



PUHINUI SCHOOL



Newsletter

1 March 2018

Newsletter No. 3/2018

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

JUST MARRIED: Congratulations to Mrs Rachel Twiname (nee Gagen) who was married last Saturday. We wish her all the best for this year as she enjoys her first year of marriage and her future years with Mr Twiname. Mrs Twiname is our second staff marriage this year (wonder who will be next?).

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES: We had a very high turn out rate for parent conferences yesterday. Thank you to all parents who took the time to meet with their children's teachers. We appreciate that in the business of family life it can be hard to juggle things around, however, by taking the time, it shows the importance parents place on our conferences and the attendance rate reinforces how our community values the education of our tamariki. The teachers always enjoy meeting parents, it can provide many valuable insights for the teachers and for us as a school.

SAFETY AFTER SCHOOL AND WALKING HOME PROMPTLY: Parents, we would like to encourage you to talk to your child/children about safety when walking home. Firstly, remind them that when the bell goes they leave school and walk straight home. This should be the most direct way possible and the way that they have discussed with you. Please remind your children that it is a good idea to walk with other children, although they should not then walk their friends home, or play after school at a friend's house, if you do not know about it.

Please remind your children to stay on the paths and when crossing streets, walk down from the corner and be extra careful making sure they look left, right and left again, when it is all clear it is safe to cross the street. Always use the pedestrian crossing if there is one on the road you are crossing. Parents we urge you to be good role models for the students by also using our Puhinui Road pedestrian crossing correctly.

The police also suggest parents talk about, if approached by someone they don't know children should be advised to:

Decline any invitation and move away from the person and vehicle immediately. If possible they should seek out other students or known people and if safe, take a note of what the person looks like, a description of the vehicle and the registration number.

Once at their destination children should be encouraged to report the incident immediately to a teacher or parent and write down what they saw and heard whilst fresh in their memory.

At school the health team is led by Miss Ashley. She is currently organising class visits with our Community Police Officer, Constable Dimitrius. He will be working with classes this year to support road safety, and the 'Keeping Ourselves Safe' programme. Teachers will be talking with students about walking home and we ask families have a plan as a way to keep our students safe.

SWIMMING SPORTS: On Wednesday the 14th of February we had our Middle and Senior School swimming sports day. This was an opportunity for our students to participate and compete in a range of swimming events. Our swimming sports have a number of important outcomes for our students. Firstly, enjoying being in the water together. Secondly, growing our confidence of being in the water. It also is an opportunity to take the skills the students are learning and apply them in competitive and non-competitive races. For some it is an opportunity to be selected for our zones swim team and compete against the top swimmers from across the Papatoetoe primary schools. Congratulations to the students, they were outstanding on the day, thank you to the parents who attended, we had a very good turn out, and a special thank you to our sport co-ordinators and the teachers for their excellent preparation and organisation.

GOOD LUCK TO OUR SWIM TEAM: This morning our swim team went to the Papatoetoe Centennial Pools to train as part of the team preparation for the Papatoetoe Zone Swimming day next week. They have also been training at lunch times and after school for the last week. It is pleasing that the children are working hard and putting in every effort to be ready to compete. One of the positive lessons in sport is it teaches our students the value of effort. If you have some talent and apply the effort, you will have success. Good luck swim team. Swim zones are next Tuesday, 6th March, approximate start time 10.00 a.m. and will be held at the Papatoetoe Centennial Pools.

YEAR 5 AND 6 OUTDOOR EDUCATION WEEK: A reminder our Year 5 and Year 6 Outdoor Education week is in week 8, the 19th to the 23rd of March. This is a week of activities where students can participate and develop confidence in outdoor events and activities that are designed to be motivating, physical and challenging. Through challenge students learn how to overcome obstacles, grow in confidence and enjoy participating in learning tasks outside the regular academic programmes. The Senior students are getting excited and can't wait for Outdoor Education week to arrive. A reminder to please return permission slips and money to the classroom teacher.

TOWN HALL CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION: On Tuesday a group of choir students participated in the Papatoetoe Town Hall Centennial celebrations. They sang for schools and guests and had an opportunity to share in the speeches and various displays at the town hall. As a school we were honoured to have a group of students represent the school at this special occasion. We live in a great community and it is important that as our children grow up they feel a part of it.

KIWI GAMES FUN SPORTS PROGRAMME: 9.30 a.m. - 11 a.m. on Saturday mornings at Papatoetoe East Primary School, 138 Tui Rd. For children aged 5 – 11 years. Gold coin donation. **Started 10th February**, then 3rd March, 10th March, 17th March, 24th March. Contact: Mr Glenn 0274 381646 or 279-8340 (PACT Office).

ATAWHAI GUIDES: Wednesday's, 6.30-8.30 p.m., Guide Place, Papatoetoe. A fun social group for girls aged 9 ½ years - 12 ½ years. Guides gives the opportunity for girls to enjoy a wide range of activities and challenges in a safe and supportive environment, developing skills, problem solving, confidence and leadership. Everyone is welcome to visit up to three times before joining. Fees \$85 per term. Contact Angela Cave for further information - angela@puhinui.school.nz

SPCA NOTICE: Each year The SPCA receive thousands of unwanted cats and kittens. The SPCA are offering FREE spaying, neutering and microchipping for cats in Auckland suburbs from 5th – 16th March 2018. They would like to work together with the community to help stop the cat population growing. Anyone who would like to take up the offer must call to book their cat/s in. The number to call is 09 256 7310. Bookings for this campaign are now open.

LUCKY LUNCH WINNER: Well done to Legacy McAuley from Room 10 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 a draw for a free school lunch.

Parent's Signature _____ Child's Name _____ Room _____

