

Newsletter

13 December 2017

Newsletter No. 21/2017

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

LAST WEEK OF SCHOOL: This is our last newsletter for the year so, firstly, we would like to thank our Puhinui whānau for the continued support you have shown us throughout the year. This year has been a great one. It has been a year of change, and another year of outstanding achievements and learning. Our aim has been to continue to maintain our values and deliver quality learning, while also beginning to look toward the future and preparing our students for learning in a new educational era. As we come to the end of this year, we are beginning to look forward to 2018 and the future journey ahead of us. We hope all our families have the opportunity to have a safe, restful break and spend a good amount of time with your children during the summer. Thank you, and Merry Christmas from all the staff at Puhinui School.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY: A reminder the last day of school for 2017 is this Friday at 3 p.m., parents please maintain your good morning routines. We have had a number of students late this week, there is no need for this to happen, so let's keep our standards and expectations high. Please make sure your child is in attendance all week. One of the biggest factors in students' learning is their attendance.

PRIZEGIVINGS: Last week we had three entertaining and well supported prizegivings. Thank you to all those parents and whānau who were able to enjoy them with us. A special well done to those who attended all three. It would have made for a long day, but, we are sure, a great day. Thank you to our teachers for their organisation and the preparation leading into the prizegivings. Well done to all our students who performed so many memorable items and a big congratulations to all those who received awards and certificates.

FAREWELL STAFF LEAVING: Unfortunately, we have a number of staff leaving at the end of the year. It is always sad to see good people go, so on behalf of Puhinui School we would like to wish them all farewell and good luck as they journey onward in 2018. Haere rā Mrs Tari Stowers, Mr Callum Baird, Mr Ezra Feau and Miss Serena Walker. We also farewell a number of teacher assistants Miss Tepuka Joseph, Miss Borabora Joseph, Mrs Natasha Lameko and Miss Donna Botha. We also need to acknowledge and highlight two special people leaving, Mrs Heather Botha who, after 20 years at Puhinui, will be moving to Nelson. We also farewell in a special way, Mrs Sue Melling who after 26 years at Puhinui as a teacher's assistant will be retiring. Bless you both and we wish you a special haere rā and thank you for your long service to our school. Last, but not least, we have Miss Megan Clune, who after being seconded to the University of Auckland this year, has accepted a permanent position there. We thank and farewell all these people for their hard work over the years.

FAREWELL TO YEAR 6 STUDENTS: On Friday, at our last assembly, we sadly say farewell to our graduating Year 6 students. As always, they have been a great Year 6 cohort. We wish them all the best in 2018. We will be sad to see them go, but we are also very excited and know that leaving us is a rite of passage that means they are ready to grow and step closer towards becoming the person they are meant to be. Kia Kaha Year 6 students! Assembly will begin at 1.50 p.m.

YEAR 6 UNIFORM DONATION: Traditionally we have had some Year 6 students donate their uniforms to the school on the last day of the year. These can be left at the office after school on Friday. The Year 6's can get changed into mufti clothing after school if they are donating their uniform.

END OF YEAR REPORTS: Reports are being sent home to parents today, the 13th of December. Reports will be mailed out on the last day of term for any children absent in the last week of term. Please contact the office if you do not receive your child's report today.

YEAR 6 POOL PARTY: On Monday afternoon, the Year 6 students enjoyed the traditional Year 6 pool party. This is one of the fun end of the year special events that the Year 6 students can't wait for. It is one small way we acknowledge the end of their Puhinui School days. It is special to them as they are able to enjoy hanging out together in their last week of primary school.

WATER WARS: On Tuesday, the senior school students were rewarded with a fun water wars afternoon. This was again a way of them enjoying the end of year and for acknowledging all their hard work this year. Although they got extremely wet, they thoroughly enjoyed this traditional Puhinui event.

'HAVE A GO' DAY: A few weeks ago, the Junior School enjoyed the 'Have a Go' sports day at school. This week on Thursday, the Middle and Senior Schools get to enjoy the same opportunity. It is once again a perfect time to make the end of year fun filled and educational at the same time. Students will experience sports that they may grow to enjoy and participate in the future. 'Have a Go' day is run by Counties Manukau Sport.

STUDENTS MEET THE 2018 TEACHER: On Monday the 11th of December, students had the opportunity to meet their 2018 classroom teacher. This is always an exciting first introduction. This first meeting means that students are able to go straight to their classroom on the first day of school next year. It also means they know who their 2018 teacher will be and enjoy a few preliminary 'get to know you' activities. This is a good thing for both the students and the teachers. Please note your child received a notice to let you know what class they will be in. A reminder school begins at 8.50 a.m. on the first day of school in 2018, Wednesday the 31st January. Please ensure your child is in full school uniform and brings their school hat on the first day back.

START OF YEAR DETAILS:

Wednesday 24th January	New enrolments at the administration office
Thursday 25th January	New enrolments at the administration office
Tuesday 30th January	Teacher only day
Wednesday 31st January	First day of school for established students (coming back from the 2017 year) at the usual time of 8.50 a.m. New enrolments from 8.00 a.m.

On the first day of school, Wednesday the 31st of January, all new enrolments for 2018 will meet in the auditorium at 9.30 a.m. with their parents. New children will be placed in their new class for 2018. Parents are welcome to go to their child's new room when they are dropped off by a staff member.

STAFF FOR 2018: In 2018 we welcome a number of new teachers to Puhinui School, in Room 2 Miss Alexandra Garvie, Room 3 Miss Talea Dobbs, Room 7 Mrs Bridget Wright, Room 23 Miss Chanel Tailby, and Room 9 Miss Aleisha Dreadon. We also welcome a new teaching assistant Mrs Willien Vosloo.

2018 TERM DATES:

Term 1	Wednesday 31st January to Friday 13th April
Term 2	Monday 30th April to Friday 6th July
Term 3	Monday 23rd July to Friday 28th September
Term 4	Monday 15th October to Friday 14th December

UNIFORM PRICES 2018: 'Angel's Fashion' are having a sale from the 20th of December. A flyer is available from the office. You can purchase on sale prices prior to the 20th if you have the flyer. A reminder that you can make savings on uniforms if you have a VIP card. Please contact Angel's Fashion for uniform inquiries 09 277 7735. (Please note 2018 will see a rise in uniform costs. VIP card holders will be able to take advantage of this year's pricings).

LUCKY LUNCH WINNER: Well done to Yuvraj Singh from Room 14 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.

