



PUHINUI SCHOOL



# Newsletter

29 August 2023

Newsletter No.12/2023

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.

**PUHINUI CHOIR:** A few weeks back our choir were involved in the 30 year Manukau Symphony Celebration Concert. A range of people including well regarded musicians and audience members contacted the school to congratulate the choir on their behaviour and their performance. This is a busy time for the choir as they are also preparing for the Kid's Sing Competition on the 12th September and the Manukau Concert Band performance on the 16th. The choir and school band will perform at this week's assembly on Friday at 1.50 p.m.

**SCIENCE WEEK 8:** A reminder to parents that next week we have a week long intensive science week. This includes our parent science afternoon on Thursday 7th September. This has always been a very popular event and we look forward to seeing our whānau in classes next Thursday afternoon. Please also take the time next week to look at the science boards that are on display in the Auditorium. Each class has boards on presentation that show some of the many science experiences the students have been involved in over the term. On Friday 8th September we have our science assembly at 1.50 p.m.

**CROSS COUNTRY:** Our Cross Country Team are currently preparing for the zones which will be held next week on Tuesday 5th September. We look forward to the team representing the school to the best of their ability.

**GYMNASTICS ZONES:** Gymnastics teams are preparing for the cluster zones to be held on Tuesday 12th September (week 9). Boys complete a floor routine, the bar and the vault, while the girls compete in the floor, vault and the beam.

**RIPPA RUGBY:** Our mixed rippa rugby A and B teams played recently at the Papatoetoe School Zones. Rippa is a nice introduction into playing rugby without the contact element. Our 'A team' placed second overall. Both teams were very competitive and showed exemplary sportsmanship.

**SCHOOL VALUES:** Respect, Resilience, Integrity, Opportunity and Community are our school values. For the next 2 weeks our value focus will be Integrity. We all have a sense of what is right and what is wrong. We often feel it as much as we know it. The key thing for us is in showing through our actions what the right thing to do is. This is integrity, we hope through the next few weeks we see integrity in the actions of our teachers, our tamariki and our community.

**YEAR 2 WRITING:** This term our students right across the school are doing lots of quality science based writing. I've included excerpts from three Room 13 students.

*Roar...can you hear that? What was that? I think it is a lion. Did you know lions live in grasslands and in the Savanna of Africa. Where there is plenty of shelter, food and water available for them. The lioness hunts for the pride. They eat in order, first the lion, then the lioness and last the cubs. Lions belong to the cat family...*

by Adab

*Roar !!! Lets learn about lions. Did you know lions live in the grasslands known as the savanna in Africa. A baby lion is called a cub. The lions are also the King of the jungle. Lions have sharp teeth so they can attack people and other animals. A group of lions are called a pride. There can be 30 lions in a pride.*

by Adam

*Lions look so cute, Roar! Did you know that lions only live on the savannahs and grasslands of Africa? A lion's roar can be heard from 8 kms away, that's 300 laps of our swimming pool! Lions are carnivores. Lions*

*are part of the cat family and they are the second largest big cat. Lions look cute but they are also very dangerous. Did you know it is the lioness that hunts for the family? They eat in order lion, lioness and lastly cubs. I kind of like lions when they are tame, but they are very dangerous when they are not.*

by Ishmeet

**ATTENDANCE:** Our attendance is unfortunately continuing to take a hit with winter bugs and cold weather being hard to combat. We hope things will continue to improve as we head into Spring. Please remember to keep tuning up whānau. Our current attendance average has dropped to 86%. Our goal is to have a 90% or better attendance rate at the end of the year. Keep those good routines going, (especially during cold winter days). Our 2023 saying is:

***“Learning is turning up each day and improving, one day at a time.”***

This weeks attendance rates:

- 358 students (49%) are showing between 90% to 100% attendance. Excellent work!
- 197 students (27%) who are sitting between 80-90% of attendance. Goal: get to 90%
- 96 students (13%) who are sitting between 70-80% of attendance. “Turn up on the hard days”
- 66 students (9%) lower than 70% attendance, who are of huge concern with attendance.

We continue to encourage all families to build consistent positive routines and habits that ensure their tamariki are at school every day.

**SURVEY NEWSLETTER:** Thank you parents we had a very good response to our parent survey in our last newsletter. The information you have provided is very positive and helpful. We are currently working through an analysis of your feedback and will share back the information we collate with the Puhinui Board and with you. Information from the parent surveys will contribute to future actions and strategic planning.

**HAYMAN PARK PLAYGROUND OPENING:** For any families that are interested there is a new outdoor education playground attraction opening at Hayman Park. The grand opening is on Saturday 2nd September from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.. It will be a fun, free community play time.

**INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL ENROLMENTS 2024:** A reminder from our intermediate schools, parents please note you should be enrolling Year 6 tamariki into an intermediate school for 2024. Papatoetoe Intermediate enrolments can be done online via their school website, [www.papint.school.nz](http://www.papint.school.nz) through the enrolment link. Papatoetoe Intermediate has a caregiver information evening tonight (29 August) from 5.30 p.m. There will be an opportunity for a tour of the school and families will meet in the Gymnasium for the information evening presentation. All are welcome.

**PUHINUI SWiS:** Social Workers in Schools (SWiS) is a free service available to our children and their whānau here at Puhinui School. 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.

**HEALTH NURSE:** The Mana Kidz Health Nurse is working in our school. The nurse 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.

**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](mailto: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 the salary threshold of the household), studying, or a shift worker who works nights. For more information contact: Becca de la Vega 0800-754 377

**LUCKY LUNCH:** Well done to Hunter Neville from Room 24 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.

✂

28 August 2023

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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 \_\_\_\_\_