



Papakowhai School

Learning Together



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Week 4 ● Term 3 ● 16th August 2017

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Social Skills – Problem-Solving

At school our social skill focus is solving problems for ourselves.

In our everyday lives, at work and at school, we are constantly

being challenged with problems that may arise. As adults, we

have developed our own ways to solve problems with some of us being more adept at this than others.

Some of us see problems as an opportunity and can tackle problems confidently. Others fear these

challenges and have no routines for tackling problems.

Understanding the process of problem-solving is more important than being given a solution. By actively teaching and guiding children to use a problem-solving approach, we are developing children's social skills and independence. We can teach children how to solve their own problems and make good decisions by following these 5 steps:

1. Identify the problem.
2. Brainstorm some possible solutions.
3. Choose one solution.
4. Try the solution out.
5. Decide if the solution worked. How did it go?

At school we encourage children to identify some possible solutions and generate their own ideas about the best way to solve a problem that has arisen. Some good examples of these include:

- Wait and cool off.
- Walk away and let it go.
- Apologise.
- Tell them to stop.
- Go to another activity/person.
- Ignore it.
- Talk it out.
- Use an 'I' message, (I feel sad because...)

By teaching children these strategies, they are learning an important life-long skill; to effectively handle their own challenges and not run to an adult to solve it for them. By solving problems for our children, we rob them of opportunities to learn and develop confidence in their own problem-solving abilities. The next time your child comes to you with a problem, you could try these steps out and see how it goes. Happy problem-solving!

Kind regards

Lesley Hodge

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

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HOME AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE

SAVE THE DATE: A Ladies Christmas Shopping night will be held at school on Friday 3 November from 7 – 9.30 pm. Please make a note in your diary – further details are available on Facebook on the Papakowhai Home and School Committee page.



POWHIRI FOR NEW FAMILIES

We are holding a powhiri for new children and their whānau tomorrow, Thursday 17 August, which will start at 9:30am. Parents/caregivers and extended family and friends are welcome to attend and are asked to gather in the staffroom from 9 am. If you were new to Papakowhai School at the start of this term or the end of Term 2 you should have received an invitation.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Our first assembly of this term will be held next Monday, 21 August, at 10 am in the school hall. The classes that will be sharing their work with us are **Rata 1, Rata 2, Rata 3, Rimu 6, Totara 2** and **Kauri 2**. **New Entrants** will be introduced to the school by their buddies and presented with their welcome certificates by Mr Smith.

SCHOOLING PROVISION NORTH PORIRUA

Feedback from the initial community consultation has been analysed by the Ministry of Education and they have compiled an on-line survey to gather further feedback on 4 options. Here is the link to the summary of findings and the survey, which closes on Friday 25 August.

<https://education.govt.nz/ministry-of-education/consultations-and-reviews/aotea-north-porirua-future-schooling-provision/>

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Yesterday, after her exam, a Year 13 student at Aotea College was approached by a stranger in a car at the college entrance (at approximately 2.30pm). The stranger drove from Whitford Brown to the bus stop waving as he drove past, U turning and pulling up across the road from her to shout out of his window and ask if she would like a ride. He sat there for a few minutes. The man was described as an older, white European guy with glasses driving a green sedan. The police have been notified.

READATHON

Papakowhai School is holding a Readathon for the month of August to raise money for a new projector for our school hall so please remember to keep updating your reading log. If you did not receive a Readathon booklet, please collect one from the office or office@papakowhai.school.nz to send one to you.

PORTFOLIOS AND MATHS GOAL SETTING SHEETS

Goal setting sheets for Year 2- 8 students and the black portfolio clearfiles for Rata, Rimu and Totara children need to be returned to the teachers ASAP please.

NETBALL FUNDRAISING BAKE SALE

Orders must be returned to the office, with payment, by 3:30 pm today – forms are available at the office. The goods will be delivered to your child's class on Friday, 18 August. Sales are cash only; there is no change available so please send the exact money or any extra will be gratefully received as a donation.

GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS

There will be a meeting about Gifted and Talented Education (GaTE) at Papakowhai School on Tuesday 22 August at 7.30 pm in the staffroom. Letters of invitation will be sent to the parents of children who are already on our GaTE register but anyone is welcome to attend.

INDOOR SOCCER FIXTURES

Here is the link to the list of fixtures for the indoor soccer matches at Te Rauparaha arena
<http://ymcawellington.org.nz/homepage/sportfitness/porirua-junior-sports-leagues/>

MATERIALS NEEDED FOR OUR ART EXTENSION GROUPS

Thank you for all the items donated to help with our student's outfits for the Artsplash Wearable Arts in September. Our art extension group would like to ask for old magazines that they can cut up and use for their art project. Please drop any magazines into the office – thank you.

AOTEA COLLEGE BARBERSHOP FUNDRAISING SHOWCASE

Thursday 24th August from 5.30pm at Te Manawa, Aotea College.

Gold coin entry. There will be hot dinner, desserts and drinks available to purchase ... chicken curry and rice, chop suey, cakes, coffee, tea, cold drinks etc. plus a Grocery Raffle, Silent Auctions, great prizes and Entertainment galore (no EFTPOS so please bring your cash with you).

SPOTLIGHT PERFORMING ARTS

A brand new Performing Arts School is opening in Term 4, at Aotea College, every Monday after school. Singing, dance and drama for students aged 4-16 years which is led by London West End performer Sherene Clarke. **FREE TASTER SESSION MONDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER PLEASE BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW!**
www.spotlightperformingarts.co.nz

IMPORTANT DATES

August

Wednesday 16
Thursday 17
Monday 21
Tuesday 22
Wednesday 23
Wednesday 30

Readathon running throughout the month

BOT meeting, 7 pm, staffroom
Powhiri, 9.30am (attendees please gather in the staffroom from 9 am)
Assembly, 10 am, school hall
GaTE meeting, 7.30 pm, staffroom
Parumoana Swim Sports (Yrs 5 & 6)
Parumoana Swim Sports (Yrs 7 & 8)

September

Tuesday 19
Friday 22
Monday 25
Tuesday 26

Artsplash - choir/wearable arts
Artsplash – dance
Assembly, 10 am school hall
School Photographs - Rata, Year 8, families and teams

LAST CHANCE TO ORDER

ORDERS TO OFFICE BY 3.30PM TODAY (WEDS)

PAPAKOWHAI STARS BAKE SALE ORDER FORM

Name _____

Class _____

Please indicate how many of each item you require

Item	Price/item	Number ordered	TOTAL
Mini Mince Pie	\$1.50		
Mini Sausage Roll	\$1.50		
Blueberry muffin	\$2		
Banana choc chip muffin	\$2		
½ doz muffins (please state flavour/s required)	\$10		
Cookie	\$2		
Lolly cake	\$2		

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Please return form and cash payment to office by Wednesday 16 August, 3.30 pm.