

# Newsletter

Term 1 Week 10

**“To provide for our children an education that will prepare them for life”**



## PUKEPOTO PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Kupu Whakataki | Principal's Message

Kia ora e te whānau o te kura,

As we come to the end of another wonderful term, I would like to acknowledge the many highlights, achievements, and shared successes across our kura. Our tamariki have embraced opportunities with enthusiasm, and it has been a pleasure to see their growth in and out of the classroom, especially in our junior room.

We now look ahead to another exciting term, with rich learning experiences and events already planned.

I would also like to sincerely thank our dedicated staff, whose commitment and care continue to make a world of difference for our tamariki each day.

Ngā mihi nui to you all for your ongoing support of our kura.



### Te Hiku Swimming Finals



On Thursday 19th, we were incredibly proud to have two of our students, Brieya Maxwell and Kaeah-Ohomairangi Daimond-Puhipi, represent our kura at the Te Hiku Swimming Finals. Reaching this level of competition is such a significant achievement and reflects the dedication, perseverance, and commitment of our tamariki to improving their swimming skills. Both Brieya and Kaeah conducted themselves with pride and represented our school exceptionally well. We are so very proud and extend our heartfelt congratulations to them for this outstanding accomplishment. A sincere thank you also goes to Whaea Yuka for providing transport and supervision on the day, Nga mihi Whaea! We also extend our heartfelt appreciation to Rachel (Brieya's nana) for her incredible tautoko. Your support was truly amazing! Here we go again, koutou, just another special moment highlighting the strength and potential within our awesome little kura.

## Life Education Caravan Visit



On Tuesday 17th, we welcomed the Life Education Caravan to our school, and it was yet again another truly enriching experience for our tamariki. Each year focuses on an area of Hauora for our tamariki. This year, the programme focused on building resilience and equipping our kids with strategies to help them navigate life's many challenges and make positive choices. The amazing Life Ed facilitators (all ex kaiako) provide engaging and interactive sessions that capture the interest of all age groups, making learning both meaningful and enjoyable. It was good to see our tamariki so actively involved and reflecting on their own wellbeing, and we are grateful for the opportunity to host such a valuable programme in our school each year.

## School Netball Team



We are excited to be preparing for the upcoming netball season! This year, we have 9 players representing our kura in the school netball team. Training sessions are held every Thursday, 4:30 pm at the South Road courts and provide a great opportunity for players to build skills, teamwork, and confidence. Games will begin in early Term 2 and will be played each Saturday morning. We look forward to seeing strong participation and team spirit again this season.

## Hauora Lessons

We would like to say a special 'ngā mihi' to Whaea Rita for the ongoing Hauora lessons she delivers each week. These lessons are an important part of supporting the well-being of our tamariki, helping them to understand and care for their physical, emotional, and social health. Students continue to benefit from her thoughtful and engaging approach. It is pleasing to know that these lessons will continue into next term, allowing for further growth and learning in this important area. We value your time, your approach, and your expertise, Whaea Rita!

## ROOM 1 GYMNASTICS



We are very pleased to once again have secured funding for our Room 1 students to attend weekly gymnastics lessons, in terms two and three of this year. These sessions will take place at the Kaitaia Gymnastics Club, beginning in Week 1 of next term.

If you've not yet had a chance to attend one of these lessons with our juniors, you are more than welcome to join us and see it in action. Our tamariki absolutely love it! Gymnastics provides an excellent opportunity for children to develop strength, coordination, balance, and confidence, while also providing opportunities for kaiako to take learning beyond the classroom and contribute to overall student development.

We are grateful for the funding from Sport Northland – Tu Manawa, which has allowed us to continue offering this programme. We look forward to seeing our tamariki thrive in this environment once again. Special thank you to Whaea Ebony Paaka for her amazing tautoko to help us get our funding application approved. You're a legend Whaea Eb!

## Room 4 Swimming Lessons



As part of our successful Tu Manawa funding application, we are also able to provide weekly swimming lessons for our senior students. These sessions will take place at the Te Hiku Sports Hub, facilitated by a qualified swim instructor, while our teina are at the Gymnastics Club. This extra swimming practice will allow our middle and senior students to build on their swimming skills consistently throughout the year, and we all know how important it is for them to develop their water confidence and safety skills, particularly given our local environment. We are very fortunate and proud to be able to offer this opportunity to our kids, knowing that it will have lasting benefits.

## *Kapa Haka/Waiata Tutor*

We are currently seeking a kapa haka tutor to support and grow this important aspect of our kura. If you, or someone you know, has the skills and passion to work with our tamariki in this space, please get in touch with the school office.

## **Music Teacher**



We are also currently seeking a music teacher to support and grow this important aspect of our kura. If you, or someone you know, has the skills and passion to work with our tamariki in this space, please get in touch with the school office



## **School Bus Fees**

We kindly remind whānau to ensure that school bus fees are kept up to date. At present, we have several outstanding accounts, and this is becoming increasingly challenging given the significant rise in weekly bus service costs to our school, increasing from \$500 a week to \$1000 a week with our new bus service provider.

Unfortunately, this is not a cost the school can continue to absorb for much longer, and it may impact the sustainability of the service we currently offer. Therefore, we ask for your support in prioritising these payments where possible.

If you are experiencing difficulty, we encourage you to reach out. Whaea Yuka is available to provide information about an agency that may be able to assist with financial support long-term. We are also aware of the support that you may be able to get from Work & Income, so please let us know if you need help to access these supports. Our goal is to continue offering this important service for our whānau, but we need your help to do so.

## Farewell Whaea Bronwyn

Over the past seven years, we have been incredibly fortunate to have had Whaea Bronwyn as part of our whānau kura. Her presence has been woven into the everyday life of our school — in the quiet moments of care, the laughter shared with our tamariki, and the unwavering support she has given to both students and staff.

Whaea Bronwyn, you have carried your mahi with a deep sense of manaakitanga, always putting others before yourself and ensuring that everyone who walked through our gates felt seen, valued, and supported. You built strong, genuine relationships across our kura, and your kindness and warmth have left a lasting imprint on us all.

As you finish your journey with us, we acknowledge the aroha, dedication, and commitment you have given so generously over the years. While we are saddened to see you go, we also celebrate all that you have contributed and the difference you have made in the lives of our tamariki.

**“E kore e ngaro, he kākano i ruia mai i Rangiātea.”**

**The seeds you have sown here will continue to grow long into the future.**

We send you onto your next chapter, Whaea, with our heartfelt thanks and love. You will be deeply missed, but you will always remain a treasured part of our whānau kura.

## Farewell Whaea Terri

We also say “Farewell” to Whaea Terri. From the moment you re-joined our Pukepoto School whānau, you brought with you a spirit of whanaungatanga and a genuine care for our tamariki and staff.

Your positivity, kindness and willingness to contribute wherever needed have been greatly appreciated, Whaea Terri. You have always been and will continue to be a valued part of our kura, helping us to build connections with our community and supporting others in ways that have not gone unnoticed.

We are grateful for the part you have played in our journey and for the aroha you have shared with us.

And so, we send to you our thanks and best wishes. Haere rā, Whaea Terri and may the path ahead be filled with many more opportunities and great success!

## EASTER RAFFLE

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our entire kura whānau for the incredible support shown towards our Easter raffle. From selling tickets to donating eggs and contributing koha, your generosity and willingness to give has made this a truly successful event.

It is through this spirit of manaakitanga and kotahitanga that we are able to create meaningful opportunities for our tamariki. Every contribution, big or small, has played a part in bringing this together, and we are deeply grateful.

Thank you for standing alongside us and supporting our kura in such a positive and uplifting way. We hope you all enjoyed being part of it and wish you a safe and happy Easter with your loved ones.

Congratulations to all of our winners!  
Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April    | - First Day of Term 2                  |
| Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April | - Weekly Gymnastics & Swimming Lessons |
| Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> April    | - ANZAC Day (School Closed)            |
| Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> April  | - School Photos 9.30am                 |
| Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May      | - Pink Shirt Day                       |

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa mō tō koutou manaaki, tautoko, me te aroha ki tō tātou kura. We thank you all for your continued support throughout the term and acknowledge the hard work of our whānau kura, students and staff.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new term, ready to continue our shared journey of learning and growth together.

Term 2 will begin on Monday 20th April. Please take this time to rest, recharge, and enjoy time with whānau. We wish you all a safe and happy holiday break.

Mauri ora, koutou katoa x



Ngā manaakitanga,  
Tracey King  
Principal / Tumuaki

# CELEBRATING SUCCESS

## PRINCIPAL'S AWARD

Savannah Barber  
for being an amazing and well-mannered student

Lorenzo Semenoff  
for outstanding attitude and effort with all his mahi

## SCHOOL VALUES AWARD

Nathaniel Fache  
for Whanaungatanga

Lavaeah-Jaen Henry  
for Kaitiakitanga

Lorenzo Semenoff  
for Manaakitanga

Stevie-Ray Pouwhare-Tipene  
for Ako

## ATTENDANCE AWARD

Corbyn Maxwell  
for 100% attendance

## CAUGHT BEING GOOD

Ataakura Diamond-Puhihi  
for leadership and manaakitanga in class

Baudyn Maxwell  
for awesome attitude to his mahi in class

Nathaniel Fache  
for showing excellence behaviour management

Corbyn Maxwell  
for showing dedication in his classroom mahi

## SPORTS AWARD

Brieya Maxwell  
Kaeah-Ohomairangi Diamond-Puhihi

for competing at the 'Te Hiku Swimming Sports Finals'

# ROOM 4 - WAKA AMA



## Te Hiku Swimming Sports Finals



## Life Education



# Room 1 - PAL Event



Our Year 1-3 students participated in a multi-sport event at the Hub, competing alongside several other Far North kura. The students rotated through ripper rugby, soccer, and tabloid games, gaining valuable experience in teamwork and sportsmanship. We are very grateful to the supporters who attended to encourage our tamariki; it was clear from their smiles that the day was a huge success.



# Easter Raffle



# Today's Assembly

