



Papakowhai School

Learning Together



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Week 9 ● Term 4 ● 13th December 2017

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Thanks everyone for making 2017 an awesome year at Papakowhai School.

Thanks to our supportive Board of Trustees, chaired by Gary Tonkin, for their careful oversight of the school, our amazing Home and School Committee, led by Rose Crawford, our dedicated and hardworking staff and to the great children who come to Papakowhai School each day ready to learn together.

Special thanks to Leigh Comeskey, the editor of the beautiful magazine you will receive on Friday. What a privilege to have such a great record of 2017.

Thanks to our wonderful team of Before and After School care workers ably lead by Susan Dixon. It is great to know that the children are being well cared for outside of school hours.

Thank you to our brilliant office and support staff. They are magnificent.

Thank you to all our teachers, they do a superb job.

Thank you to Laura Gallant and Rosie Powell for their work in Rata and Kauri. We wish Laura well as she moves to Newtown School and Rosie all the best as she moves to Raumati Beach.

I want to say a very big thank you to Mr Chris Crowe who has been our caretaker for nearly 15 years. A well-earned retirement.

We wish Brenda Laird all the best as she also retires after being on leave this year. Thank you to Hetty Boonen who is finishing for now at Papakowhai School but we hope she may be back part-time in the future.

Finally, thank you to our Year 8's; you have been a tremendous group of role models in our school. All the best for the next part of your learning journey.

I look forward to seeing the rest of you back on Thursday February 1st at 8:55am. The Office will re-open on Thursday 25th January.

Happy Christmas and best wishes for a new year of exciting opportunities to learn together.

SPECIAL EVENTS

We had a wonderful celebration on Monday night at our **Leaver's Dinner**. It was such a perfect evening, we enjoyed the sunshine, a good meal and enthusiastic leavers celebrating one another's graduation from primary school. Thank you to everyone who attended for making it such a wonderful night.

Tonight we have our **Home and School BBQ**. Come and have an easy and fun dinner with us. The event runs from 5:30 -7:30pm.

On Friday 15th December at 11am we are having an assembly for our **Year 8 leavers**. Due to the large numbers of adults we have attending our final assembly Year 1 children in Rata will not be attending. If it is important to you that your child in Rata does attend the assembly, please contact Lesley Hodge at lesley@papakowhai.school.nz and we will make sure they attend.

School finishes at 1pm. There is no After School Care on the last day.

REPORTING TO PARENTS AND CLASSES FOR 2018

End of Year reports and classes for 2018 were sent home today.

We have read through 140 parent requests and taken these into account when we have placed your children. If you did not get your request it does not mean you were not listened to or your request not valued.

In determining class placement, we look at age, gender balance, balancing the learning and behavioural needs in the class, parent requests and teacher recommendations. It is a careful and considered process.

If you did not receive your child's report please contact me. We generally provide one copy of the report and class placement letter per family and ask that you share this. If this is not possible and you need a duplicate copy please let me know and I will email it to you.

Totara Block Evacuation!

Thanks to the many people who have already volunteered. If you are still able to help we would love some more helpers for Monday 18 December; this is the Monday after school has finished. We need to move all the furniture out of Totara and into Rata 5, 6 and 7 as we prepare for the refurbishment of Totara Block, so all of the furniture currently in the Rata classes also needs moving. If you would be willing to lend a hand for an hour (or several) I would be so grateful. Volunteers can just turn up on the day we will be starting in Rata clearing space for Totara to move into. I'll bring the morning tea!

Kind regards

Mark Smith

PRINCIPAL

mark@papakowhai.school.nz



HOME AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The End of Year BBQ will be held tonight, Wednesday 13 December, in the school hall from 5.30 – 7.30 pm. Rata and Rimu children will be able to visit Santa's Grotto in the library between 6 and 7 pm! Come along, bring a picnic blanket and celebrate the end of the school year with some family fun!

THANK YOU TO THE THOMAS GEORGE MACARTHY TRUST

The Board of Trustees wishes to thank the TG Macarthy Trust for the donation they have provided to the school which has assisted with the purchase of library books and computer equipment this year.

2018 SCHOOL DONATION AND OTHER FEES

At the Board of Trustees meeting on 6 December approval was granted to keep the school donation at the same amount it was in 2017. The Board also approved maintaining the before and after school care fees at \$8.20 per hour, as in 2017.

The fees for 2018 will be: School Donation: \$290 per child

Mathletics and Reading Eggs: \$22 (this is the cost the school will pay for the subscription)

Hapara (for children in Totara and Kauri): \$5.70 (this is the cost to the school for the subscription)

Technology (for years 7 and 8 only): \$60 (this is the cost charged to the school for the take home component of projects undertaken at the Plimmerton Technology Centre)

Statements of fees will be issued in 2018.

These fees can also be paid, if you choose, through the MySchool website when purchasing your child's stationery.

UNNAMED LOST PROPERTY

All unnamed items of lost property that remain unclaimed by tomorrow will be donated to local charity shops. If your child has lost anything this term please ask them to check first thing tomorrow (Thursday) morning or contact the office ASAP. Smaller items, such as glasses, toys, keys and jewellery are kept in the office so please ask one of the staff there about these.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

WAKA AMA CHAMPIONSHIPS

Last weekend 4 of our students competed in the 2017 Waka Ama Regional Sprint Championships held on Henley Lake in Masterton. Having trained 4 times a week for the last 9 months (6 times per week in the last month) these students demonstrated incredible strength, resilience and perseverance to bring home absolutely amazing results:

Intermediate Womans W1 (single paddler) **Phoenix Schwalger** - 1st Place & Qualified for Nationals, **Amelia Taatiti** and **Georgia Ropeti** - both qualified for Nationals

Intermediate Womans W6 (six paddlers) Georgia, Phoenix, Amelia - 2nd Place & Qualified for Nationals

Intermediate Womans W12 (12 paddlers) Georgia, Phoenix, Amelia - 1st Place & Qualified for Nationals

Midget Mens W6 (6 paddlers) **Z'kdeus Schwalger** - 1st Place & Qualified for Nationals

We wish Georgia, Phoenix, Amelia and Z'Kdeus every success at the National Waka Ama Sprint Championships on Lake Karapiro in January 2018.

REGIONAL MARCHING CHAMPIONSHIPS



Grace Fale was involved in the regional (North Island) championship for marching on Saturday which was held at Te Rauparaha Arena.

Her team "Glenettes" took out 1st for the technical drill, 2nd for display and 1st for overall under 12 team in the North Island.

It has been a huge commitment and she has been training Tuesdays, Saturdays and Sundays since July for this competition.

Congratulations Grace – all that training has paid off!

SALE OF AOTEA COLLEGE UNIFORM

The following items of Aotea College uniform are available; 1 x Jersey 105cm \$40, 1x Jacket size med \$45, 1x Jacket size large \$45 (both jackets worn only one term) Contact: Jacqui - (04)2339920

HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

CRAFT CLASSES FOR CHILDREN The classes are run the **week before Christmas** (Mon 18 - Fri 22 Dec) in The Learning Studio, Adventure School for children aged 5 – 11 years. There are morning classes \$35 (8am-1pm), afternoon classes \$35 (12noon - 5pm) or go to both for a full day \$60 (8am-5pm). For further details please contact Pippa Barrett or Michelle Kevern on pippiandfox@gmail.com or visit their Facebook page www.facebook.com/pippiandfox

SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME @ ADVENTURE SCHOOL

23 Jan – 2 Feb 2018, BOOK ONLINE NOW: www.asfc.co.nz

The Holiday Programme is open over the school holidays from 8.00 am - 5.30pm. Their quality programme offers exciting field trips by chartered bus (e.g. visit to Marine Education Centre, swimming, Wellington Zoo, Ice Skating and more), fun games, art & craft and sport activities for primary aged children. All staff trained and police vetted. For enquiries or more information please visit the website and choose your relevant Holiday Programme. Approved by MSD and you may be eligible to receive an OSCAR subsidy.

ANZ OLYMPIC SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

ANZ Olympic Schools Programme is working well for Papakowhai School with ANZ donating over \$10000 worth of equipment. The ANZ Olympic Schools Programme offers you a great way to support your child and Papakowhai School, simply recommend ANZ to your network of parents, teachers and friends associated with Papakowhai School, get them to take their Home Loan with ANZ and the school will receive credits to spend on a range of items from sports



equipment to computers from the ANZ Awards Centre. **Here's how it works:** for every successful ANZ home loan over \$50,000 drawn down by someone connected to Papakowhai School, the school will receive 800 credits. You will just need to remind them to tell the home loan specialist that you referred them and what school they are supporting. For more information call Paul Commerford, Branch Manager Porirua 04 436 5388

IMPORTANT DATES

December

Wednesday 13

End of Year BBQ, 5.30 – 7.30pm

Friday 15

Final Assembly 11am

Last day of school – finishes at 1 pm (no ASC)

TERM 1 2018

February

Thursday 1

First day of Term 1 (BSC running from 7.30 am)

Tuesday 6

Waitangi Day – school closed

