



PUHINUI SCHOOL



# Newsletter

18 May 2023

Newsletter No. 6/2023

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.

**Assessments:** Currently our teachers are completing key assessments in Reading, Writing and Maths in preparation for report writing. Teachers work to an assessment schedule and we plan and prepare around important times and learning stages throughout the year. When key assessments are completed our teams and teachers look carefully at results and identify next steps for learning. We look forward to seeing how students are progressing in the next few weeks. A reminder that your child's report will be sent home on Monday 26th June which is the last week of this term. Parent conferences will also be in week 10 on Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th.

**TEACHER PROFESSIONAL LEARNING DEVELOPMENT (PLD):** Our teaching staff regularly meet during our staff and team meeting times each week. Most weeks our meetings have a professional development focus. Recent professional development has been on understanding the stages of multiplication and division, the place of repeated readings in the literacy programme, and moderation of writing samples across the exemplar domains. For the Senior School recent professional development has also included introductions to the concept of active reading, buddy guided reading and approaches to follow-up tasks. Our teachers, just like the tamariki, are always interested in learning and growing as educators. We value the time we put aside for professional development and it is an important part of helping ensure the tamariki are provided with the best learning experiences we can give them.

**ART EXHIBITION:** Our end of term will be a very busy one with reports, parent conferences and Matariki Week. We are excited to also include an art exhibition showcasing the art work of the students. This term our topic themes are art inspired. In week 10 during parent conferences the auditorium will be open for whānau to look through and see selected pieces of artwork from across the school. In our classrooms, student art will also be prominently displayed for you to see. Currently students are working on their art pieces and along the way they have specific art skills they are learning about. We look forward to showcasing visual arts at the end of the term.

**SCHOOL VALUES:** Respect, Resilience, Integrity, Opportunity and Community are our school values. Opportunity is our value for the next 2 weeks. We encourage students to take the opportunity to give new things a go, or to keep developing a skill they are learning. Sometimes it might be that they share their ideas with others, or it might be that they try something different in the way they normally do a task to see what happens. Opportunity gives students the time and space to be creative, innovative and learn from the experience. We need to continually encourage tamariki to explore through taking opportunities.

**ATTENDANCE:** In each newsletter this year we are including information on attendance. We want to keep our community informed on our current attendance trends and to provide information which will hopefully remind us all how important each day at school is. This week we have 376 students who are showing between 90% to 100% attendance. This is great and we want to keep

encouraging all whānau to aim for this level of attendance. We have 147 students (21%) who are sitting between 80-90% of attendance. We have been meeting weekly with a large number of students in an initiative to increase their attendance to 90% plus. Each week we are tracking them and making contact with parents to share our goals for the tamariki and to remind them that “Learning is an everyday thing. Keep turning up”. Unfortunately we also have 68 students (10%) who are of huge concern with attendance lower than 70%. Teachers, our SENCO Mrs Borrie and our SWIS Mrs Naidu are working very hard to connect with families to improve attendance for these children. We hope all families are building positive routines and habits that ensure their tamariki are at school every day. Learning is turning up each day and improving slowly over a year, one day at a time.

**WINTER SPORTS EXCHANGES:** Unfortunately due to the inclement weather we have had a disruptive Thursday sports exchange schedule. Fortunately, we were able to go ahead with our exchange against SDA today. Next week we play Papatoetoe Central and we look forward to more time on the courts and fields to gain valuable playing time experience. The students are thoroughly enjoying the training with their coaches and it is really pleasing to see the buzz around the sports teams and students continuing to be active and making physical activity a part of their lives.

**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](mailto: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	Head lice	Consistent runny nose

MANA HEALTH NURSE CONTACT DETAILS: 0226187813 OR 0800 MK TEAM: 0800 658 326

**SKIDS OSCAR SUBSIDY:** There has been a significant change to the WINZ oscar subsidy available to families for before and after school care. Families ranging from \$111,000 to \$143,000 may now qualify for support with cost of care. Please contact SKiDS for more information or go to [www.skids.co.nz/oscar](http://www.skids.co.nz/oscar)

**SKIDS:** Our before and after school care providers have resumed their services. If you would like to know more about the upcoming holiday programme please contact SKiDS, ring Becca at 0800 754 377. Text 022 473 0281 or email them at [puhinui@skids.co.nz](mailto:puhinui@skids.co.nz). Get started by enrolling on AIMY PLUS <http://skids.aimy.co.nz> . *Please note SKiDS operate independently of Puhinui School.*

**LUCKY LUNCH WINNER:** Well done to Lahara Pati from Room 13 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 \_\_\_\_\_