



Kia ora tatou katoa - hi everyone

No 1

2 February 2017

WELCOME to the following children and their families who are new to school: Kaylee Booth, Nikara Treanor, Cohyn Brandon, Leah Cunningham, Samoana Misipati, Charlotte and Sophia Bruce, Brooklyn Cleave, Tyson McLean, Elsie Murray, Levi Sproull, Frankey Te Raki, Grace Van Arendonk and Acacia Watson.

2017

We are all excited to be back at school and looking forward to a year without the distractions of construction!

Now that we are settled into our new learning spaces we have made some changes in response to our new setup and to recognise the New Zealand Curriculum Principle on the Treaty of Waitangi.

The Treaty of Waitangi principle puts students at the centre of teaching and learning, asserting that they should experience a curriculum that engages and challenges them, is forward-looking and inclusive, and affirms New Zealand's unique identity.

Our school was involved with other local schools and Ngāi Tūāhuriri in developing a cultural narrative for the **Tōtaranui Community of Learning**. The importance of the physical and environmental features of the area have been acknowledged by identifying the Tōtara tree in the name.

When a closer look was taken at our school it was agreed that bird names for the five 'pods' would be appropriate. The birds were selected for their positive qualities and their connection (current and/or historical) with the Papanui area.

PUKEKO	Active – whanau – nurturing – caring – brave	Mrs Watson, Mr Thompson
PIWAKAWAKA	Energetic – curious – friendly – social – adaptable	Mrs Harris, Ms Tudor
WEKA	Inquisitive – lively – fearless – adventurous – resilient	Mrs Sheppard, Ms Rait
KORIMAKO	Active – confident – social – tenacious – adaptable	Mrs Marshall, Ms Boeren
KAHU	High flying – observant – focused – fearless - leadership	Mrs Stedman, Ms Robertson

Over the next term the children will be learning more about their bird and developing artwork to decorate their learning pods. A sense of identity and belonging will grow as we talk about "Charlotte in Pukeko with Mr T and Mrs Watson" rather than "Charlotte is in Room 10".

"Tiakina nga manu, ka ora te ngahere. Ka ora te ngahere, ka ora nga manu"

"Look after the birds and the forest flourishes. If the forest flourishes, the birds flourish."

TOUCH RUGBY

Tomorrow all children who returned their permission slips to play will receive a notice letting them know which team they are in. Games begin at McFarlane Park on Wednesday 8 February. Each week the draw will be posted on the school's Facebook page once it comes out and a copy will be placed on the wall in the office area along with the team lists. Please make sure the \$30 fee is paid before the first game on Wednesday. Any queries please contact Miranda Sheppard: miranda.sheppard@pps.school.nz

BASKETBALL Year 3 & 4

This week a notice was taken home by children who are interested in playing basketball. If you support this desire to play basketball please return the permission slip tomorrow.

MEET THE TEACHER - Wednesday 8 February

We are changing the format this year. There will be two sessions run in each of the pods. It'll be a chance for you to meet the teacher and see your child's new space. The teachers will also share the important aspects of their programme.

- Sessions starting at 6.00pm and at 6.30pm

The five families who have children in three different pods will need to contact the pod teachers they miss to make alternative arrangements - thank you for your flexibility.

UNIFORM

The children look great in their uniform – thank you. A very big thankyou to Tracey McClure, Jo Rhodes, Catherine McKellar, Shelley Sutcliffe, Jodie Hicks and Mel Isitt who ran the uniform sale last Thursday. The uniform shop is open on Wednesdays after school.

For health and safety reasons children should not wear jewelry to school (except stud earrings) and have long hair tied back. Footwear must be sensible black shoes or sneakers (or sandals in the summer terms). No make-up or nail varnish is necessary at school.

We really want the uniform be an expression of commitment and respect to the school not a compliance mentality where the school have to constantly check and remind. We look forward to your support in this.

SCHOOL DONATION

The school donation is a voluntary payment parents and whanau are able to make to the school. The Board have suggested \$60 for one child family and \$80 for 2 or more. This is a suggestion and helps the Board with setting the annual budget. The school donation is receipted separately and you can claim a tax rebate.

The School Donation is an important income stream for the Board and it is used specifically to help in meet the leasing costs of the iPads, Chromebooks and laptops that the school provides for the children. This means families don't need to worry about buying or leasing a device. Some other schools require children to bring their own device (B.Y.O.D.) and still request a donation.

LOST PROPERTY

Please ensure all items of uniform are named clearly. Encourage your child to be responsible for their clothing. The lost property is kept in a large box, one in the Senior block and one in the Junior block.

INFORMATION

If any of your details (phone, emergency contacts, email etc.) have changed, please notify the office. This is especially important for emergency contacts.

ABSENCES

If you child is absent please notify the office via the Record an Absence option on 352 8271 or text 027 492 1794 with your child's name, class and reason for absence.

UPCOMING EVENTS

8 February	Meet the Teacher, 6-7pm
14 February	Rocky Shore Trip, Rooms 1-4
17 February	Big Day Out, Jellie Park (Important Notice coming home today)
21 February	Playhouse Theatre
22 February	Folk Dancing Evening, 4-6pm
27 February - 2 March	Cycle Safety
28 February, 1 March	Goal Setting, 2pm Finish
22-24 March	Year 5/6 Camp
24 March	Junior Sports Day, 10am-2pm
7 April	Senior Athletics
13 April	Cross Country

Kia kaha te menemene - keep smiling

Paul