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Term 4 - Week 8

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

6 December

School Athletics Day
Bake Sale!

9-12 December

School Swimming - Stokes Valley
Pool
Cricket v Wellesley Trip

13 December

School Assembly - 2.25pm Hall

17 December

Fun Day at School
Year 6 Dinner

18 December

Poroporoaki - 2.15pm

19 December

Last day of school - 12.30pm
Finish

4 February 2020

School Starts 8.55am

Kia ora koutou! For some of you, this will be the last newsletter for your child's primary school education – an end of an era for many of our families. There is a lot of information in this newsletter, so make yourself a hot drink before you start reading!

Farewells

As you will have read in emails, we are going to be farewelling a number of staff this year. Kerry Ryan has been our Reading Recovery Teacher for 10 years. In that time she has been instrumental in helping a large number of children achieve success in literacy. We are hopeful we will still be able to tap into Kerry's expertise as she takes up a Learning Support Coordinator role in Upper Hutt. Sam Blandford started his teaching career with us at the beginning of 2015. It has been a pleasure to watch Sam grow as a teacher and a leader throughout this time. Rosie Ingle has taught with us for 2 years and it has been a privilege to have Rosie on our team for her first two years of her teaching career - we wish her all the best for her big adventure in Italy! Paula Christian has also been with us for 2 years and has also grown in her role as a Hub Leader during this time. We wish her all the best for her move to Auckland - we will miss her positive outlook on everything. Kathy Cutler has been with us for just under 2 years as she moved back into full-time teaching. Kathy is a very experienced classroom teacher our loss is St Brendan's gain - we wish her all the best. I know all of these staff will be missed by the Pinehaven School Community. We have 38 students heading off to intermediate and I know how it feels to be a parent of a child leaving primary school! It has been great to see these children mature and they have made great contributions to our school

over their time here. We have a Poroporoaki (formal farewell) here on Wednesday 18th at 2.15pm in the hall to farewell those leaving – you are all welcome to attend.

2019 Structure

We have finalised the school structure for next year and again, we will have 2 Hubs, however the year level within hubs changes. Kereru Hub will have 7 classes from YO-4. Korimako Hub will have 3 Year 5/6 classes.

Teachers have also been allocated, including our new staff. The final appointment we made was Melanie Wakeham, an experienced teacher joining us from Belmont School. As many of you know, we have been

experiencing a teacher shortage across the country and Upper Hutt is no exception. To ensure we have the best teaching team in classrooms next year, we have decided to have Rachel Johnston in the classroom part time next term. She will lead the Korimako Hub and teach for 2 days, job sharing with Elizabeth McKee who will work 3 days. This will be an excellent pairing for the class and Hub. As previously mentioned Michelle Buckland is our other new staff member. At this point in time, we are reviewing the work structure in the office and have decided not to rush into appointing a new Office Assistant. Claire Blackadder will be doing some additional hours in the Office while we determine exactly what we need.

Classes are outlined below. Each 'pod' is a collaborative group of teachers who will work closely together. The blue groups make up the Kereru Hub, led by Gregory Stanton and the green group makes up the Korimako Hub, led by Rachel Johnston.

Keruru Hub Pod 1	Room 1	Gregory Stanton	Year 0/1
	Room 2	Nadine Duncalf	Year 0/1
Keruru Hub Pod 2	Room 3	Patricia Hvid	Year 1/2
	Room 4	Penny Jones	Year 2/3
	Room 5	Michelle Buckland	Year 2/3
Keruru Hub Pod 3	Room 10	Melanie Wakeham	Year 3/4
	Room 9	Jim Bashaw	Year 4
Korimako Hub	Room 6	Elizabeth McKee & Rachel Johnston	Year 5/6
	Room 7	Kate Beaumont-Yee	Year 5/6
	Room 8	Rebekah Simpson	Year 5/6

Reports

Next Friday, you will receive your child's final report, along with their self-assessment in relation to our school values and picture collage. At this time of the year, the reports are not followed by a meeting with teachers, however we endeavor to send the report out before the final day of the year so that you can make contact with your child's teacher by phone or email should you have any questions. In the report envelope, you will also find information about your child's class placement for 2019 and stationery items that are required for the year. A considerable amount of work goes into placing each child carefully, considering who they work well with and ensuring a balance of social, emotional and academic needs in each class.

Property Funding

It has come to my attention that some parents seem to think that any money related to the property refurbishment may impact on the cost of any appointed teaching staff. This is completely inaccurate and I think it is important to address it. Teachers are not paid directly from schools, but centrally from the Ministry of Education. We get a staffing allocation (not money) and we employ the number of teachers according to the allocation. The amount of pay they receive makes no difference to the school in any way, so there is no financial gain in employing less experienced teachers. Even if it did have a financial gain for us, we would have no interest in doing so as we are always looking to employ the best possible teachers to fit our team and meet the needs of our students. The only exception to the funding of teachers is if we decide to fund teachers over our staffing allocation, but we are rarely in a position to do this and if we are, it has to be within our operating expenses.

Property money is a completely separate pool of funding. The size of the school impacts on the amount of funding they get every 5 years. The Board have known for some time that we would need to plan to

contribute extra for Rooms 1-4, so have been maximising our funds on term investment and fundraising so that we had some available when the time came. We also are required to put operating funding aside for painting and property maintenance. Any contribution made by the Board then has to be approved by the MOE who double check we are not using funds that should be directed elsewhere. We have been through this sign off process and all funding is directed to the appropriate areas for expense. This is also subject to annual audit.

School funding is incredibly complex and I am happy to clarify any questions you or any other parents have.

Property Update

We have finally had sign off from the Ministry of Education for our property refurbishment. This means the move to the hall for Rooms 1-4 could happen any day - we are just waiting for the start date to be confirmed by the builder. We will do our best to communicate quickly with you as soon as we find out!

You will notice significant site fencing around the office and Kereru Block. You will still be able to access the office, but will not be able to walk past my office (instead you will have to walk down the path towards Room 9). The front gate by the Office will be the site access point for the builders, so it will not be the safest drop off point and I ask that once the cordon goes up, you drop your child off on Pinehaven Road.

The carpark will be closed while Road Patrollers are on duty - this is to ensure children have safe access to school. It may mean that children have to be dropped down the road and walk the last bit to school. Children and staff will still be able to access the Library and Room 5. POSCA will move to the Library. In the new year, Rooms 1 & 2 will be housed in the current Room 5 (which will be renamed) and Rooms 3, 4 & 5 will be in the hall. When the Kereru Block is refurbished all of those classes will be housed in the new spaces as the layout is changing.

The hall will then remain closed while it is re-roofed. Room 9 & 10 will also be re-roofed, but that should take place in school holiday periods without too much disruption to classes. The whole project is expected to take up until mid 2020.

Bake Sale Tomorrow!

Don't forget to send your child to school with a gold coin or two tomorrow so they can purchase a sweet treat for morning tea. We really appreciate the support from those of you who have offered to bake - please drop your baking into the office in the morning before school.

2020 Family Evening

We are still confirming out family evening for the beginning of next year, but intend on holding it in the second week of school. It will be a BYO picnic/take away and you will have an opportunity to meet your child's teacher, have a look in their room, and visit the hall where we are hopeful to have a guest speaker for parents while teachers look after the children. Watch this space - we will let you know the date as soon as it is confirmed!

2020 Donations and Activity Fees

The Board has determined that these will stay at the same level for 2020. It is really important for our community to understand that we are not eligible for the Government's recent policy announcement to cover the donation levy for Decile 1-7 schools as we are a Decile 10 school. This is disappointing for our school and no doubt you as the parent community. We appreciate your ongoing support.

Free Range Eggs Fundraiser

We are selling free range eggs for \$8.00 a dozen. Orders are to be emailed to the office by 1pm Tuesdays for collection from the office on a Thursday afternoon. Please make Payment, at the time of ordering, directly to:

No Boundaries Eggs

38 9017 0071842 00

Reference: Pinehaven

Code: Customer Name

Thanks!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff for all their work this year. Our staff do a wonderful job and it is a privilege to work with them all. Thanks for the Board of Trustees who work hard to provide effective governance and do a great amount of 'behind the scenes work' to ensure our children get the best opportunities. And finally, thanks to all of you who support us so well with all that we do - we wish you all a happy and safe festive season ahead!

Our final day of school this year is 19 December and school will close at 12.30pm.

Kaylene