PUKEATUA 2026 PRESS

8th May, Week 3 , Term 2

Te Panui o te Kura #3

Message from the Principal

Kia ora e te whānau,

Welcome back to Term 2. We have another jam-packed term ahead of us, with plenty happening both in and out of the classroom over the coming weeks.

Our school roll continues to rise, with 88 students currently on our roll, with another 8 students due to start throughout the term. We are growing well, and our numbers continue to increase. If you know of any families moving into the area, or if your child is ready to start school at any stage this year, please come and pre-enrol them so that we can organise school visits and complete the required paperwork. The more notice we have, the better. We can then plan ahead with classroom numbers, or even a new classroom or teacher.

We have introduced a new step to our behaviour management process at school. Students who are removed from class, or who have misbehaved during break times, will now complete a letter explaining to their parents what happened and why they were removed. This letter will be sent home with the student and needs to be signed and returned to school the next day. There is also space at the bottom for parents to comment if they wish. The reason behind this change is that we have noticed that ownership of behaviour is not always happening. Some students are either not telling their parents what occurred or are not giving the full picture of why consequences were put in place. This process is designed to keep communication open between home and school so that we can work together and remain on the same page.

A notice went out earlier in the term regarding the effect that the closure of the Arapuni Dam will have on our bus routes. At this stage, we still do not have a confirmed date for the closure. However, plans are in place for the bus route to be amended when this does occur, and all students who are currently being picked up will continue to be picked up.

A quick update on reporting and parent interviews. Hero has now begun creating a reporting space for teachers to report to parents and generate reports through the platform. This area is still not fully active for teachers yet, but it should be available soon. I have Professional Development over the next 2-3 weeks, where we will be working through the creation of our reporting templates. I understand that this delay may be frustrating for some families, however please understand that we are restricted by the timeframes provided by both the Ministry of Education and Hero. We will run parent interviews at the same time that reports are sent out, as this will allow teachers the opportunity to explain the new layout and answer any questions that parents may have.

At the end of last term, we had two Board Members, Brenda Duncan and Katherine Hemingway, step down from our School Board of Trustees. On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank them both for their time, support, and commitment to our school and their role as Board Members.

Mother's Day is this Sunday. Thank you to all of the mothers, step-mums, grandmothers, nanas, and everyone in between who support and care for our children each and every day. I hope you all have a wonderful Sunday.

Next Tuesday, we have our visit to Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari. A notice has already gone out regarding this visit and is also available on Hero. Please make sure that your child is prepared for the day with the correct gear and clothing. If you are planning on joining us for the day, please let the office know in advance.

A reminder as well that Pink Shirt Day is coming up shortly. This is an important day focused on promoting kindness, inclusion, and standing up against bullying. We encourage all students to get involved and support the kaupapa behind the day.

Lastly, we also have our Wheels Day coming up on the 22nd of May. Please remember that only bicycles, skateboards, scooters, roller skates, or rollerblades are permitted. Helmets and covered shoes must be worn in order for students to participate.

Regards

Dene Franklin
PRINCIPAL

Attendance Matters ...every school day counts!

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SCIENCE FUN



Leo shared his rocket kit with the whole school this week.
We learnt that combining baking soda and white vinegar could create enough energy to launch a rocket!





KAPA HAKA FUNDRAISING

Our kapahaka group has started fundraising to go to the Te Awamutu Kapa Haka Festival later in the year. They are selling kawakawa balm and plan to do some 'pizza wednesdays'. Balm is available now - $10/jar. Keep an eye on hero for more information about pizza.

Good Game!

Pukeatua Thunder had an awesome first game of the season!
Great positional play with heaps of passing and working together, Won 9-2.

Player of the day went to Wayde for excellent midfield play both in defence and passing forward to set up multiple goals.

Cam Bierre, Coach

HAPPY Mother's Day

Students have been excitedly working on Mothers Day gifts during the week. This afternoon Ruma Tahi went over to the office, with big smiles on their face, to deliver Miss Heaslip's mothers day card to Gaby. She got a big surprise and asked to have a photo with the Ruma Tahi kids.
Wishing all our Pukeatua Whanau mum's a very Happy Mothers Day for Sunday!



IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 2

MAY

12th Sanctuary Mountain Visit
13th Ignite music lessons
14th Yr 7&8 Technology
15th Pink Shirt Day
Assembly - Ruma Toru
19th BOT Meeting
20th Ignite music lessons
22nd Wheels Day
25th Teacher Only Day - School Closed
27th Ignite music lessons
29th Cultural Day

JUNE

1st Kings Birthday - School Closed
2nd Parawera Marae visit/noho
3rd Parawera Marae visit/noho
(no music)
5th Photolife here for school photos
House Challenge
9th St Johns here - whole school
10th Ignite music lessons
11th Yr 7&8 Technology
12th Assembly
Teachers vs Students: Soccer
17th Ignite music lessons
19th Eastern Zone Cross Country
23rd BOT Meeting
24th Life Ed with Nicky & Harold
Ignite music lessons
25th Life Ed with Nicky & Harold
Yr 7&8 Technology
26th Life Ed with Nicky & Harold
Assembly R1







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