



PUHINUI SCHOOL



Newsletter

28 February 2019

Newsletter No. 3/2019

Dear Parents/Caregivers and Families,

WEEK 5 ALREADY! It is hard to believe we are already half-way through term 1 of the 2019 academic school year. This week we have all of our extra learning support and extracurricular programmes up and running, so we are on track as usual. Although we have many exciting special events and fun things planned throughout the year. The day to day learning is the most important way we are able to build momentum and make a difference to the learning potential of the students.

SWIMMING ZONES: Next week we have our Papatoetoe swimming zones day (Tuesday 5th March). Our swim squad travelled to the Papatoetoe Centennial Pools today to train and become familiar with the venue for zones day. This is a good opportunity for the coaches to see the team in the pool and to make their final team selections. The students are very excited and looking forward to next week's big race day, good luck to the team on Tuesday. A reminder to parents please make sure permission slips are returned.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES: Our parent conferences were well attended last evening. Thank you to all parents who were able to attend. Teachers will be following up with families that they didn't manage to see and will either arrange a time or talk with you on the phone. Conferences are a valuable tool for teachers. It gives them an opportunity to meet and make connections with each student's home life and their parents. The main focus at this time of year is to share with parents how well their child/children have settled into their new classes and to communicate early with you around any areas of concern. We hope the conferences went well for you.

PUHINUI WEBSITE: For parents who are interested our Puhinui website has a number of informative areas that can help provide efficient information about our school. Our newsletters and the parent calendar can be very helpful when you are wanting to check special dates and information. We also have a link for parents who would like to inform the office of a child who is going to be away for the day. This year we will also be developing our photo galleries and a range of blogs for special events throughout the year. Our home page provides families with our key statements around our values, mission and vision. We hope our website is useful and of interest to you. Puhinui website: (<http://www.puhinui.school.nz/>).

PUNCTUALITY: Parents please ensure your end of day and morning routines are helping set your children up for success in their learning. Good routines are an important way of making sure your child is learning to be on time and ready for school. It is disappointing to see the number of students who are arriving late for school. The Puhinui Staff are working really hard to provide all our tamariki with the necessary skills and attributes for learning. Please help them by teaching your children the importance of being on time and ready to go. All children who arrive after the bell are required to go to the office for a late slip. The school bell rings in the morning at 8.50 a.m., please ensure your child is at school between 8.20 a.m. and 8.40 a.m.

GRAYSON AVENUE PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF: Congratulations parents! It is pleasing to see how well the majority of parents are using the pick-up and drop-off zone in the morning and afternoon. Please keep this going! For those who are picking up and dropping off along Puhinui Road, be mindful that our community constable is doing random patrols and will talk to you if you

are parking on the yellow lines. Traffic wardens are also monitoring the area before and after school

ASSEMBLY: This week Room 8 are hosting our school assembly. Assemblies begin at 1.50pm every odd week on Friday.

SENIOR SCHOOL OUTDOOR ED WEEK: As most senior school parents know, our outdoor education week is getting closer. By week 9 please make sure you have paid the outdoor education fees. For Y5 students this is \$40 and for Y6 students this is \$45. The week is subsidised by the school to help keep the costs as low as possible for families. The outdoor education programme is a well established tradition at Puhinui School. It is often one of the most memorable weeks in the students lives. Many ex-pupils talk to us and fondly remember when they participated in outdoor ed week activities. Outdoor ed is full of adventures and excitement for students. They often get pushed outside their comfort zones which can be challenging. On the flip side it gives them an opportunity to learn resilience, to build their self-esteem and overcome obstacles. Through outdoor ed activities we hopefully help equip students for important life long character traits, while having fun at the same time. In these terms we appreciate that outdoor ed week is an important aspect of each child's education at Puhinui.

PUHINUI SWiS: Social Workers in Schools (SWiS) is a free service available to our children and their whanau here at Puhinui School. These services are designed to provide assistance to families who may be experiencing difficulties or challenges. The wellbeing of children is the key focus and the service aims to create more positive outcomes for children/families. Please feel free to contact our school SWiS (Anna Alder) through the office or on one of the following: anna.alder@fwn.org.nz or 021 737 899.

VISITING SCHOOL: A reminder if you are visiting the school, or dropping items off for your child, please make sure you come to the office. All visitors must sign in, this ensures we know who is on our site at all times. For parents collecting students early for appointments the office require you to sign them out. The office can coordinate all visitors and your enquiries.

SKiDS: Our before and after school care providers do a great job caring for and providing families with a service before and after school. To contact SKiDS, **ring Becca at 0800 754 377. Text 022 473 0281 or email them at puhinui@skids.co.nz.** Please see our website for more information, or call into the office for a pamphlet. You can also visit them in the Tech Room after school if you wish.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE: Our Public Health Nurse (PHN) Leata is at Puhinui School on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She runs a Manakidz Clinic that offers free sore throat and skin health assessment and treatment. This is a free service, so please do utilise the Public Health Nurse at school. She can be contacted at the school on Tuesdays or Thursdays, or on her mobile number 021 241 6711.

KIWI GAMES FUN SPORTS PROGRAMME: 9.30am - 11am **on Saturday mornings** at Papatoetoe East Primary School, 138 Tui Rd. **For children aged 5 – 11 years [No fees – donation only]. 6 Sessions in Term 1: Starts 2nd March, then 9th March, 16th March, 23rd March, 30th March, 6th April.** Contact: Mr Glenn 0274 381646 or 279-8340 (PACT Office).

LUCKY LUNCH WINNER: Well done to Makai Valeli 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.

.....
28 February 2019 **Newsletter No. 3/2019**
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 _____