



Newsletter

1 April 2021

Newsletter No. 5/2021

Dear Parents, Caregivers & Whānau,

Welcome, Nau mai, Haere mai! hello, As-salām 'alaykum, Namaste, Nǐ hǎo, Chào bạn, Musta, Noa'ia, Hola, Mauri, Ni sa bula vinaka, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Tālofa, Mālō e lelei, Mālō nī, Talofa lava, and Kia orana.

ROAD SAFETY AND TRAVEL AROUND PUHINUI SCHOOL: This week our thoughts turn to the safety of our students during the beginning and end of the day transport times. We heard the sad news about a child from another school this week. Parents please be patient and follow the rules in our parking bay area. Please travel slowly and park sensibly.

PARENT PARK AND WALK: We encourage all parents to consider parking on the back streets around the school and walking your children to and from your cars. This is one proactive way in helping us manage the traffic flow around our school and keep our tamariki safer. Please see the attached flyer which shows areas that are close to school and are only a few minutes walk away. A further positive for parents is the walk back to the car with your child. Imagine the neat conversations and time you can have together. Walk and Park Roads include:

Upper King Street (4.30 minutes),
York Street (3.10 minutes),

Fitzroy Street (2.14 minutes),
Norman Spencer Drive (3.13 minutes).

GRAYSON AVE DROP-OFF AREA: When it comes to morning drop off and after school pick-ups we have the majority of our parents who are very patient and also very respectful towards the teachers who are on duty. Most importantly you help the school keep the children safe. The drop-off and pick-up area works well when everyone follows the rules. For those parents who are pushing the rules to their limits and being impatient, you are being disrespectful to others and putting the safety of the children at risk. Please read the sections below.

Morning 'Drop Off' of Children - Grayson Avenue Access

Parents dropping children off go around the roundabout and proceed back down to park in the 'drop off' zone long enough to say good bye to their children and drive off. The children then walk to their classrooms across the crossing provided. ***In the mornings the 'drop off' zone is not to be used for parking for parents to leave their car and escort their children to their classrooms.*** If parents wish to do that, which is quite understandable, they need to use the other options for parking outside the school.

Collecting Children After School - Grayson Avenue Access

In the afternoons, parents can park in the 'drop off' zone and wait in your car for your child to come to you. ***In the afternoons the 'drop off' zone is not to be used as parking for parents to leave their car and pick up their children from their classroom.*** Once the available spaces are filled, parents wait patiently before the roundabout for the next available space. As mentioned above, parents need to also use the other alternatives for collecting children. If parents use the number of options available to them for collecting children, traffic will be eased in all of the 'pick up' locations and children will be safely picked up.

EASTER: We hope your family enjoys an enjoyable Easter weekend break. Please remember school is closed tomorrow (Friday), Monday and Tuesday. School resumes on Wednesday the 7th of April at the regular time of 8.50 a.m. A reminder we have parent conferences on Thursday and the school will be closed from 1.50 p.m. ready for our first parent conference at 2 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL DAY: Next Friday we have an International Day. This is a day when we celebrate the cultures of our school and New Zealand. We ask children to wear something to school that represents their culture. Please note we don't expect parents to go out and buy something special just for International Day, please have your child wear something they already have.

CRICKET AND PLAYBALL ZONES: A few weeks back we had the boys and girls cricket and playball zones. Our preparation for the zones was a challenge with covid interruptions and we did our best to make sure our teams were as well prepared as possible. The students participated well and we were pleased with their sportsmanship. With our sports teams we are continuing to work on staying focused in the moment and knowing we compete to win and when we don't win that's ok too.

Playball Boys 3rd Playball Girls 1st Cricket Boys 3rd Cricket Girls 4th

OUTDOOR EDUCATION WEEK: Last week our Senior School classes had their outdoor education week. They enjoyed a wide range of activities including, visiting Panmure Swimming Pools, indoor rock climbing, tenting, cooking and orienteering. After school on Thursday we had the annual Year 6 'Overnight Stay'. This is always an experience the children look forward to and it is often one of their most memorable experiences of school. During the evening Year 6 students were involved in a number of exciting group based tasks and activities including, group challenge activities, pitching tents, the exciting talent quest, and the sleepover. On Friday, students took the 6.30 a.m. traditional morning swim! The water was so warm and relaxing, many didn't want to hop out. As always the students had a great time and although the small hours of the morning were a little chilly they had a great overnight stay. Outdoor education helps challenge students physically and emotionally as they overcome obstacles towards attaining a goal oriented outcome. It helps them build confidence and a sense of belief in overcoming adversity. These challenges transfer into our values of resilience, taking opportunities and also help develop a supportive community within the team. We are sure all students have enjoyed their adventure filled week. A big thank you to any parents that helped us throughout the week. Finally a big thank you to all the staff members who supported the Year 5 and 6 team, as well as a specially big well done and thanks to the Year 5 and 6 teachers for their hard work and the way they cared for our tamariki so well.

LOST PROPERTY: Parents please be aware that we have a large amount of lost property e.g. clothing, swimming togs, towels, uniform. Next Thursday all of the lost property will be laid out during our parent conferences in the quad area. Please come by if your child has lost anything. There is a good chance that it is out and along the line somewhere.

PARENT CONFERENCES: A reminder parent conferences are next Thursday 8th of April. Students will finish school at 1.50 p.m. Please make arrangements for your child to be collected from school at 1.50 p.m. Parent conferences begin at 2 p.m. Please be advised students should not be waiting at school for a parent conference. Students should be collected at 1.50 p.m. and then return to school with their parents at the appropriate time. No one will be available to monitor students after they have been dismissed for the day. Please contact SKiDs if you wish to make a parent conference day booking, please see the SKiDs information below for contact details.

SKiDS: Our after school providers are available for families who require before or after school care. 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 before or after school if you wish.

SCHOOL UNIFORM: Parents please keep in mind that as we approach the end of the term you may need to consider in preparation for next term, purchasing new items of school uniform. Please think especially about the school beanie, and possibly long pants and the school jacket. These items are all available from our uniform supplier: Angels Fashions Uniform whose shop is open, Monday to Friday 8.30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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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 _____