

# Newsletter

Term 2 Week 3

**“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,

A huge welcome to this week's newsletter. It has been such a joy to look out my office window yesterday and see our playground transformed into a sea of capes, masks, and spinning wheels! These moments of collective joy are what make our school such a special place to belong. I want to extend my deepest gratitude to our families for your unwavering support in everything we do. Whether it is through buying kai to support our fundraisers, giving koha, helping a child with their costume, or simply sharing your wisdom with us, you are the korowai that keeps our school warm and strong. We have a very busy few weeks ahead filled with opportunities to support our tamariki's growth and well-being, and I am excited to share those updates with you below.

### Superhero Dress-Up and Wheels Day for Road Safety Week

Yesterday, our school came alive with energy and excitement as we celebrated Superhero Dress-Up and Wheels Day in support of Road Safety Week! It was a fantastic way to emphasise important road safety messages to our tamariki, reminding them to always use pedestrian crossings and wear helmets. The playground was a sea of colour with capes and creative costumes, showing great school spirit. We are so proud of the enthusiasm and effort shown by our tamariki who participated. We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone in our community who supported our fundraiser for this event. Your generous koha are deeply appreciated. Your help allows us to continue providing these engaging and important educational experiences for our children.

## Pink Shirt Day - Next Friday

Please mark your calendars for **next Friday** when we will be celebrating Pink Shirt Day! On this day, we encourage everyone to wear pink to show our solidarity against bullying and to promote kindness and inclusivity in our school. **This year, we will be raising funds for our school with a combined cake stall and sausage sizzle.** These are always a favourite among our students and staff alike. All proceeds from the day will go directly towards improving resources and programs for our students. We kindly ask for your support, whether by donating baked goods or by coming down to enjoy a treat. Let's come together to make this day a huge success and spread positivity throughout our kura.

## Senior Fundraiser - Hot Lunch Option

Our senior students would like to say a big "Thank you" for supporting their weekly fundraiser. By purchasing a hot lunch, you are directly contributing to their fundraising efforts for their upcoming end-of-year excursion. We will let you know in advance the hot lunch option for each week. We also have available every day, juicees and drinks for \$2 each. Thank you in advance for your continued support in all our upcoming fundraising initiatives!

## Social Worker in Schools (SWIS) with Whaea Krystal

We are pleased to announce that Whaea Krystal, our dedicated Social Worker in Schools (SWIS), will be working with our tamaiti in Taumatamahoe-Room 1. Whaea Krystal will be present **every Thursday afternoon** to provide guidance and support to our children. These sessions are designed to help tamariki develop social skills and build self-confidence in a safe and nurturing environment. To ensure your child can participate, we must have a **signed and completed referral form** returned to the school office. Please make it a priority to locate and complete this form as soon as possible. We are confident that this program will bring great benefits to our students.

## Hauora and Taonga Takaroa with Whaea Rita

We are thrilled to welcome Whaea Rita back to our school **every Tuesday morning**. Whaea Rita will be providing engaging lessons in taonga takaroa (traditional Māori games) for our tamariki. These sessions are a wonderful way to connect our students with their cultural heritage while keeping them active. The focus of these lessons is on promoting hauora (holistic health and wellbeing) through physical activity and cultural practice. It's fantastic to see the children participating so enthusiastically and learning important values like teamwork and respect through play. We are grateful to Whaea Rita for bringing her expertise to our school community.

## Mana Ake Programme with Whaea Candice

The valuable Mana Ake program continues in our senior room under the expert guidance of Whaea Candice. This one-hour weekly session is dedicated to supporting the mental health and emotional well-being of our older students. The program provides tamariki with essential tools and strategies to navigate challenges, build resilience, and develop a positive sense of self. Whaea Candice creates a supportive and confidential space where students feel comfortable sharing and learning. We have seen significant positive changes in our students' confidence and emotional intelligence as a result of their participation. We are fully committed to continuing this vital support system for our senior students.

## King's Birthday Public Holiday

Just a reminder that school will be closed on **Monday, 1st June** for the King's Birthday public holiday. We hope this provides an opportunity for whānau to spend quality time together. School will resume as normal on Tuesday, 2nd. If you have any questions about term dates, feel free to contact Whaea Yuka in the office. We appreciate your support in maintaining strong attendance.

# Matariki Games – Ki-o-Rahi Tournament

As we look forward to the rising of Matariki, we are excited to participate in the upcoming inter-school Kī-o-Rahi tournament. This is a wonderful opportunity for our tamariki to showcase the skills they have been practising and to celebrate our Māori New Year through traditional sport. We would love to have a strong contingent of supporters there to cheer our teams on and share in the festive atmosphere. If you would like to join us for the day, please remember to book your seat on the bus by contacting the school office. Spaces are filling up quickly, so be sure to secure your spot soon to avoid missing out. We look forward to seeing our whānau standing proud on the sidelines as we honour this special time of year together through sport.



## Matariki Arts & Crafts Day



We are currently planning our special Matariki Arts & Crafts Day and are calling on the wonderful talents within our community to help make it a success. Do you have a creative project or a traditional skill that you would love to teach to our tamariki? We are looking for whānau to work alongside our students to create beautiful artworks that will be featured in our upcoming silent auction in Term 3.

Whether your passion is weaving, painting, carving, or any other medium, we would be honoured to have you share your knowledge and passion. This is a beautiful way for our tamariki to learn from their elders and peers while contributing to a meaningful school project. If you are available to join us and lead a small group, please get in touch with the office to discuss your ideas. We can't wait to see the incredible treasures our community creates together!

# A Special Thank You to Our Staff

Finally, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the incredible team we have here at our school. To our hardworking and dedicated staff: thank you for the heart and soul you pour into your work each and every day. Your commitment to our tamariki goes far beyond the classroom; you are mentors, cheerleaders, and steady guides who ensure our school is a place of belonging and excellence.

The energy you bring to events like our Superhero Day and the care you take in nurturing our students' hauora does not go unnoticed. We are truly blessed to have such a passionate group of educators and support staff in our school who work tirelessly to make every day a great day for learning.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Wednesday 13 May - Weekly Gymnastics & Swimming lesson
- Friday 15 May - Pink Shirt Day
- Monday 1 June - Kings Birthday (SCHOOL CLOSED)
- Thursday 25 June - 3-Way Interviews
- Tuesday 30 June - Matariki Games at Taipa
- Thursday 2 July - Matariki Celebrations
- Friday 3 July - Last day of Term 2
- Monday 20 July - First day of Term 3

It is truly a privilege to lead a school where the partnership between home and school is so vibrant and strong.

As we look ahead to the many celebrations and learning opportunities coming up, I am reminded that it takes a village to raise a child, and our "village" is one of the very best. Thank you for the countless ways you contribute to the life of our school—your time, your energy, and your heart make all the difference for our tamariki.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming events, from the sizzle of the Pink Shirt Day bbq, to the creative hum of our Matariki workshops. Let's continue to work together to ensure every child at Pukepoto School feels valued and inspired to reach for the stars.

Noho ora mai,



Tracey King  
Principal / Tumuaki

# CELEBRATING SUCCESS

## PRINCIPAL'S AWARD

Lorenzo Semenoff  
for his Ako in Room 1

Kaeah-Ohomairangi Diamond-Puhipi  
for being an amazing and hardworking  
learner

## SCHOOL VALUES AWARD

Savannah Barber  
for Whanaungatanga

Joela Frost  
for Kaitiakitanga

Kaeah-Ohomairangi Diamond-Puhipi  
for Manaakitanga

Lyndon Frost  
for Ako

## CAUGHT BEING GOOD

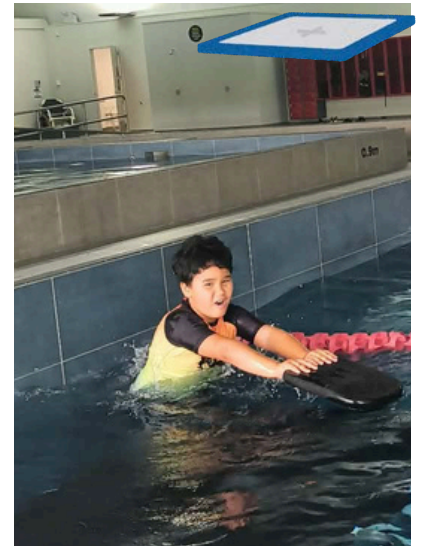
Nathaniel Fache  
for showing dedication in his learning in  
and out of class

Corbyn Maxwell  
for showing a great commitment in his  
learning with a positive attitude

Lee Busby Gent  
for completing his mahi

Baudyn Maxwell  
for moving up a level in his reading

# Weekly Gymnastics & Swimming Lessons



# Mana Ake with Whaea Candice and Whaea Krystal



## ORAL HEALTH LESSON



# Hauora and Taonga Takaroa with Whaea Rita



# SUPERHERO DRESS-UP AND WHEELS DAY FOR ROAD SAFETY WEEK



Congratulations!



# Today's Assembly



## Scholastic Duffy Champion Award

We would like to proudly acknowledge Wiremu and Sarah for receiving the Scholastic Duffy Champion Award. This award recognises their ongoing support, encouragement, and commitment to helping foster a love of reading and learning! Congratulations and thank you both for being such valued members of our whānau

