



PUHINUI SCHOOL



Newsletter

11 August 2022

Newsletter No. 15/2022

Kia ora Parents and Whānau,

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, Greetings.

MIHI WHAKATAU: In the first week of the term we invited all new students, whānau and staff members to Puhinui School at our Term 3 mihi whakatau. As always, it is a pleasure meeting new whānau and beginning the journey together for new tamariki to our school. A special thank you to Mr Harry Seth from Room 1 who represented our new staff and manuhiri. Thank you to Mr Jury Arthur who also spoke on the paepae for our manuhiri, new tamariki and whānau. It was a pleasure to hear your reo, and your positive message too. A special thank you to Miss Ansin for leading our mihi with the Māori team in support.

BOARD ELECTIONS: Nominations for our school Board closed last week. We had 5 nominations for 5 parent seats. Therefore, we do not need to hold a voting election and can proceed directly to establishing the Board for the next triennial period.

The Board will include the following members.

Parent Representatives:

Mr Martyn Chalmers

Mr Phillip Wihapi

Mr Luke Doubleday

Mr Simon Kent

Mrs Helena Yuhoi-WongKing

Staff Representative:

Mr Lua Mose

Principal: Mark Elder

At our next Board meeting we will induct the new Board and at the same time farewell Mr Les Waimotu. Mr Waimotu has been a Board member since 2015 and Board Chair for 7 years. Mr Waimotu led the Board with excellent facilitation of decision making that has helped the school continue to build on the legacy of previous Boards and staff members. He also helped guide the school in developing our actions and systems relating to Te Tiriti O Waitangi and Te Ao Maori. It is fair to say that he has made a significant contribution to the school. Haere Ra Les and thank you for your years of service. We wish you and your wife Margy all the best in the coming years.

ATTENDANCE: Covid 19 is affecting attendance rates at all schools and we all worry about how this impacts on student learning. Currently we have only 80% student attendance each day. This is compared to our usual 90%. Despite covid factors, one trend that continues to be of concern is the high Monday and Friday rates of absenteeism. This is not a Covid-19 issue. This is a time off school issue. Parents please be aware that we want to change this attitude. If your child is well they need to be here every day, let's not take Mondays and Fridays as days that children are absent just because of the weekend. Success comes through being present every day, "Together we educate and nurture the whole child".

TEACHING STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: This week's professional development was around developing print rich learning environments. This means providing a classroom environment where students see a lot of literacy in their classroom. It also includes lots of their own examples of literacy in writing, follow-ups and in published work. Over the next several weeks we hope to see teachers reflecting on their classroom environments and continuing to refresh and add to their print rich environments.

HOUSING FOUNDATION MĀORI WHĀNAU SUPPORT: Corina Nicholas is a contact person for Māori whānau who are interested in housing support and ownership through the housing foundation. Any Māori whānau that may be interested in a possible terraced house in Manukau please contact her on 02102357323, or via the email, housingfoundation.co.nz. More information can also be accessed through the website - nzhf.org

ERO EVALUATION PUHINUI SCHOOL: This week we had The Education Review Office (ERO) meet with Senior Leadership. We shared with our evaluation partner Mrs Carmel Platt our story in relation to the 'ERO School Improvement Framework.' As you will be aware from the previous newsletter, Mrs Platt and ERO will be working with us in providing an outside lens on how effective we are in delivering our strategic planning and student learning. This year we will continue to meet and in 2023 an ERO report will be presented to the Puhinui Community that highlights areas we are doing well in and areas that we can continue to work towards strengthening. The improvement framework includes 10 domains, including, Learner Progress and Achievement, Te Tiriti o Waitangi, Responsive Curriculum and Effective Teaching.

SCHOOL VALUE COMMUNITY: We have 5 school values that we try to live each day at Puhinui School. Respect, Resilience, Integrity, Opportunity and Community. Over the next few weeks we will be working on living the value of opportunity. This value is seen when students are taking on new learning and experiencing things that may be normally outside of their comfort zone. It helps students learn the importance of trying new things. New can be scary, but it can be the start of something amazing too. By taking opportunities we grow and become better people. Taking opportunities doesn't mean we have to be perfect and good at everything. We can become good and we can also just enjoy trying new experiences too.

SCOUTS AOTEAROA: Is your child interested in doing fun activities and games both indoors and outdoors? Scouting might be a fun option for them. Papatoetoe Scouts has places available at all group levels for both boys and girls. Keas 5 years to 8 years, Cubs 8 years to 11 years, Scouts 11 years to 14 years and Venturers 14 years to 18 years. Please email papatoetoe@group.scouts.nz if you are interested in your child being a member of Scouts Aotearoa.

MASK WEARING: Parents, a quick reminder, please remember to wear masks when attending indoor meetings and assemblies at school. For students and staff members, The Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health **strongly recommend that all schools and kura make mask wearing a priority for the first four weeks of the term.** Our school will continue under this recommendation to make Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 mask wearing consistently practiced for all indoor settings. For Year 0, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 student mask wearing is encouraged, but is up to the discretion of parents. This is consistent with our procedures throughout this year. Please make sure that tamariki/ākonga come to school ready to wear masks. Students should bring masks from home if possible. We do have masks available for students who require them.

7 DAY ISOLATION: Self isolation procedures remain the same. A person who has tested positive for Covid-19, will self isolate for 7 days. Household contacts isolate for 7 days, and test on day 3 and 7. If they have a negative day 7 test and have no symptoms, they can return to school on day 8.

HEALTH NURSE: The Mana Kidz Health Nurse is working in our school every Thursday morning 9.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. Health checks include:

Hearing checks Vision checks Sore throats Skin conditions - sores, eczema
Asthma concerns Toileting issues Consistent runny nose (especially during winter)

MANA HEALTH NURSE CONTACT DETAILS: 027 278 1441 OR 0800 MK TEAM: 0800 658 326

SKiDS: Our before and after school care providers are available for before and, 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. Get started by enrolling on AIMY PLUS <http://skids.aimy.co.nz>.

LUCKY LUNCH WINNER: Well done to Avitej Parmar from Room 12 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 _____