



PUHINUI SCHOOL



Newsletter

12 April 2018

Newsletter No. 6/2018

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This is the last newsletter for the term and so I'd like to take this opportunity to thank parents for their continued support and dedication towards the education of their children. I'd also like to thank the Puhinui School Staff for their continued hard work and professionalism. During the term break we hope students have an opportunity to enjoy a restful, fun filled holiday and that your family get a chance to spend some quality family time. See you in Term 2. **School resumes for Term 2 on the 30th of April, at the usual time of 8.50 a.m.**

NZEI NEWS: You will be aware that in 2018 the teachers union (NZEI) are due to go into negotiations with the Ministry of Education regarding working conditions. Parents may not be aware of what the teaching sector is negotiating, so we wanted to include the key areas of the negotiations in 2018 for you. There are 3 main areas that the NZEI and teachers are negotiating this year. The first is in relation to the ensuring the teaching profession is a valued profession, it includes concerns regarding the current teacher shortage and pay rates of teachers. The second area relates to resourcing and support for teachers and students in the area of special learning needs. It aims to address the professions desire to implement quality inclusive educational principles that lead to improved outcomes for students in education. The final area of negotiation will be around career frameworks. The aim is to develop a range of career opportunities for teachers. It is hoped that teachers can develop and engage in areas of expertise and see a long term career for themselves in education. The NZEI is also negotiating and working to support equal pay opportunities for early childhood teachers and pay equity for teaching support staff. For further information please go to the NZEI website. Please see the link provided

<https://campaigns.nzei.org.nz/>

JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL DAY: A few weeks back the Junior classes had an International Day to celebrate the diversity of cultures we have at Puhinui School. The students rotated around a number of classes and were involved in a range of fun learning activities. Each teacher selected a country and had activities that were specifically related to that country. Students enjoyed learning about each country and the related tasks they were involved in. At the end of the day students left school knowing a little bit more about our diversity and thoroughly happy with the cultural experiences. Well done to our junior teachers and for their preparation.

MATHS AT PUHINUI SCHOOL: This year we have a strategic focus on mathematics in our curriculum. Teachers are developing their teaching pedagogies, and knowledge around several key concepts in maths, they include number talks, talk moves, mixed learning groupings and open questions that provide numerous answers. Open questions are designed to challenge and transfer the thinking and engagement of students in maths. They work with the teacher in workshop style groupings that have been identified as areas of learning by the teachers. The students then develop their shared understanding in discussions that help lead to personal understandings and greater meaning around big mathematical ideas. One change that will be noticeable for parents will be at the start of Term 2 when the Middle and Senior classes will make changes to the way our maths classes are organised. Students will no longer go to another teacher for maths, they will stay in their home classes. This change will help facilitate the changes to how we work in maths as our teaching pedagogies adjust to our mathematical curriculum design. If parents are interested in

knowing more there are some very good examples included in the links here:
These links describe and show how number talks works in a maths class. They are one of the key areas we are developing across the school.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SPEfxPgZJy4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=62epCIFdRa0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yXNG6GKFhQM>

ASSEMBLY: Room 19 are our hosting our last assembly for the term with a 2.10 p.m. start time. Parents are welcome to all our school assemblies. Usually assemblies are every odd week of the term, except for the first week of the term when we have a mihi whakatau at 9.10 a.m. and our last assembly for each term will always be moved to the Friday of the last week of term.

TERM 2 OVERVIEW: Dates and events for next term are on the accompanying term overview. Please note, Term 2 begins on Monday 30th April. School finishes this Friday (tomorrow) at 3 p.m. There was 124 students absent from school yesterday! This is concerning for us, may I remind families that poor weather will not close the school, we have to ensure students appreciate that we turn up to school each and every day. This is one of the key factors in students having success at school. Parents, please take time to think on this, particularly as Term 2 is a winter term and it will get colder.

FAREWELL TO STAFF: At the end of the term we are saying farewell to two staff members. Mr Chris Rowley, the Property Officer who will be preparing to move out of Auckland in the near future. We thank him for the work he has done in maintaining our grounds and buildings over the last few years. Our environment is well maintained and always well presented. Miss Ruby Grace, the teacher in Room 12 will also be moving to a position out of Auckland. She has accepted a position at a school in Rotorua. Miss Grace travelled from Puhoi every day to Puhinui School. This was an impressive task considering the distance and how the traffic is in Auckland. It is an example of great dedication and care for her students. We will miss both Mr Rowley and Miss Grace and we wish them all the best in their new endeavours.

WELCOME BACK AND WELCOMING NEW: In Term 2 we will be welcoming back from maternity leave Mrs Jasmin Virk who will be teaching in Room 13. We look forward to working with her again and we know that the students will be pleased to see her again. Mrs Virk will have students moving through from the new entrant classes. We also welcome to the school Miss Donna Whittle, and Mrs Rebecca Fa'aesea. Miss Whittle will be opening a move through Year 1 class in Room 24. Mrs Fa'aesea will be working in Room 12 as a replacement teacher for Miss Grace. She will be in a job share role with Mrs Janene Ravji. Mrs Fa'aesea will be working Monday to Wednesday and Mrs Ravji work Thursday and Friday. We wish them all the best and will enjoy seeing them continue to grow and develop in 2018 at Puhinui School.

MUFTI-DAY, SAUSAGE SIZZLE AND CAKE STALL: Last week we enjoyed seeing our students in all their cool modern fashions for mufti day. We also had a successful cake stall and sausage sizzle. All proceeds will go to Isaiah Young of Room 7, who is hoping to have a special operation, hopefully this year. In total we raised \$2004.40. Thank you to all of our families and staff for your generous contributions.

LUCKY LUNCH WINNER: Well done to Likhil Rupesh from Room 26 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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NEWSLETTER 6/18 12 April 2018

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 _____

UPDATING INFORMATION FORMS: Shortly we will be sending out 'updating information forms' to all families. Please keep an eye out for this form. Please be sure to update all contact numbers, as these are vital for ensuring we can contact parents and whanau at any time, especially in case of an emergency. Phone numbers are our key way of communicating with families. Please ensure emergency contact phone numbers are also updated. Complete and return forms as soon as possible. If none of the information has changed, there is no need to return the form. Thank you families.

HEALTH NURSE: Leata Mafuao is our Public Health Nurse and is at school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Leata runs the ManaKidz clinic where she assesses children for strep throat, skin infections and any other health enquiries. She is able to offer free treatment if required. Leata is also a 'Community Nurse Prescriber' so she is able to prescribe certain medication for basic health conditions. If you would like your child to be assessed by the Nurse, please contact Leata directly on her mobile 021 241 6711 (text or call). There is also a free text service which will send her a message to call you back. To access this service, text to 798, with her mobile phone number as the message, 021 241 6711, or email Leata at OtaraPHN@middlemore.co.nz attention the "Puhinui Nurse."