

17 Spey Place, Papakowhai, Porirua  
Phone: 04 233 8321



Email: [office@papakowhai.school.nz](mailto:office@papakowhai.school.nz)  
[www.papakowhai.school.nz](http://www.papakowhai.school.nz)

## PAPAKOWHAI SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Week 4 ● Term 4 ● 6 November 2019

Dear Parents/Caregivers

I am pleased to share with you the school organisation for 2020 and how to request special considerations for your child's class placement.

Joining our Rata team in 2020 is Melissa Van Echten. Melissa is currently teaching at Bellevue School in Newlands. She is passionate about teaching and has over 10 years' experience in the junior school. Melissa is friendly, with an easy-going, positive personality. She strives to ensure her classroom is a place where all students thrive, feel valued and cared for.

Melissa is excited to start the new year at Papakowhai School and is looking forward to meeting you all.



Joining our Rimu team in 2020 is Carina Tiffen. Carina has just completed her Master of Teaching and Learning degree. In the classroom she is calm, fair, kind and committed to students' academic achievement, and their emotional and physical well-being. She's particularly excited to be sharing her love of language and literature and to share her passion for

the performing arts, especially music and dance. She also brings years of experience in Customer Service, Event Management, Commercial Sales, Communications and Public Relations.

Eryn Street and Jeewon van Eeden will be leaving us to live overseas in 2020. They have been a wonderful asset to our teaching staff and we wish them all the best for their new adventures.

We have some of our part-time staff finishing at the end of the year. Alison Tennant will be moving to Otaki in 2020 and Adele O'Leary and Claire Davies will not be returning in the new year. We have really enjoyed having them as part of our team.

## School Organisation 2020

### Senior Management

|               |                     |
|---------------|---------------------|
| Mark Smith    | Principal           |
| Caine Webster | Deputy Principal    |
| Lesley Hodge  | Assistant Principal |

### Rata Syndicate

|              |                           |                             |
|--------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Rata 1       | Year 1                    | Barbara Foster/Janie Goosen |
| Rata 2       | Year 1                    | Carol Dacre                 |
| Rata 3       | Year 1                    | Melissa van Echten          |
| Rata 4       | Year 1                    | Adele Murray                |
| Rata 5       | New Entrants (Starts May) | Lesley Hodge (Team Leader)  |
| Rata Release |                           | Mary Jones and Gerie Harvey |

### Matai Syndicate

|               |        |                            |
|---------------|--------|----------------------------|
| Matai 1       | Year 2 | Kate Coughlan              |
| Matai 2       | Year 2 | Sara Rich                  |
| Matai 3       | Year 2 | Hetty Boonen (Team Leader) |
| Matai Release |        | Jill Clibborn              |

### Rimu Syndicate

|              |          |                              |
|--------------|----------|------------------------------|
| Rimu 1       | Year 3/4 | Carina Tiffen                |
| Rimu 2       | Year 3/4 | Lisa Smith                   |
| Rimu 3       | Year 4/5 | Jemma Simpkins (Team Leader) |
| Rimu 4       | Year 3/4 | Mitchell Smith               |
| Rimu 5       | Year 3/4 | Anne Bunton                  |
| Rimu Release |          | Bex Cook                     |

### Totara Syndicate

|                |          |                          |
|----------------|----------|--------------------------|
| Totara 1       | Year 5/6 | Gael Brown (Team Leader) |
| Totara 2       | Year 5/6 | Shauna Cory-Wright       |
| Totara 3       | Year 5/6 | Jo Henderson             |
| Totara 4       | Year 5/6 | Karen Siwalette          |
| Totara Release |          | Jeanine Huynh            |

### Kauri Syndicate

|               |          |                             |
|---------------|----------|-----------------------------|
| Kauri 1       | Year 7/8 | Kelly Parker                |
| Kauri 2       | Year 7/8 | Andrew Graham (Team Leader) |
| Kauri 3       | Year 6/7 | Debby Crawford-Jones        |
| Kauri 4       | Year 7/8 | Ben Jackson                 |
| Kauri Release |          | Caroline Herring            |

### Learning Support

|                            |               |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| Special Needs Co-ordinator | Sue Jenkins   |
| English Language Support   | Jill Clibborn |
| Reading Recovery           | Maz Holman    |
| Additional Teacher Release | Pat Thomson   |

## SPECIAL CONSIDERATION FOR CLASS PLACEMENT 2020

In Term 4 we complete a thorough and thoughtful process to place students in classes for the following year.

Our goal is to create classes that:

- Are balanced with all types of learners in terms of learning needs, social needs and gender.
- Create a positive learning and social environment for all students, considering past experiences with peers and learning needs.

Communication is key, within our staff team and with parents. Class placement is a complex and time intensive challenge, so we are wanting to focus in our consultation on unique needs rather than preferences. For most families we need you to trust us that we will take care to place your child in a class that will meet their needs. Sometimes there are more significant issues that parents/caregiver's need to raise that may impact classroom placement.

We have a parent input process where parents/caregivers may submit a feedback form to share concerns or issues that may impact placement. This information will be kept confidential. The parent input process is not intended to offer the opportunity to request a specific teacher. Consideration will focus on the student need identified.

**To guarantee that your request informs the process we are using, please complete the following [Google form Class Placement Considerations for 2020](#) no later than Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November. If you cannot complete the form online, please contact the office and we will provide you with a paper copy.**

Special considerations may be based on the following challenges:

- Social
- Learning
- Emotional
- Physical
- Past personal history with individuals (students or adults) that may substantially impact your child.

Requests for dealing with these special considerations should take the form of identifying:

- A teaching strength that may be needed to support your child
- A class level that would better meet your child's needs
- A peer that is requested as a positive support to directly address the special need
- A past experience that should not be repeated.

Examples of Special Considerations include, but are not limited to...

- Jeremy and Bruce had a lot of conflict this year and I request that they be separated next year.
- Jeremy has been identified with an anxiety and communication disorder and Wayne is a friend who really helps reduce anxiety and helps Jeremy focus on learning.
- In the past we had an issue with \_\_\_\_\_ and we would like to avoid repeating that experience.
- My child has ADHD and needs a teacher with clear structures in place in the classroom.
- My Year 7 child would be better suited to the Year 6/7 class to boost their confidence.
- My child has not had an existing friend placed in the same class for the last two years. Please consider placing my child with one of the following students...

### **Year 1 Information**

- Year 1 children who have had three terms or less at school will be in Year 1 again in 2020.
- Children in Year 1 will not change teachers during the year.
- Rata 1 and 2 will fill up during Term 1 until they have approximately 18 children.
- A new class for new entrants will open in May.
- Another roll growth new entrant class will open in September.

### **Year 2 Information**

- Children turning 6 before April 1 will progress to Year 2 in 2020. If you want your child to remain in Year 1 in 2020 please contact Lesley Hodge at [lesley@papakowhai.school.nz](mailto:lesley@papakowhai.school.nz).
- If your child turns 6 in April Lesley will contact you to discuss your child's placement for 2020.
- Children turning 6 between 1 May and 1 July will stay in Year 1 in 2020. If you want your child to progress to Year 2 in 2020 please contact Lesley Hodge.
- Children turning 6 after 1 July will remain in Year 1.

### **Additional Information**

- Class Organisation for 2020 is still subject to change.

- When we look at which Year 5's should stay in Rimu and which Year 6's should stay in Totara we will look first at age, gender balance, then ability and friendship groups to determine the best place.

### **Digital Technologies - BYOD**

- All Year 6 children can BYOD (Bring your own digital device).
- All Year 6 children will need to have a Chromebook if they are bringing their own device to school.
- Year 7 and 8 children have more flexibility in the type of device they choose.
- **Here is a presentation with more information - [https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1oD\\_MkG-73CqSP1qpbZ8VAk6564zsAArR6njDzCIJugA/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1oD_MkG-73CqSP1qpbZ8VAk6564zsAArR6njDzCIJugA/edit?usp=sharing) . If you would like to discuss BYOD further, please attend our BYOD PARENT INFORMATION EVENING on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm or contact Caine Webster at [caine@papakowhai.school.nz](mailto:caine@papakowhai.school.nz) . This is a great opportunity to ask any questions you may have about the digital learning and the type of device your child needs.**
- All Year 5 children will be provided with a school owned device so they can have one to one access in their classrooms. (This will include the Year 4's in the Year 4/5 class in Rimu 3).

Kind regards

Mark Smith

PRINCIPAL

[mark@papakowhai.school.nz](mailto:mark@papakowhai.school.nz)

### **MINDFULNESS PARENT EVENING WITH SARA WATCHORN THURSDAY 21 NOVEMBER 7.30 - 8.30 PM, RATA BLOCK**

Many of us have children who are quick to react or get angry or anxious. We are hosting an evening to share techniques to help these children self-regulate and calm themselves. This will not only benefit your children but the whole family!

Sara Watchorn is a classroom teacher and workshop facilitator. She has a passion for helping children to notice and understand their emotions and how these impact their learning and their relationships with others. This event is **free of charge**, will be held Rata Block and is limited to 60 places- please email the office to reserve a place.

## **YEAR 8 LEAVERS DINNER**

The Leavers dinner will be held on Monday 9 December at Mana Cruising Club, Ngati Toa domain, from 6.30 pm. An update letter has been sent home with the Year 8 students today. Please return the booking slip and payment to the office before Tuesday 26 November at the latest.

## **HOME AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

The next Home and School meeting will be held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm.

## **SHOPPING NIGHT is this Friday!!**

Doors open at 7 pm and tickets will be available at the door for \$15 and include a glass of bubbles or juice and a light supper.

We have 25 fabulous stallholders, and some amazing raffles! Everything from Tupperware, jewellery, crafts, homemade cards, soaps, candles, kids clothing...even socks!!!! Visit our Facebook page to find out more our wonderful stallholders and sponsors

<https://www.facebook.com/events/377566112822723/>

There is also a full list of stallholders at the end of this newsletter.

**BAKING WANTED!** If any parents would like to contribute some baking for us to use for the supper at the shopping night these would be greatly received. Please drop it to the school office by Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November.

## **SCHOOL POWHIRI**

We are holding a powhiri **tomorrow** to welcome our newest students and their families to Papakowhai School. If you are part of the group being welcomed, please take your children to class first head to the staffroom at 9 am.

## **SCHOOL ASSEMBLY**

Our next school assembly will be held on Tuesday 19 November at 10 am in the school hall. The classes sharing their work with us will be **Rata Whā, Matai Rua, Rimu Toru, Totara Whā** and **Kauri Toru**. New entrant students that have joined Rata block this term will be presented with their welcome certificates at the assembly too.



## **PHOTO ENVELOPES/ORDERS**

Order envelopes from the last photo day were sent home with children on Monday. Orders close on 21 November.

## **ICE BLOCK SALES FROM 8 NOVEMBER - \$1 EACH**

Papakowhai School students selected for Tag Nationals in Auckland will be selling ice blocks on Friday 8 and also 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> November. Three Stations will be set up; 1 outside Rata, for the Rata and Matai students, 1 outside Rimu and 1 between Kauri and Totara.

## **SANITARIUM WEETBIX KIDS TRYATHLON**

Sunday 15 March. This fun event for students aged 7-15 will be held at Kilbirnie Park. There is a morning and an afternoon event. For more information see [try.weetbix.co.nz](http://try.weetbix.co.nz). When you enter remember to link with Papakowhai School. The more students entered the more chances we get of winning prizes for the school.

## **SOME IMPORTANT DATES**

### **NOVEMBER – ICE BLOCK SALES ON FRIDAYS**

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>Thursday 7</b>   | Powhiri, 9.15 am, school hall                 |
| <b>Friday 8</b>     | Shopping night in school hall, 7 – 9.30 pm    |
| <b>Monday 11</b>    | Kauri 3 & 4 snorkelling field trip            |
| <b>Tuesday 12</b>   | Parumoana athletics meeting                   |
| <b>Wednesday 13</b> | Kauri 1 & 2 snorkelling field trip            |
| <b>Thursday 14</b>  | Parumoana athletics postponement day          |
| <b>Tuesday 19</b>   | Assembly, 10 am, school hall                  |
| <b>Tuesday 19</b>   | BYOD Information evening 6pm, in Totara.      |
| <b>Tuesday 19</b>   | BOT meeting, 7pm, staffroom                   |
| <b>Wednesday 20</b> | Book character dress up day                   |
| <b>Thursday 21</b>  | Papakowhai School speech finals               |
| <b>Thursday 21</b>  | Mindfulness parents evening, 7.30, Rata block |
| <b>Monday 25</b>    | Home & School committee meeting, 7 pm         |

## PORIRUA LIBRARY KIDS EVENT – THIS SATURDAY!

We are counting the days until KidsCrawl Porirua brings the brilliant Verb Writers Festival to our neighbourhood for the first time ever. Bring us your 8-12 year-olds for an 11AM start on Saturday, November 9, for an author search like nothing they've ever encountered before. Free event; email [kidscrawl@verbwellington.nz](mailto:kidscrawl@verbwellington.nz) to register and receive further instructions.



Come and enjoy over 25 stalls and raffles galore with a glass of bubbly and some friends.

**Friday November 8<sup>th</sup> 7 – 9.30pm, Tickets \$10\***

### Joining us again

|                      |                     |                         |
|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Trixie Monkey        | Big Brown Dog       | Sheree Taylor Jewellery |
| Soos Garden Skincare | Scentsy             | Valetta Road            |
| Crafty Wabbit        | Tupperware          | Fudge'n Hell            |
| Cottage Crafts       | AJ's Awesome Jewels | Arbonne                 |
| Create with Tracey   | Trixie Monkey       | Eva Massages            |

### And some fabulous new stalls

|                          |               |                         |
|--------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Stitch Cloth Designs     | Warm Fuzzies  | Spike the Sock Broker   |
| Norwex                   | Colour Swirls | Made by Me – Lea        |
| Vanilla Parlour By Kerry |               | Stichbury & Diddy-stich |
| Green Bee Eco Products   |               | Forever Roses           |

<https://www.facebook.com/events/377566112822723/>

for more information on the stallholders

Door sales on the night \$15. Ticket price includes a glass of bubbles and light supper.

Pre purchase tickets on kindo before November 1<sup>st</sup> for \$10.

Note this is an R18 event due to the alcohol licensing restrictions.

Any question email [homeandschool@Papakowhai.school.nz](mailto:homeandschool@Papakowhai.school.nz)  
or Bernice on 021 135 7836