



PUHINUI SCHOOL



Newsletter

21 September 2017

Newsletter No. 16/2017

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

A GREAT TERM THREE: This is our last newsletter for Term 3, and we would like to thank our parents and whanau for the continued support and also for taking the opportunity to contribute towards the students learning at Puhinui School. This has been in many ways, through ensuring homework is completed, in making sure your children are at school on time, as well as for those who were able to share and be a part of events like our science afternoon. We wish all our families a safe and family rich school holidays. Term 3 finishes on Friday the 29th of September at 3 p.m. Term 4 begins Monday the 16th of October, at 8.50 a.m.

ELECTION DAY VOTING: Puhinui School will open for Election Day this Saturday, the 23rd of September. Voting will open at 9.00 a.m. and close at 7.00 p.m. Visit the auditorium to place your vote.

DAFFODIL DAY: Thank you to all our students and whanau who contributed to our recent Cancer Society Daffodil Day appeal. \$551.90 was donated. We have received a thank you letter expressing an appreciation for the fundraising we did for the society. It mentioned that our money goes towards supporting cancer patients and their families as they receive treatment and recovery in this difficult time in their lives.

UNDER 40kg RUGBY TEAM AUCKLAND CHAMPS!: Yesterday (Wednesday), the under 40kg Rugby Team participated in the Auckland Rugby Union Champion of Champion's Tournament. The team began the tournament with a win against Koru Primary, further wins were recorded in pool play against Marist Mt Albert and St Kentigern's. The team played a minor final against St Kentigern's before the grand final against Balmoral. The team were very focussed throughout the tournament and were exceptional in maintaining pressure on their opposition. The team scored many memorable tries and were very strong through the middle all day. In the final the team were comprehensive winners and didn't let Balmoral in the game at all. The final score was 4 tries to nil. Congratulations to the Under 40's going through to the finals undefeated and being crowned Auckland Champions for 2017! A big well done to Mr Feau for his superb coaching skills and to Mr Mose, for your assistant coach abilities and managerial skills.

CROSS COUNTRY ZONE CHAMPIONS: Congratulations to our cross country who participated and won the overall Cross Country Zones Day on Tuesday, the 19th of September. The team trained almost every day this term in preparation for this event. The effort was worth the reward and we are very proud of the achievement of the team. An important feature of the cross country competition is the point system. Every student is allocated a placing according to where they finished in the race. The total points of all teams are added together and the team with the least amount of points is the overall winner. This makes each runner a valued part of the team. Well done team!

Placings:

| | | | | | |
|---------------|-----|--------------|-----|---------------|-----|
| 9 year boys | 2nd | 9 year girls | 2nd | 10 year boys | 1st |
| 10 year girls | 1st | 11 year boys | 2nd | 11 year girls | 1st |

CONGRATULATIONS MR FEAU (Daddy Feau): Last week Mr and Mrs Feau became parents for the first time. We are excited for them as are all the students, especially Room 5. Congratulations Mr (Daddy) Feau, we look forward to a baby visit some time in Term 4.

SCIENCE WEEK: Well done to teachers and students for an outstanding science week from the 4th to the 8th of September. This term has been jam packed with science and this week was a great way to

bring many science elements together. The students were impressive in their ability to describe scientific information, experiments and in the vocabulary of science. One of the key successes for us was in students being engaged and highly motivated scientists. How exciting to think we may have potential scientists of the future who have started their journey here at Puhinui School. Thank you to all parents and whanau who attended our science afternoon. We had a very impressive response with over 350 family members attending! That is amazing parent participation. Thanks to you all!

There were many impressive experiments that the students carried out this term, one I particularly enjoyed was from a group of girls in Room 3, Sharan, Raina and Reesha. Here is a little snippet of their work. Well done girls and well done to all our students.

Psychology Experiment:

The aim: To explore how colours affect our mood and also how sound can affect our mood. We are investigating to see how colours and sounds affect people's moods. The colours we are using are red and blue. The sounds we are using are a tornado siren and ocean sounds.

We noticed the following trends in our data:

- We saw that everyone (boys and girls) both reacted by about four and a half points in each test. This means that both genders experienced a level of calmness or anger that was higher than before the test.
- What is interesting is that the boys reacted more to each test and had significantly higher results than the girls in the anger test. We unfortunately had a lower population size in the anger test so this may have affected our averages. Still, it is interesting to see the difference between the two genders in the test.
- We also proved our original hypothesis that colour and sounds do have an affect on people's moods and that the sounds we played generally had the expected results.

By: Raina, Reesha, Sharan.

MĀORI WHAKAWHANAUNGATANGA (GATHERING): Last week our kapa haka group - Te Roopu Ahurea and Kaiarahi groups met and performed to our Māori whanau. Our māori team also presented information and shared with parents the types of learning tasks they have been doing this year as a team, for, and with the students. A number of Kaiarahi students also shared their māori journeys this year. We had a positive response from our whanau, who were appreciative of the work of our māori team and our teachers. We continue to work with whanau to support our Māori students, and all students. It was pleasing to see the positive and inclusive feeling amongst our parents, teachers and students. It was also neat to see our multi cultural kapa haka group and how much they enjoyed being a part of the parent sharing time. Thank you to all who attended. Next term we are looking forward to the Pasifika parent consultation and sharing opportunity.

MAKEA UPU, WORLD PERFORMING ARTS CHAMPIONSHIPS: Congratulations to Makea Upu, from Room 4 who has recently returned from competing in the World Performing Arts Championships, in the USA. Makea received numerous gold, silver and bronze awards across a number of disciplines including dance, vocal and theatrical performance. Way to go Makea and well done!

MUFTI DAY: Mufti day is tomorrow, Friday the 22nd of September, when the children are permitted to wear clothes other than their school uniform upon donation of a gold coin. The proceeds of this mufti day will be forwarded to the Ronald McDonald House appeal.

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 Victory Uaita Fata Taalefili from Room 24 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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21 September 2017

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 _____