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SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Thursday 25th August
Week 5, Term 3



<https://www.facebook.com/PuahueSchool>



Tomorrow, Friday 26th August we will be holding a mufti day (with encouraging the colours yellow, orange, white and green) and a gold coin donation in support of the Cancer Society Daffodil Day.



We started Term 3 with a big warm welcome to Room 1 for Tobias, Nico and Iris and a big warm welcome to Room 5 for Cameron. We are absolutely thrilled to have you with us.



Mid-year student achievement and progress report:

We're pleased to report that learning at school is having a positive impact across all areas of the school. We all can imagine the impact that the last 2 years of disrupted school attendance, hybrid learning and other interventions have had on all students. We have noticed that it took until the end of Term 2 for the culture of the school to return to what it has been pre Covid19, with many of the junior students experienced assemblies for the first time in their education. Whilst the wave of covid that went through in Term 1 and the cold and flu in Term 2, attendance rates remained somewhat ok with most weeks seeing mid-80% attendance. This has allowed the teachers and students to really work hard to be as deliberate as possible maximising the opportunities to make progress across the whole school from the start of the year. Writing saw the biggest gains with a 30% increase in students meeting their end-of-year expected learning level, maths has seen an 18% improvement and reading has an 11% improvement. This accelerated shift in student achievement has the school on track to achieve at the levels we saw pre covid.

Mid Year Reading = 86% where they need to be at the end of the year

Mid Year Writing = 70% where they need to be at the end of the year

Mid Year Maths = 88% where they need to be at the end of the year

Health and Physical Education (HPE) including Relationships and Sexuality

Education survey:

Every 2 years we consult with the community around what aspects of the HPE curriculum are important to include in our localised delivery for our students. The New Zealand Curriculum now includes "Relationships and Sexuality Education" across all levels of schooling. Information will be sent via email to parents, we value the feedback when provided and look forward to hearing what you feel should be included.



ANZH Survey:

We have a 1 minute survey we are asking you to complete on the Aotearoa New Zealand Histories Curriculum. The Waipa is rich with historical significance and we have chosen several local sites we are considering including in our school curriculum teaching so we have coverage and understanding of "our place", watch for this in an email coming soon.

Manga O Tama Planting Day:

Recently Room 5 and 6 supported a living water planing day organised by the Department of Conservation which reached both national and international media. To read more about it use the link [Manga-O-Tama planting day](#)



Ruma Matai's Guest Speaker:

It's not every day that we have an unusual pet come into school. Ruma Matai were excited to welcome 2 axolotls last week. We called upon our school axolotl expert Hugo to tell us a lot of fascinating facts and interesting information about them. It linked in well to our descriptive writing focus.



STEM:



Yay! STEM Curiosity is coming to visit us!
Please send your children to school with an old change of clothes.

"My whole class got involved and it was nice they could do it at their own pace"

"An amazing opportunity. Very creative. I was impressed."



STEM
CURIOSITY

"It linked nicely to the idea that students can self-direct their own learning"

"My son came home buzzing about his day at school"

School Photo Day:

Photolife has booked our school photo date for Monday 26th September. Please ensure your child is wearing the correct clean uniform.

All ordering will be via their online system as per previous years.



We are excited to have lined up STEM curiosity to lead 4 lessons at school this term. On Fridays 2/9, 9/9, 23/9, 30/9 all of the school will be involved in these lessons. Students will definitely need a change of mufti clothes (and a bag to put these in) as these lessons are definitely messy! STEM Curiosity have received funding from Sport New Zealand Tu Manawa Active Aotearoa for these lessons. These Science/Technology lessons will allow children to make their own decisions around social and physical risk-taking and enable them to become curious and wonder, in their own time.

Book Fair Week:

Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the school library during Week 8 of this Term Monday 12th Sep - Thursday 15th Sep from 8.30am - 9.30am. Please be aware that these are the only times the book fair is open. Eftpos and cash payments available. If you are able to help Megan with the Bookfair, please let her know. 😊



Book Character Day:

Friday 16th September is our Book Character Day. All students are encouraged to dress up as their favourite book character.



Life Education:



Term 3 kicked off with having the Life Education van with us. Our tamariki always enjoy their yearly visit from Harold.

Te Awamutu Intermediate Information

Evening:

The Te Awamutu Intermediate information evening for Year 6 students will be on Monday 26th September at 6pm



AG Day 2022:

This year's entry forms have been emailed out to all families via google doc forms. Please ensure you submit your form back to us before Friday 23rd September. We will not be able to accept any late entries.

Puahue School Agriculture Day will be held on Tuesday 18th October.

Group Day this year will be held at Arohena School on Friday 21st^h October.

Waikato A&P Show will be held on Friday 28th October at Claudelands Hamilton.

We are pleased to announce that this year all 3 categories will be accepted - Calves, Lambs and Kids.

Saving dates are as follows:

- Calves Early - 1st June – 26th July
 Late - 27th July – 20th September
- Lambs: Early - 1st July – 20th August
 Late - 21st August – 20th September
- Kids: Early - 1st July – 20th August
 Late - 21st August – 20th September

Booklets on How To Care For Your Animal have previously been emailed out to families. Please let Megan know if you would like a hard copy. VetEnt Te Awamutu are offering free vaccination's and ringing (with a long acting pain relief) for Ag Day animals. Please phone the clinic directly on 07 872 0240 to book an appointment as spaces are limited.

VET ENT
Skill + Tech + Heart = Care

Te Awamutu
Presents
PET DAY

FREE Health Check & Vaccination for your children's Pet Day Calf, Lamb or Goat.
Come along and also enjoy a BBQ plus we'll have Goodie Bags for the kids.
Call the clinic on 07 872 0240 to book your spot. Spaces are limited.

Date: Tue 30th Aug Time: 3:30-5pm
Date: Tue 13th Sept Time: 3:30-5pm

Special promotions on the day

Puahue Speech Award:

Congratulations on this year's Speech Award winners:

1st Place Equal - Noah Davies & Stevie-Lee Lowen

3rd Place - Willow Parker

Noah's speech was on the importance of water and Stevie-Lee's speech was on homework.



JUMP JAM™

Congratulations to our Senior Jump Jam team for making it into the National Competition. Their hard work has seen them make it into the Xtreme category. How fantastic is that!!

Have you seen our school garden gnomes?



PTA

Next Meeting - Monday 19th September at 7pm

If you would like to join the PTA, please contact Megan in the office.



School Term Dates	
Term 3 – Ends	Friday 30th September
Term 4 – Starts	Monday 17 th October
Term 4 – End	TBC

Events Coming Up	
<i>*** Remember the calendar is available via our school app or our school website ***</i>	
Friday 26th August	Daffodil Day
Wednesday 31st August	Wheels Day
Friday 2nd September	STEM
Friday 9th September	STEM
Monday 12th September	Book Fair Starts
Wednesday 14th September	Wheels Day
Thursday 15th September	Book Fair's Last Day
Friday 16th September	Book Character Day
Monday 19th September	PTA Meeting at 7pm
Wednesday 21st September	EZ Speeches
Friday 23rd September	STEM
Monday 26th September	School Photos
Monday 26th September	BOT Meeting
Monday 26th September	TAI Information Evening for Year 6 Students
Wednesday 28th September	Wheels Day
Thursday 27th September	Elgregoe's Magic Show
Thursday 27th September	Yr 5/ 6 Super 7's
Friday 30th September	STEM
Friday 30th September	End of Term 3
Monday 17th October	Start of Term 4

Introducing Puahue School's Board of Trustee's Members:

Julie Choppin, Staff Representative

Julie has been re-elected as the staff representative.

Lisa Sharp - Parent Trustee

Lisa has been re-elected as one of our parent representatives.

Cedric Crow - Parent Trustee

Cedric has been re-elected as one of our parent representatives with also becoming our Board Chairman.

Jemimah Steyn - Parent Trustee

My name is Jemimah Steyn (nee Jacobsen).

I currently manage the admin and accounts at Vetpak Ltd, a local business that produce and distribute veterinary products for large animals to Veterinary Clinics nationwide. I very much enjoy many aspects of my job, mainly building relationships with our clients and the organising and problem solving of the accounts.

I have two children currently at Puahue school, Hugo is room 4 and Iris has just started in room 1, they are the third generation of my family to have the privilege of being a part of Puahue School.

I have many fond memories of my time as a student at Puahue School. The improvements within the school have grown hugely since that time, but the values and welcoming environment have stayed the same. I believe this is what makes our school special. Our childrens education is such an important part of their lives, with which they should be able to enjoy and look back on with a smile and great memories.

It is essential that those appointed to the Board of Trustees are there to support the school in ensuring that it does everything possible to help the students reach their potential as individuals and continue the importance of the values and welcoming environment. I would love the opportunity to be a part of that and to input and help where I can.

I look forward to seeing this school continue to do wonderful things for our children and the community in the years to follow.

Samantha Sunde - Parent Trustee

Hi, my name is Sam Sunde.

I am a mum to three boys, with two of them currently attending Puhue School - Max in Ruma Kahikatea and William in Ruma Kowhai, and I am married to James, who is the workshop manager at Waikato Tractors.

Being a former teacher, I am passionate about education and the opportunities that our schools can provide for our children. I believe that schools are a dynamic and vital hub within our communities.

I grew up in the small town of Gordonton where I attended the local primary school. I eventually returned as a student teacher, and was then lucky enough to be employed as a permanent staff member. While the school had progressed and grown significantly in the time between being a student and then a teacher, it never lost its "country school" feel.

Every time I walk into Puhue, I get the same feeling and I am so happy that my own children get to experience this as well.

I currently work as a project manager for our family construction company, taking charge of the day to day runnings for our largest contract, the Te Awa Lifecare Village in Cambridge. It is a huge change from being in the classroom. My management role means that I have experience in dealing with a variety of people, organising budgets and schedules, and I have learned very quickly how to think outside of the box and find alternative solutions when a curve ball is thrown my way.

I have been involved with the Puhue School PTA since we became part of the Puhue School Community in 2020. It has been a great way to meet other parents and be immersed into the school and the extra curricular opportunities.

I am excited to be part of the Board of Trustees at Puhue School, helping to build on its many strengths, and work towards a shared goal of giving our children the very best working environment to thrive in. I look forward to working closely with the students, teachers and leadership team, contributing and serving our school community.

Francine Jones - Parent Trustee

Kia ora kotou

My name is Francine Jones and I am a parent of two children who are currently enrolled at Puahue School (Cooper and Rylee).

As a child I came from an idyllic little settlement in the King Country. I attended a small rural school and felt that the experience gave me a strong sense of self and grounding.

I wanted this experience for my children and I'm really happy that Puahue School has delivered.

I am the daughter of a farmer and a school teacher. I am also of Maori decent, with my hapu being Ngati Maniapoto. It feels wonderful that my children get to live and attend school in a region that's significant to my whanau (past and present).

A modest upbringing means that I am honest, hardworking and down to earth. I am level headed, practical and solutions focused. I believe that these qualities, mixed in with a good sense of humor and positivity go a long way!

I am a keen supporter of our school and I am passionate about working with other like-minded individuals.

It would be an exciting opportunity to be a parent representative on the BOT for Puahue School.

Nga mihi
Francine Jones

Puahue Hall Renovation Project Update

We did it!!!!!!! The Puahue Hall Association committee is thrilled to announce that we have reached our target to commence renovation of the community hall. There's an upgraded Hall coming our way very soon!!

The purpose of this update is to ensure the School community remain aware of the Project and the impact the building works will have on the school surroundings. We are grateful to Scott and the school team for their understanding as we embark on this Project. The teaching staff are comfortable with a bit of short term pain, for long term gain. Thanks also to the Puahue Playcentre group for their understanding.

After a competitive tender process, we have appointed [Kelvin Lalich Builders](#) to be our main contractor. We have been impressed with Kelvin and his team's understanding of our Project. They appreciated that the tender process would be a bit protracted due to our need to secure funding through multiple applications to philanthropic and community funders. Kelvin and the team recognise that we want to retain as much of the character of the Hall as possible, while upgrading and future-proofing the facility, within a tight budget – no small feat! We are so pleased to be working with Kelvin and his team on this important community Project – and we think they are looking forward to the challenge too!

Things the school community need to know

- The Puahue Community Hall will be unavailable to the school and public from early September due to building works
- The school have been fully consulted on this, and are supportive
- The important memorabilia and school and community assets will be removed from the Hall and stored safely during the building programme
- You'll start to see increased activity around the Hall site from early September
- We are hopeful that the refurbishment will be completed early in term 1 – weather and building supply chain permitting
- There will be a small fenced-off area initially, which will grow to the area marked on the plan (attached) as the job progresses. This area is out of bounds to the public and school community
- Most of the lower carpark will be able to be used. There will be minimal impact to the drop off and pick up traffic flow
- Once the building project is complete, we will work with the school and our wonderful community families to explore car park re-sealing options
- Access to Playcentre shouldn't be affected by the building programme
- We continue to welcome all offers of community support to conclude this project, so please feel free to get in touch!
- Any issues or questions should be raised directly with the Hall Committee. Please contact Katie Latimer email: katielat79@gmail.com or phone: 021 853 237

