



PUHINUI SCHOOL

Newsletter

3 March 2023

Newsletter No. 2/2023

Dear Parents/Caregivers & 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.

Our Mission Statement, *“Together we educate and nurture the whole child”*. **Together** symbolises a partnership, a supportive group. **To educate**, the first signpost, it stands at the highest point of our job description, our kaupapa, education. **To nurture** is to care for and respect each child, and to learn about their talents and who they are. As we educate tamariki we understand this means developing the **whole child**.

ATTENDANCE: Currently attendance is a worrying issue across our motu (country). When we think of our Mission Statement, and relate it to attendance, we as a community need to ask ourselves, how are we educating tamariki if they are not at school? How are we caring for and nurturing a child? Our challenge is to see our mission statement within how we promote high attendance. Good attendance is a day by day thing. It slowly but surely grows over the whole year. If we encourage tamariki to be at school every day, soon enough it will lead to high attendance over the year.

Last year we only had 1 student who attended school every day. That's 1 student with 100% attendance out of 690 students! In contrast, right now we have 295 students who currently have 100% attendance. I'm hopeful that we can turn around our attendance rates in 2023. There is a saying often associated with physical fitness, but I'd like to apply it to attendance, it's simple, but highly motivating, **“Turn up on the hard days.”** Can your child turn up, and can they keep turning up every day for school? If tamariki turn up on the hard days, they will love the good days and begin enjoying the hard days too. This year we aim to keep Puhinui attendance on our minds and on the agenda. Parents let's do this together because, *“Together we educate and nurture the whole child”*.

INTERNATIONAL CULTURE DAY: Puhinui School is having an International cultural dress day on Friday 10th of March. Students are invited to dress in something that relates to their culture or another culture to celebrate our school diversity. Please note we encourage students to wear items they already have. We do not expect parents to buy clothing items just for this day. If your child does not have something that is related to their culture, we welcome them to wear something colourful instead.

SENIOR SCHOOL OUTDOOR ED WEEK: In week 7 (March 13-17) our Senior School will be involved in our traditional outdoor education week activities. It includes a wide range of activities in and out of school. We look forward to seeing the senior students participate in activities that are designed to stretch them in new ways and to take them out of their comfort zones. Activities include:

Orienteering	Cooking	Rock climbing	Whitewater rafting
Y6 overnight stay	Tenting	Swim safety at Papatoetoe Pools	

2023 TERM DATES:

Term 1	Wednesday 1 February to Thursday 6 April	10 weeks
Term 2	Wednesday 26 April to Friday 30 June	10 weeks
Term 3	Monday 17 July to Friday 22 September	10 weeks
Term 4	Monday 9 October to Friday 15 December	10 weeks

(Please note in Term 2, 24th April there is a Teacher Only Day set aside by the MOE for the New Zealand Curriculum refresh)

PLANNING CHARTER: Our 2023 School Planning and Charter document will be submitted to the MOE shortly. It will be available on our website. The Charter includes our strategic focus areas for 2023 and our 3 year, long term strategic plans from 2022 to 2024. Our strategic focuses this year are:

- Curriculum Integration
- Effective Reading Programmes
- It will include revision to our maths programme

Our 2022-2024 Strategic Plans include 3 goals

1. Deliver a worthy Puhinui curriculum, one that provides students with authentic, relatable and motivational learning experiences.
2. Provide reading programmes at Puhinui School that are well established upon literacy foundations. They support effective delivery in literacy and in reading proficiency of students.
3. Provide an environment that enhances learning and our Puhinui identity.

SWIMMING SPORTS: This week our Swim team participated in the Papatoetoe Primary School Swimming Zones. Preparation for the zones has been challenging this year with the disrupted start to the year. We found our team was a little under prepared. Having said that, they all put in a 100% at the zones and we were pleased with our final results. Holy Cross are very competitive and a well drilled swim team and on the day they were well deserved winners. The sportsmanship of all swimmers was excellent and it was pleasing to see all teams participating to the best of their ability.

1st - Holy Cross = 380
4th - Central = 44

2nd - Puhinui = 171
5th - South = 12

3rd - North = 163
6th - West = 3

MEET THE TEACHER EVENING: Thank you to all parents who attended the parent meet the teacher conferences. We hope you enjoyed the opportunity to discuss your child's learning with their classroom teacher. We look forward to our next parent conferences at the end of Term 2 where we will hopefully see how well your child has progressed.

IRONMAN: Mr Scott who teaches in Room 21 is participating in the Taupo Ironman this weekend. Ironman is a gruelling tough event and it takes a lot of hard training and dedication. We respect Mr Scott for his dedication, what a great role model for our tamariki. Good luck this weekend Mr Scott.

LOST PROPERTY: Parents we have a lot of lost property at the moment so if your child has lost any items of uniform, or swimming togs and towels, please encourage them to come and look through the lost property in the quad area. Please ensure all items of clothing are labelled. This does help us ensure that items do eventually make their way back to the tamariki.

PUHINUI SWiS: Social Workers in Schools (SWiS) is a free service available to our children and their whānau 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 of the service. Please feel free to contact our school SWiS (Shital Naidu) through the Office, or by one of the following: shital@puhinui.school.nz or 0274102148.

DENTAL HUB: Dental services are accessed from 2C Grayson Avenue. The parking directly outside the clinic is provided for dental staff and parents of children being treated. The dental hub's phone number is 09 2781975.

HEALTH NURSE: The Mana Kidz Health Nurse is working in our school . We have a new Health Nurse who will work every Wednesday morning 10.00 a.m. - 11.00 a.m. If you intend on seeing the Health Nurse, please advise the office by Tuesday noon so you can be booked in to see her.

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: 0226187813 OR 0800 MK TEAM: 0800 658 326

SKiDS: Our before and after school care providers have resumed their services. 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> . Please note SKiDS operate independently of Puhinui School.

✂.....

3 MARCH 2023

Newsletter No. 2/2023

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 _____