

# Pomare SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term one - week 2  9 FEBRUARY 2024

*Taloʻfa, Kia Ora, Kia Orana, Malo e lelei, ʻŌi ʻŌi Suostei, Bula Vinaka!*

Kia ora whānau,

It has been so lovely watching our tamariki arrive back at school for a new year of learning, with such happy faces and sense of expectancy. We too are excited about what is in store for 2024 here at Pomare School

## **New Staff & Students**

On Wednesday morning we held a Mihi Whakatau to welcome our two new staff members – Praneel Singh and Olivia Penrose, along with the new students who have joined our Pomare whānau this year. As always, the students spoke and sang with passion and pride. I was so proud of them all!

## **Wainuiomata Pool Trip**

Despite the weather being rather unfriendly, we all had a wonderful time at Wainuiomata Pool last Friday. We opened the Zoom slide early so any tamariki who wanted a go, could enjoy the thrill of its fast, twisting, watery slopes. Our sausage sizzle lunch was eaten in a lovely warm room provided by the pool, as the rain came down just as it was being cooked. No one seemed to mind that we headed back to school early as we had two busloads of tired and happy children.



## **Changes, Changes, Changes**

The beginning of the year is often a time of change, and this has certainly been the case here at Pomare School. Although the students were told last year that the junior classes would be moving to the senior end of the school, it was still a bit unsettling for some, especially those who also had new teachers. I have been very proud of how much resilience the tamariki have shown as they have settled into their new classes.

Moving classrooms has meant that the library has had to move as well. It will eventually be operational in Room 2, but is currently a work in progress. If there are any whānau members who has some spare time during the week to put up shelves and stock them with books, your help would be greatly appreciated.

Another change we are trialling this term, is 'flipped lunches'. This means that instead of the children gulping down food so they can get out to play, they are released straight from class into the playground. There is time for eating at the end of each break, which allows students to take their time, talk with one another,

## **reminders**

### **Bucket Hats**

All children must wear a bucket hat when outside in terms 1 and 4. Please check your child still has one to wear.

### **Policy Reviews**

Each term go to: <https://www.schooldocs.co.nz/>  
Username: pomare  
Password: pride  
Click the review button and have your say about our policies.

### **Assemblies**

These are now being held from 9.15-9.45am on a Friday morning so it is easier for whānau to join us.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Thursday 15 February**

Sausage Sizzle & Meet the Teacher  
**5:00-6:00 pm**

### **11-21 March**

Swimming lessons at Stokes Valley Pool  
Details to follow

and work out any left over issues from the playground as they eat. Flipped lunches are in place in many schools, and the improvement in behaviour and concentration that results, is well documented.

One other new initiative in the school is our Ngā Manu Groups. These are 'house' groups, and are made up of students from all classes in the school, so that they can practise tuakana-teina. The four groups are Tui – led by Georgina Ilott, Ruru – Rebekah Davies, Weka – Olivia Penrose, Kōtare – Herena Meteka. Ngā Manu Groups will do fitness together in the mornings and will meet fortnightly for team building activities.

### **Concerns or Complaints**

From time-to-time things happen at school that can be concerning or even annoying. We have a complaints policy which outlines the process that should be followed, should you feel things are not as they should be.

Basically the process is as follows:

1. Speak with your child's classroom teacher. If the problem is not resolved...
2. Speak with the Deputy Principal (Praneel Singh). If the problem is not resolved...
3. Speak with the Principal. If you still feel the problem is not resolved...
4. Contact the School Board.

I have attached the complaints process flowchart to the bottom of this newsletter for your information.

Please be assured that my door is always open, and I am happy to chat with you about anything if you have any concerns or positives you might like to talk about.

### **Limited Statutory Managers**

You may have seen the article in The Post, which mentioned that a Statutory Manager had been appointed to Pomare School. The purpose of a statutory manager is to work with the Board and Principal of a school to make it even better than it is, and is in no way a negative reflection on the school.

We have had a couple appointed to this position, Charles and Shona Oliver. Between them, Charles and Shona have 62 years' experience as school principals, and so they bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to their role. If you have questions regarding our LSMs please feel free to contact me or Daphne Harrison (Presiding Member of the Board).

I am excited by what 2024 has in store. We have started the year with 86 students on our roll and with a sense of anticipation of good things to come.

I look forward to meeting with you all at the 'Meet the Teacher' evening and getting to know you and your tamariki even better in the weeks and months to come.

**Tangata ako ana I te kāenga, te tūranga ki te marae, tau ana.**

*A person nurtured in the community contributes strongly to society.*

Ngā mihi nui,

*Sherilyn Hall*

# Concerns and Complaints Process

Most concerns can be resolved informally by discussions with the people involved.

## STEP 1

Your concern is **GENERAL IN NATURE**  
**OR ...**  
involves a particular **STUDENT OR STAFF MEMBER**.

Contact the person involved to arrange a time to discuss the matter privately.  
Indicate what the concern is about and let them know if you'll bring a support person to the meeting.  
If the concern is about a student, contact the student's teacher (or principal).

Meet with the person involved to discuss the matter.  
Be prepared to listen to different points of view and try to work towards a resolution.  
This may require another meeting and/or involve senior management.

Is the matter resolved?  
Provide feedback as to whether you were satisfied with the outcome, or if the matter is not resolved.

YES

**NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED**

## STEP 2

Your concern has **NOT** been resolved by meeting with the person concerned  
**OR ...** does **NOT** involve a particular student or staff member  
**OR ...** you **DO NOT** wish to approach the person concerned  
**OR ...** involves the principal or a trustee (board member).

Contact the principal, senior management, or board member (as appropriate) to arrange a time to discuss the matter privately.  
Indicate what the concern is about, any steps taken to resolve the matter, and let them know if you'll bring a support person to the meeting.

Meet with the appropriate person (as above) and discuss the matter.  
Be prepared to listen to different points of view and try to work towards a resolution.

The principal may involve other people to help resolve the concern.

Is the matter resolved?  
Provide feedback as to whether you were satisfied with the outcome, or if the matter is not resolved.

YES

NO

## STEP 3

Your concern has **NOT** been resolved by previous steps  
**OR ...** your concern is more serious  
**OR ...** your concern is serious and it's not appropriate to contact the principal (senior management) about it.

You can make a formal complaint.  
See the school's **Making a Formal Complaint or Serious Allegation** procedure (SchoolDocs).

Put the complaint in writing (email or letter), giving as many facts and details as possible, and any steps taken to resolve the matter.

Include your name, signature, and contact details.  
Send to the principal, presiding member (board chair), or deputy board chair/other board member, as appropriate.

Your complaint will be acknowledged.  
The school will decide whether a formal investigation is necessary or appropriate. See the **Making a Formal Complaint or Serious Allegation** procedure (SchoolDocs).

If a formal investigation is required, subject to privacy, confidentiality, or other ethical and legal requirements, the school may keep you informed about the investigation process and timeframes, including confirmation of when the matter is concluded.

NO

**NOTE:** Unless there are exceptional circumstances, a complaint will not be considered unless the correct process has been followed. You may be directed back to the staff member or principal to follow the process.

Once a formal complaint has been resolved, there are no further avenues to pursue the complaint with the school.

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of your complaint, you are encouraged to take advice and may wish to consider contacting other agencies. See the school's **Making a Formal Complaint or Serious Allegation** procedure (SchoolDocs).