



PUHINUI SCHOOL



Newsletter

28 July 2023

Newsletter No. 10/2023

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, Kia orana, and Greetings.

PHOTOLIFE: Photolife visited the school last term and took individual photos of all the students that were present on the 20th of June. A unique key code has been emailed to each parent, so their child's photo can be viewed online. These may have gone to your spam or junk mail so please check there. If you have not received an email with a key code, please contact the school office and one will be given to you from the master list. Free delivery expires midnight Sunday 6th of August.

WEEK 2 TERM 3: We are already moving towards week 3 of the term and students have come back and are well settled into learning. This term is a busy term with a key focus being Science. Teachers and students have begun working on science related concepts and experiences that help bring science alive. In week 8, we hold our school wide science week. This includes our science exhibition, assembly and a parent science afternoon. In Term 3 we also have our choir performing and the Mathex competition. Our sports teams will go to gymnastics, cross country and rippa zones. Late in the term we will also have our Pasifika groups performing at assembly and our Pasifika Cultures Week (week 10). Term 3 is also a learning acceleration term where we see the fruits of Term 1 and Term 2 pay off and enhance the learning of tamariki that they are about to roll into. As you can appreciate there are a lot of quality things that will happen this term. Very exciting!

END OF THE SCHOOL DAY: As I was walking across the school a few days back I was frustrated with a range of tamariki who were playing and milling around after school. I told them all to quickly get to where they need to be. It worries me when the tamariki are taking too long to get home and we need to ensure they are leaving the school grounds promptly and going directly home. For those students who are picked up they need to be waiting in the correct area. Parents please talk to your child about their waiting area and if they are walking home, making sure they are going directly home. Next week teachers will be tidying up our end of day routines. We will be making sure we are leaving promptly at the end of the day. Parents please note, tamariki are not allowed on the playgrounds after school.

SCHOOL PROPERTY: You may have noticed we currently have a number of small scale building projects and of course the large 6 classroom space building at the back of the Middle School. Firstly, we are waiting for our contractors to complete the concrete pathway in front of the junior classes where we had an old tree and garden. It seems every time we are about to pour the rain prevents concreting from happening. Nevertheless we hope to get this completed within the next week. You may have also seen the changes made to the pool area and we now have the concourse area surrounding the pool completed and this has really enhanced the pool area. Our pool is currently going through some final minor preparation steps before it will be fully operational again. Our pool upgrade will mean that we can extend our swimming pool season, especially for the junior children and they will now be able to swim comfortably through all of Term 1 and Term 4. Our senior students can swim in late Term 3 if we wish and our swim team will be able to train

earlier in preparation for swim zones early next year. We have also had digital cable fibre drilled through the school to our new build and you would have noticed this where the dirt is currently showing by the Office and near the Library. The 6 space new build is progressing well and we are still on track for an end of year/early new year occupation of this space. The Leadership Team are currently working on our plan for how we will occupy the space and who will utilise this.

SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY: A notice went out about our school cross country being on Tuesday next week (if the weather is poor our saving day is Thursday). Our sports team has revised the course this year due to the new building construction blocking our normal back gate entrance. Students have been training really well and all tamariki are running next Tuesday. You will see all students participating to the best of their ability. All tamariki are able to run our course and we are confident that no matter how challenging cross country is for some, they will show resilience and determination. For many tamariki this will be an opportunity to shine and to show how good they are as a young athlete. Our sports team and teachers have prepared the students well and we are excited to see them in action on Tuesday. Our top 8 runners go through to our zones day event later in the term.

SCHOOL VALUES: Respect, Resilience, Integrity, Opportunity and Community are our school values. Our school motto is 'Others before Self' For the next 2 weeks our value focus will be 'Opportunity'. It reminds tamariki that life is about taking the opportunities offered and when we do we grow and learn about life, others and ourselves. Sometimes taking on an opportunity can take us out of our comfort zones. We need to encourage the children to not worry about this. Rather, we need to take a brave step forward and give new things a go. We learn so much about ourselves and we can explore things that we may grow to love and be passionate about. Sometimes we take the opportunity to try things that are completely different and we may not be that good at it. That is ok too. We should celebrate that as much as the things that we truly grow to love through taking the opportunity. Next week we will see the tamariki taking the opportunity to run well during cross country.

ATTENDANCE: Our attendance is sitting at 87% this week which is slightly up from the 86% at the end of Term 2. We continue to have cold rainy weather although the sun is showing through more lately and we hope this keeps everyone excited about being at school everyday! Our goal is to have a 90% or better attendance rate at the end of the year. If we can make 90% by the end of this term that would be awesome! This term, keep those good routines going, (especially during cold winter days). Our 2023 saying is:

"Learning is turning up each day and improving slowly over a year, one day at a time."

This weeks attendance rates:

- 366 students (52%) are showing between 90% to 100% attendance. Excellent work!
- 194 students (27%) who are sitting between 80-90% of attendance. Goal: get to 90%
- 79 students (11%) who are sitting between 70-80% of attendance. "Turn up on the hard days"
- 63 students (8%) lower than 70% attendance, who are of huge concern with attendance.

We are working hard to encourage each student to have the best attendance possible. Ultimately this is a family challenge. We continue to encourage all families to build consistent positive routines and habits that ensure their tamariki are at school every day.

OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER: In our next newsletter we will be surveying our community in relation to our curriculum and what you value as a parent and a whānau in how we educate your tamariki. We will ask what curriculum area you most value and what it is that you especially like about Puhinui School. We look forward to gathering your thoughts and opinions as we begin looking at quietly working on our strategic planning for 2024 and 2025.

SKIDS: SKiDS is available for before and after school care if required. If you would like to know more about this term's programme please contact SKiDS, **ring Becca at 0800 754 377. Text 021 050 7893 or email them at puhinui@skids.co.nz.**

The OSCAR (Out of School Care and Recreation) Subsidy is for children aged five to 13 years. It helps towards the costs of before-school and after-school care. You may be able to get this subsidy if you're working, (depending on salary threshold of household), studying, or a shift worker who works nights. For more information contact : Becca de la Vega -0800-754 377

KINGSWAY MOTORS: Thank you Kingsway motors for fixing our school trailer. Kingsway are our neighbours on Grayson Avenue beside our entrance way. They are conveniently located for those who require mechanical servicing.

LUCKY LUNCH: 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 _____