

# Newsletter

TERM 2 WEEK 7

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

## PUKEPOTO PRIMARY SCHOOL



We care for  
ourselves, others and  
our environment



We show respect,  
kindness, and  
support



We belong, we  
connect, we are one



We are learners

## Professional Development in Artificial Intelligence

Tēnā koutou e te whānau,

Next Monday, Whaea Mereia and I will be attending a professional development workshop focused on Artificial Intelligence (AI) at Pukemiro School. We will be joining leaders from several of our local schools to learn more about how AI can support teaching, learning, and school leadership. The workshop will be facilitated by Dr Craig Hansen, who has extensive experience working with schools in this area. As technology continues to evolve, it is important that we stay informed about new tools and opportunities that may benefit our tamariki. We are looking forward to bringing back new ideas and learning that can support our kura. During our absence, Whaea Queenie will be teaching in Room 4 and ensuring learning continues as normal. We thank Whaea Queenie for stepping in and supporting our students for the day.



## School Jackets and Shoes



As we move into the colder and wetter months of the year, we ask whānau to please ensure that tamariki come to school dressed appropriately for the weather. Thanks to the hard work of Whaea Yuka, new school jackets and shoes have almost all been distributed to our students. These items have been provided to help keep our tamariki warm, dry, and comfortable throughout the winter season. Please encourage your children to wear their school jackets each day and to come to school in their school shoes. Having the correct clothing helps our students stay focused on their learning and enjoy outdoor activities when weather permits. If there are any issues with sizing or if your child has not yet received their items, please contact the school office. We appreciate your support in helping our tamariki be prepared for the colder winter days at school.



## School Sores and Head Lice



We have recently had an increase in cases of school sores and head lice within our kura. School sores are highly contagious and can spread quickly through close contact between children. If you notice any small blisters, sores, or unusual skin infections on your child, please seek medical advice as soon as possible. It is important not to pop or squeeze sores, as this can cause the infection to spread to other parts of the body and to other children. We also ask whānau to regularly check their child's hair for head lice. If head lice are found, please keep your child at home until treatment has been completed and their hair is clear. By working together, we can help prevent further outbreaks and keep our tamariki healthy.

## **Three-Way Interviews – Thursday 25 June**

Our Three-Way Interviews will be held on Thursday 25 June and we are looking forward to meeting with our whānau. These interviews provide an important opportunity for parents, students, and teachers to come together to discuss learning progress and future goals. At this stage, approximately one-third of our families have booked their interview times. We would love to see that number increase significantly over the coming weeks. If you have not yet secured a time, please contact Whaea Yuka in the office as soon as possible so she can arrange a suitable appointment. These conversations are a valuable way for us to celebrate your child's achievements and discuss next learning steps. We encourage all families to make the most of this opportunity.

## **Ki-o-Rahi Tournament - Thursday 25 June**

Our Ki-o-Rahi Tournament is still scheduled to go ahead on Thursday 25 June. Our tamariki have been enjoying their practices and are looking forward to representing our kura. Ki-o-Rahi continues to be a fantastic way for students to connect with te ao Māori while developing teamwork, fitness, and sportsmanship. At this stage, all plans remain in place, and we are keeping our fingers crossed for fine weather on the day. Unfortunately, poor weather could result in postponement or cancellation, but we remain hopeful conditions will be favourable. We will keep whānau informed if there are any changes to the arrangements. Thank you for your ongoing support of our students as they prepare for this event.

## **Gym and Swim Sessions**

Our Gym and Swim programme continues to be a highlight for many of our tamariki each week. The junior students are making excellent progress as they develop their coordination, strength, balance, and posture through their gym sessions. Meanwhile, our Kokohuia students continue to build their swimming skills, improve their endurance, and increase their confidence in the water. They are also gaining valuable knowledge about water safety and learning skills that will benefit them throughout their lives. It has been wonderful to see students challenging themselves and celebrating their achievements. We are extremely grateful to Whaea Ebony and the team at Sport Northland for securing the funding that has made this programme possible.

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Improving student attendance continues to be a major focus for our kura this year. Last term, only 31% of our students attended school regularly, which was the lowest attendance rate we have recorded. While we understand that illness and other circumstances can sometimes make attendance difficult, regular attendance is one of the biggest factors influencing student success at school. Every day of learning matters, and students who attend school consistently are more likely to make strong academic progress, develop positive friendships, and feel connected to their learning. As a school, we are committed to supporting whānau to improve attendance and remove barriers wherever possible. We ask all parents and caregivers to make school attendance a priority and ensure tamariki are at school every day they are well enough to attend. By working together, we can give every child the best opportunity to succeed and reach their full potential.

## Hāngi Orders

Our Matariki Hāngi Fundraiser has now been opened to the wider community, and the response has been fantastic. We currently have only 50 hāngi remaining for sale, so we encourage whānau to place their orders as soon as possible. Whether you would like a hāngi for yourself, your family, or your child, now is the time to secure your order.

We would like to thank everyone who has already purchased a hāngi and supported our kura. Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated. To place an order, please contact Whaea Yuka in the office.

## NEW STAFF REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD

We would like to congratulate Whaea Mereia on her successful election as the Staff Representative to the Board. Whaea Mereia takes over this important role following the departure of Whaea Terri. The Staff Representative plays a valuable role in ensuring that staff perspectives are represented during board discussions and decision-making. We know that Whaea Mereia will bring enthusiasm, professionalism, and a strong commitment to our kura. She is passionate about supporting our students and contributing positively to our school community. We thank her for taking on this responsibility and wish her every success in her new role. We also acknowledge and thank Whaea Terri for her service and contribution during her time on the Board.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are continuing to look for volunteers who would like to spend time working alongside our tamariki. There are many ways that volunteers can support learning, whether it is listening to children read, helping with activities, sharing skills, or simply being another positive adult presence in our school. If you have some spare time during the week, we would love to hear from you. Volunteering is a wonderful way to become involved in our kura and build connections with our students and staff. Our tamariki benefit greatly from the support and encouragement of our community members. We are proud of the warm and welcoming learning spaces we have created and would love to share them with you. Please get in touch if you would like to find out more about volunteering opportunities at Pukepoto School.

### Welcome to Pukepoto School



Ruru Murray (Year 1)



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Thursday 25 June - Matariki Games/ 3-Way Interviews
- Thursday 2 July - Matariki Celebrations
- Friday 3 July - Last day of Term 2
- Monday 20 July - First day of Term 3

As we move through our busy and exciting term, I would like to thank all of our whānau and community members for the support you continue to show our kura. Whether you are helping with attendance, supporting fundraising efforts, attending school events, or simply encouraging your tamariki each day, your contribution makes a real difference. Our school is strongest when we work together, and we are incredibly fortunate to be part of such a caring and supportive community.

I am proud of the progress our tamariki are making and the positive attitudes they bring to school each day. Please remember that our doors are always open, and we welcome any opportunity to talk with you about your child's learning and wellbeing.



Tracey King  
Principal / Tumuaki

# CELEBRATING SUCCESS

## PRINCIPAL'S AWARD

Ataakura Diamond-Puhipi  
for 100% within her Ako!

Kaeah-Ohomairangi Diamond-Puhipi  
for consistently striving for excellence in her learning

## SCHOOL VALUES AWARD

Brieya Maxwell  
for Whanaungatanga

Lavaeah-Jaen Henry  
for Kaitiakitanga

Werahiko Edwards-Hati  
for Manaakitanga

Lee Busby Gent  
for Ako

## ATTENDANCE AWARD

Savannah Barber  
for 100% attendance

## CAUGHT BEING GOOD

Rhythm Anderson Togiakona  
for showing excellence in his spelling

Werahiko Edwards-Hati  
for showing a positive attitude in solving  
Maths problems

Eram Frost  
for showing awahi to our new students

Ruru Murray  
for her Whakawhanaungatanga

# Mana Ake - Kokohuia (Room4) with Whaea Candice and Whaea Krystal





# Hauora and Taonga Takaroa with Whaea Rita





# KA PAI KAI WITH WHAEA ANNA



EAT  
healthy





# te Hautapu Wananga with Whaea Krystal Taumatamahoe Room 1

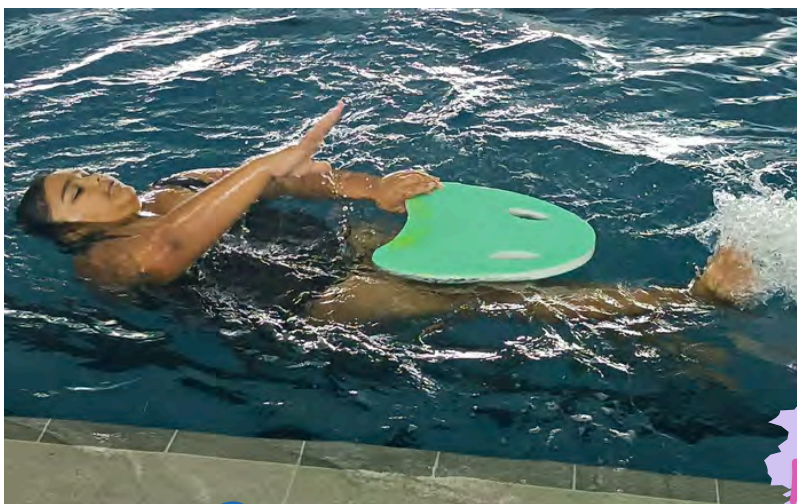


# Highlights



**Gymnastics**  
Taumatamahoe Room 1

**Saturday Netball**



**Swimming**  
Kokohuiā Room 4

**Hauora and taonga takaroa**  
with Whaea Rita

# Today's Assembly

