



# Papakōwhai School

Growing Together – Igniting Potential



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## Papakōwhai School Newsletter

Week 7 | Term 4 | 1 December 2021

Kia ora koutou

### TRAFFIC LIGHT ORANGE

The Wellington region is moving to Orange on Friday under the new Covid Protection Framework. The Secretary of Education has advised that **schools will retain their existing COVID-19 settings until the end of the 2021 calendar year**. Therefore, we will be keeping our current Level 2 protocols in place until the end of the year, including only parents/caregivers of Year 1 students onsite with contact tracing and a 2:45pm finish for Rata students.

**We will be leaving the End of Year Leaver Celebration on Monday 13th December as a student only event.** However we are now working on how we can also create a smaller assembly on the last day. I will update parents of Year 8's by Friday.

Next year when school returns on February 3rd, if we are at orange, we will be able to welcome parents/caregivers back on site. We are looking forward to doing that. We will publish details of what to expect at each level at the start of the year.

### HOME AND SCHOOL

Due to the current Covid settings there will not be a Home and School end of year BBQ. However, the good news is we are planning a **Welcome back to school BBQ on Tuesday February 8th**. If we are at "orange" this is required to be a vaccine passport event.

I really enjoyed attending the Home and School Committee meeting on Monday night. There were lots of laughs. I just want to thank the committee for organising wonderful events this year despite the challenges of Covid. They are an enthusiastic and committed team. If you would be interested in joining them next year please contact [homeandschool@papakowhai.school.nz](mailto:homeandschool@papakowhai.school.nz). This is the amazing group that organises calendar art, discos, quiz nights, parent talks,

triathlons, BBQ's, clothing swaps and more. Maybe there is a current event that you would like to be a part of, or you have a new idea!

## **REPORTS AND CLASS PLACEMENT**

Reports were emailed out on Friday 26th November. If you did not receive your child's report please contact [chris@papakowhai.school.nz](mailto:chris@papakowhai.school.nz). If there is a question or concern that you have about your child's report I encourage you to contact your child's teacher or you are welcome to contact me. We are really pleased with the overall academic performance of students despite the challenges of the year that we have had. Thank you for the way you support your child's learning.

A letter advising you of your child's class placement for 2022 will be sent home on Friday 10th December. The letter will also contain important information that you need for the start of the year.

## **TIMETABLE CHANGES FOR 2022**

As we have previously advised you in our Traffic consultation, we are slightly adjusting our timetable for 2022.

School will begin for all students at 8:50am and Rātā and Mataī students will finish at 2:45pm each day. All other students will finish at 2:50pm. Breaktimes will also be moved slightly earlier.

To accommodate this, Before School Care in 2022 will operate from 7am - 8:30am and After School Care will operate from 2:50 - 5:50pm. Year 1 children going to After School Care will stay with their teacher and be collected at 2:50pm.

## **PROPERTY AND PLAYGROUNDS**

I feel like our property announcements sound a bit like Transmission Gully updates, the dates keep moving. Based on what we currently know:

- Rātā 5 together with Mataī syndicate will move to the new block next week. We are just waiting for the fire protection to be completed and for the council to sign off the building for occupancy.
- A new platform and pathway will be installed this week beside the hall for two bike containers.
- The field and bike track should be unfenced and open for full use next week.
- Climbing ropes, two slides, a large climbing net and assault course on the far side of the field will be in place for the start of 2022.
- The admin block extension is due for completion on February 4th.

- The Portacombs and the shipping container beside Kauri and Totara will be removed for school's return.

We are excited to have room to play and spread out in the new year. We are excited about having a spare classroom for music, drama and activities that require extra space. The school roll is projected to be at the same or lower than in 2021 so being able to focus on enhancing the spaces we have rather than catering for growth is going to be amazing.

Ngā mihi  
Mark Smith  
Principal

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

### **2022 CAMP (FOR YEAR 7 AND 8'S IN 2022 ONLY)**

A reminder that 3rd December is this Friday for those who had agreed to pay the \$100 deposit or the full amount by that date. If you had chosen to pay in installments either weekly, fortnightly or monthly please ensure you have these set up. Thank you.

### **LOST SCOOTER**

Last Friday, a new scooter was accidentally left outside Matai block after school but was missing on Saturday when the family came to look for it. If you have seen a green and black Custom scooter with white wheels anywhere in the local area, please drop it into the office or let us know by emailing [office@papakowhai.school.nz](mailto:office@papakowhai.school.nz)

### **PAPAKOWHAI SCHOOL SPEECH WINNERS**

Last week Totara and Kauri syndicates held their speech finals. The students going forward to the Parumoana Speech competition on Friday are, representing Years 5 and 6, **Jack Rudhall** and our Year 7/8 winner was **Hadley Fale**. Good luck to both students for Friday.

### **SCHOOL LIBRARY CLOSING ON FRIDAY**

Our library is closing on Friday, 3rd December, for our annual stocktake so all library books need to be returned ASAP please.

### **THANKS TO THE MAZDA FOUNDATION**

The Board of Trustees wish to thank the Mazda Foundation for their grant of \$1650 which has enabled us to purchase books for our Year 8 leavers this year. These books will be presented to the leavers at their celebration on Monday 13 December.



## EPRO8 SUCCESS!

Huge congratulations to our Epro8 team of Year 5 students **Sacha Herd, Miller Buck, Adam Buckley and Alex Kairua**, who became engineers for the day, problem solving their way through to a semi final win last week. We wish them good luck for the Wellington Region Grand Final tomorrow.





## **HOME AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**SCHOOL HATS** We have wide brimmed school hats, embroidered with the school logo, available to purchase from the school office.

They are available in navy or yellow in a range of sizes and cost \$22

**WELLBEING AND STRESS LECTURE** We would like to thank Dr Kirsty

Everrett for an enlightening talk last week and share the following

website addresses to find resources to help improve your mental

wellbeing and deal with stress: [www.justathought.co.nz](http://www.justathought.co.nz),

[www.engagenz.co.nz](http://www.engagenz.co.nz), [www.smallsteps.org.nz](http://www.smallsteps.org.nz), [www.sparx.org.nz](http://www.sparx.org.nz)

## **SWIMMING TERM 1 2022 - YEARS 1 to 6**

Easyswim Swim School provides swimming lessons each year in our pool for Years 1 - 6. To help support them with groupings of students,

we would appreciate it if you could fill out the following questionnaire

from Easyswim. Information obtained through this questionnaire will

be used to place your child at the level that best suits their needs. If

your child does not swim with Easyswim outside of school, knowing

where your child has swimming lessons will allow them to adapt their

teaching style to complement what they are learning elsewhere.

Here's the survey link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8SR56N9>

## **FOOD FOR WHĀNAU**

Donations for the “**Papakowhai Christmas Food for Whānau**” can

be brought to classes up until this **Friday, 3rd December**. Items,

such as canned goods, dry foods such as rice or cereals, toiletries,

toys, books and Christmas decorations will be much appreciated!

Items will be donated to the Salvation Army Food Bank in Porirua.

Remember, the class that has the most donations will win a prize!

Thank you so much for your generous support so far in trying to make

this Christmas a little better for some local families.

## **YMCA SPORTS 2022**

YMCA Sports will start again in Term 1 next year. The sports are held

after school at Te Rauparaha Arena, apart from Kī-o-rahi which will

be held at Cannons Creek Park.

Term 1

Monday - 3v3 Basketball for girls

Tuesday/Wednesday - Kī-o-rahi

Terms 2 - 3

Monday - Floorball

Tuesday/Wednesday - Basketball

## Terms 3 - 4

Monday- Kiwivolley

Tuesday/Wednesday - Futsal

Information for Term 1 sports will come out at the start of Term 1.

## **2022 YEAR 4 NGATI TOA NETBALL TEAMS**

If your child is in Year 3 or 4 this year and would be interested in playing netball in 2022 for Papakowhai School, please send a brief email to [netball@papakowhai.school.nz](mailto:netball@papakowhai.school.nz) with your child's name and 2021 year group by Friday 3rd December.

## **HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES**

### **GTMA'S CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY PROGRAMME!**

This year, Good Time Music Academy is providing 3 epic days of activities to get your kids excited for the upcoming Christmas season!

Friday 17th December - Make Christmas themed videos and photos in front of an EPIC green screen!

Monday 20th December - Painted Plates & Mugs: Brighten up Christmas dinner with your own personalised plate & mug.

Tuesday 21st December - Sugar and Spice and all things nice. Christmas cookie decorating time!

The holiday programme is for ages 5 - 13 years at Goodtime Music Academy, 50 Victoria Street, Alicetown, Lower Hutt. Full day (9am - 4pm), \$70, Early start (8 - 9am) + \$10, Late finish (4 - 5pm) + \$10

Registrations are open, so visit

[www.goodtimemusicacademy.co.nz/holiday-programme](http://www.goodtimemusicacademy.co.nz/holiday-programme)

### **CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY PROGRAMME @ ADVENTURE SCHOOL 17 - 23 Dec 2021 BOOKINGS**

OPEN NOW! Trip to Awesome Bounce, Roller Skating, Carnival, Christmas Movie and more. You can view and book online: [www.asfc.co.nz](http://www.asfc.co.nz)



### **SUMMER PROGRAMME @ ADVENTURE SCHOOL 17 Jan – 4 Feb 2022** Bookings will open in December. Watch this Space!!

For more information e-mail [holprog@asfc.co.nz](mailto:holprog@asfc.co.nz) or call 027-454-697

## **CHRISTMAS CRAFT SESSIONS WITH ARTY FARTY KIDS**

Will you have some last minute Christmassy things to do when school has finished? Book your kids into a creative craft session or two to keep them busy.

20, 21 and 22nd December Morning session - 10am - 12 noon

Afternoon session 2 - 4 pm

23 December Morning session only - 10am - 12 noon

Please contact Sara to book a place [office.artyfartykids@gmail.com](mailto:office.artyfartykids@gmail.com)



## SOME IMPORTANT DATES

### DECEMBER

<b>Thursday 2</b>	Matai Athletics Day
<b>Friday 3</b>	Parumoana Speech Competition
<b>Monday 6</b>	Rata Athletics Day (pp day Thursday 9th)
<b>Tuesday 7</b>	Kauri Eco Fair
<b>Wednesday 8</b>	Kauri Fun Day
<b>Thursday 9</b>	Aotea College orientation day for students enrolled as Year 9's, 2022
<b>Monday 13</b>	Rimu Athletics Day (pp day Wednesday 15th)
<b>Monday 13</b>	Year 8 Leavers Celebration Evening, 6.30pm, school hall
<b>Thursday 16</b>	Final day of school for 2021- school finishes at 1pm and there is no ASC provision today

### FEBRUARY 2022

<b>Thursday 3</b>	First day of Term 1, 2022
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