practice at Puhinui Reserve is on Thursday the 14th of September. Students in the cross country squad will bring home a letter to be signed by parents or caregivers for both the practice and the actual zones event a week later which is scheduled for the 19th of September.

SCIENCE WEEK: This week has been an excellent science week for our school. Our students have participated in and observed many scientific phenomena through the science experiences they have been involved in. Thank you to all the parents and whanau who were able to come along and enjoy the science in class for the afternoon. Our students enjoyed the opportunity of being the expert scientists who shared with you the fun experiments they have been practising and learning about. For me, a few highlights were walking around the school and seeing students so engaged in their science learning, seeing the older and younger students mixing, caring and sharing together (community), and finally seeing the joy and excitement as the students shared their science knowledge with you, the parent community. Well done to everyone! Thank you to our hard working staff members for the time and energy in preparing our students for this week and for the great job you have done throughout the Term 3 science focus.

Wow Science Narratives

The Tea Bag Rocket Experiment (Room 19, Science)

In Room 19 we conducted a science experiment called the tea bag rocket. We used equipment such as a tea bag, scissors, a plate, tinfoil and matches.

My hypothesis predicted that the tea bag would burn because fire does that to things. Firstly Mr C got a teabag. Then Mr C cut the string off the tea bag, emptied the contents and, unfolded the tea bag.

Next, Mr C put his fingers into the tea bag and shaped the tea bag into a cylinder. Then he stood the tea bag on tin foil. Finally Mr C got a match and lit the tea bag from the top. As the fire went down the tea bag it was getting lighter and lighter in weight. The heat from the fire rose and carried the tea bag up into the air.

By Neha

Drinking Flowers Room 23

What liquid will flowers absorb? Results: We found that the liquid that was drunk the quickest was the water. We took photos every 2 hours to show the progress of the red colouring into the flower petals. Conclusion: No one in the class thought that water would be the quickest, but it was the quickest.

Apples Room 24

Results: The apples went brown in the vinegar, the apple went fluffy in the water, the apple went soft in the milk. The apple stayed white in the lemon juice. Conclusion: After looking we found out that the lemon juice is the best for keeping the apple slice fresh and white.

Growing Gummy Bears Room 25

Growing gummy bears. Results: Water grew the gummy bear the largest. Vinegar and lemon juice made the gummy bear grow, but not as big as the gummy bear in water. Salt water did not make the gummy bear change size.

Melting Ice Room 26

Conclusion: After looking at our results we can see that our hypothesis were wrong. The ice-cube in salt melted the fastest (1hr 11min). Second fastest was the ice cube in water (1hr 30min). The third fastest was the ice cube in air (1hr 45min).

SCIENCE ASSEMBLY: Tomorrow (Friday) at 2 p.m. in the auditorium there will be a science assembly. This is a fun and enjoyable way to complete our science week. Our house captains along with a special guest, Professor Eldenstein will be leading us in a celebration of all things science. All parents are welcome to come along.

MATHEX: Last week our Years 4, 5 and 6 Mathex teams went to the annual Papatoetoe Primary Schools Mathex competition. Mathex is a problem solving team event. Each school races to be the first team to complete 20 maths problems in 20 minutes. Teams work together and then a runner presents the answers to a judge who will give them the next question if they get it right. If they don't, they have to decide to either try again or pass. This year was highly competitive and although Papatoetoe Central won all three year groups it was a very even competition. We were very pleased with the problem solving our students showed and how they worked as a team and use their ability to stay calm under pressure. Congratulations to our Years 5 and 6 teams. They were very worthy second place silver medalists.

MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY SWIM CLASSES: Well done to all our middle school students who have their final Papatoetoe community swim this coming week on Wednesday the 13th. The students have thoroughly enjoyed this opportunity and have gained further confidence as swimmers. The tuition from the swimming pool team has been excellent and we thank them for their great coaching.

FREE ESOL CLASSES MIT: Classes at MIT Otara - North Campus starting in Term 4. MIT are now interviewing for students for their FREE part-time ESOL classes for Term 4. They have classes for beginners and low level speakers of English. They have FREE FEES places for 16-19 year olds, in Level 2 and Level 3 New Zealand Certificate of English Language programmes. They also have FREE FEES places for refugees in Level 3, Level 4 and Level 5 New Certificate of English Language programmes. Please contact Silvia from MIT on 968 8748 if you are interested.

KIWI GAMES FUN SPORTS PROGRAMME: For children aged 5 – 11 years. The following Saturday's during September: 9th September and the 16th of September. 9.30 a.m. - 11 a.m. Papatoetoe East School hosts the Kiwi Games sports programme, located at 138 Tui Road. A gold coin donation is required to participate. Contact the PACT Office 279-8340 for more information.

PAPATOETOE FOOTSTEPS COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL: The preschool has been in operation now for 10 years, and we are excited to get together and celebrate! We invite all previous children and families to join us for celebrations on Saturday 23rd September. Please phone 250 1067 or email footstepspap@xtra.co.nz for more information.

LUCKY LUNCH WINNER: Well done to Isabella Liou from Room 18 who was the lucky lunch winner from the last newsletter. On Mondays or Fridays, the lucky lunch winner is able to order a pie of their choice and a box of juice from the auditorium before school.

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NEWSLETTER 15/17

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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 _____