



NEWSLETTER - week 1, term 4, 17 October 2019

From the Principal

Kia ora e te whānau,

Welcome back to the final term for the year. We are looking forward to another busy and exciting term!

ROOM 7

We are very pleased to welcome Natasha Culveski to our teaching staff this term. Natasha has started up the New Entrant class in Room 7.

SUNSMART - SUN HATS, SUNSCREEN

Summer is approaching (hopefully) and to keep safe from the sun we have the following expectations and recommendations for our students.

- All students should have a named sunhat at school each day. We require the students to wear sun hats that provide protection to the ears and neck as well as the face. Bucket hats, legionnaire caps or “cricket”-style are all suitable. Suitable hats are available at the office for \$18. This can be added to your student account.
- Students without an appropriate hat will be asked to remain in designated shade areas during intervals.
- Students should also wear tops or tee shirts that protect the shoulders from the sun.
- We recommend that students apply sunscreen before coming to school each day. Sunscreen is also available in classes to reapply during the day.
- We also encourage students to drink plenty of fluid during this term; even bringing an extra water bottle can be a good idea. Keeping well hydrated helps prevent sunstroke, heat exhaustion and, most importantly, improves concentration!



‘SHAKE-OUT’ EARTHQUAKE DRILL TODAY

Today is national “shake-out” day. Schools and workplaces across the country held an earthquake and tsunami drill at 1:30 today. This was the first time Plimmerton School has held a drill during a lunch break but the children responded well.

ICAS EXAMINATIONS

Last term, a number of our students took part in these international competitions. Many of our children have done very well! A special commendation to the following two students who gained High Distinction awards (top 1%).



Annamiyka Moreton (English)



Isaac Bott (Mathematics)

Congratulations also to the following students . . .

Year	Subject	Distinction	Credit	Merit
Yr 5	English	Lola B, Joe H, Molly S	Oliver A, Oliver M, Freddy M	William P
	Maths	Liam C	Oliver A, Lola B, Samuel K, Freddy M, Toby O, Hannah P	Oliver M
	Science		Oliver A, Lily M, Hannah P	Lola B, Freddy M, Toby O, Ethan T
Yr 6	English	Tom H, Amelia S, Matthew S	Laura C, Eda M-P, Anais W-P, Angel P, Darcie S-S, Ace VN	Emily K, Zac L
	Maths	Reuben H-Y, Ace VN	Orion BA, James M, Angel P, Matthew S, Felix T	Zac L, Chloe S
	Science		Isaac B, Tom H, Olive M, Angel P, Felix T, Ace VN	Quinn K, Amelia S
Yr 7	English	Nala T	Maia C, Aurora G, Lauree P, Mia P	Jeevika D
	Maths		Xavier B, Jeevika D, Mia P	Zara B, Jiya D, Rory G, Nala T
	Science		Xavier B, Aurora G, Mia P	
Yr 8	English		Elliot C, Hiro H-J	
	Maths		Elliot C, Gabi C, Louis F-G, Isabella P	
	Science		Mackenzie B, Elliot C, Hiro H-J, Milla K	

High Distinction - Top 1% of NZ entries, **Distinction** - next 10% of NZ entries, **Credit**- next 25%, **Merit** - next 10% of NZ entries.

SWIMMING PROGRAMMESÆ

Swimming programmes are underway and Hongoeka and Taupō Syndicates are swimming during Weeks 1 and 2. Kōwhai and Mana Syndicates will be swimming during weeks 3 & 4. All children are expected to bring their togs for swimming unless they have a note from their parents explaining why they are not able to participate.

GALAÆ

The School Gala will be held from 11am to 3pm on Saturday, 16 November. This is our school's major fundraising event for the year and as such is critical to our financial health. The proceeds from the Gala benefit every child in the school. We are dependent upon our school parents and staff to provide the people resources necessary to make this event a success. Although it may be nice to enjoy the entire gala as a visitor, we really need our school parents to pitch in and contribute some of their time to help. I'm sure you'll all show your support and community spirit when contacted by the PTA.

LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAYÆ

This public holiday is in week 3 of this term on Monday 28 October. A reminder that school is closed on this day. .Æ

CLASS PLACEMENTS FOR NEXT YEARÆ

During this term we will be making up class lists for next year. We will be working hard to ensure that we have balanced classes in each area of the school. Positive learning relationships will be considered in this process. We are unable to consider requests for placements with friends or for specific teachers. Parents are requested not to contact me or any teacher to request placement of a child with a friend or with a particular teacher. Parents are welcome to contact me before the end of November if they wish to discuss any other additional needs that they think we may not be aware of and they would like considered in relation to the placement of their child. Students will be told who their teacher for next year will be on Monday 16 December and they will go to their new room and spend some time with their new teacher (where possible) and new classmates.

Ngā mihi

Mike Forrest - Tumuaki/Principal

PTA News

GALA UPDATES

- School holidays - what a great time to get creative and fill some Mystery Jars to sell at the Gala. A long term favourite, but please, make sure there are sensible items in there. Just put things in you would like to receive.
- Thank you to those who have already emailed for a job - if you haven't heard back, sit tight, we are working through them...
- **HELPERS:** Now is the time to put your hand up and grab the job you want! We are needing LOTS and LOTS of people for LOTS and LOTS of jobs ON THE DAY at the Gala - Saturday 16 November. There is an expectation of all parents/caregivers to contribute towards the Gala and work on the day. This is our BIGGEST fundraiser of the year and entails just two-three hours of your time. Our Gala raises over \$45000 of much needed funds so please do your bit. And it would be appreciated if you could contact us, otherwise we spend precious time chasing people! Please contact the Gala Team gala@plimmerton.school.nz

BOOKINGS FOR FAMILY PORTRAITS: <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code> The code is: xn832

Family Portraits Fundraiser

for Plimmerton School:
November 2nd and 3rd

Book now to grab your spot!

- Fundraise for your school and receive gorgeous images of your family
- Your \$25 session fee all goes back to the school
- Prints start from \$24 and packages from \$159
- This years photo shoots will take place outdoors (pets are welcome too) - we'll have a studio backup in case of bad weather.



 *Kirston Walsh*
PHOTOGRAPHER

It's Cool to Korero!

Kia ora e te whānau!

What a lovely day yesterday... With te rā shining, it reminded me of how lucky we are to live in such a beautiful motu. It also reminded me of how careful we need to be in the sun! Out come ngā pōtae, or sunhats.

pōtae - paw-tie

te pōtae - the sunhat (singular)

ngā pōtae - the sunhats (plural)

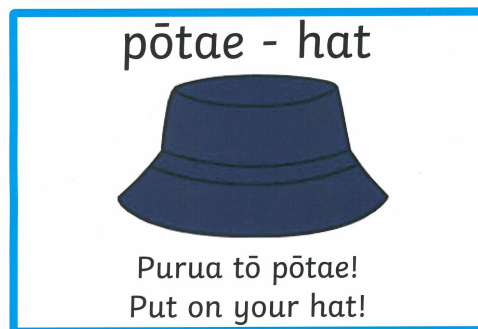
Our rerenga kōrero (sentence) mō te wiki nei (for this week) is,
'Purua tō pōtae!' Put on your hat!

Pu-roo-ah tor paw-tie

Give it a go! It's cool to kōrero!

Ngā mihi,

Whaea Emma



Sports News

WEETBIX TRYATHLON 2020:

Early entries are now open for the 2020 Weetbix Tryathlon. Come and join us as a Plimmerton School group.

DATE: Morning of Sunday, 15 March 2020

LOCATION: Kilbirnie Park, Kilbirnie

ENTRY AGE: Entry is open to all 7 to 15 year olds. (Based on age on event day)

EVENT DISTANCES

7 Years: Swim 50m; Cycle 4km; Run 1.5km

8-10 Years: Swim 100m; Cycle 4km; Run 1.5km

11-15 Years: Swim 150m; Cycle 8km; Run 1.5km

Click on the [Weetbix Tryathlon Register](#) link. For further information please contact Clare Layfield

Community News

These are provided as a service to the community & may not reflect the policies and practices of the school.

LEARN TO SWIM - EASYSWIM SWIM SCHOOL

Bookings are opening for term four swimming lessons at Khandallah, Tawa, Rewa Rewa, Johnsonville and Plimmerton School pools. Early Childhood through to Adults are welcome in our warm private pools. Holiday Courses are running at Tawa and Khandallah in the first week of the holidays and Johnsonville in the second week. For more information visit www.easyswim.co.nz to book call 2347946 or email book@easyswim.co.nz.

PAPAKOWHAI SCHOOL SHOPPING NIGHT. R18 EVENT. FRIDAY NOVEMBER 8TH 7-9.30 PM

Over 25 stalls and lots of raffle prizes, come along and enjoy a night of shopping. Tickets cost \$10 if purchased before November 1st, or \$15 on the night. Tickets get you a glass of bubbles and a light supper. Check out our Facebook pages to see all our fabulous stall holders and a link to buy tickets. <https://www.facebook.com/events/377566112822723/>



**MASSIVE
PLANT SALE**
PAUATAHANUI SCHOOL
SUNDAY 27 OCTOBER
9AM - 2PM

HEDGING PLANTS - FLAX - GRASSES - VEGES
PERENNIALS AND SHRUBS - GROUND COVER -
AND MORE...

Fantastic selection of plants at bargain prices!

FACEBOOK.COM/PAUATAHANUIPOTTYPLANTERS

FREE PARKING AT THE TOP OF THE DRIVEWAY, BRING YOUR TRAILER! SALE ON RAIN OR SHINE!



Paekakariki Surf Lifeguards

**NIPPER
OPEN DAY**

SUNDAY 20th OCTOBER, 2pm
PAEKAKARIKI SURF CLUB
all welcome

email: sandrab@orcon.net.nz for more info

From the Board

WE ARE CEASING KEY HIRE FOR OUT OF HOURS USE OF THE SCHOOL POOL

A few weeks ago we got in touch about concerns we had over the sustainability of key hire for out of hours use of the school pool. Our concerns were:

- We are losing money.
- We are unable to ensure safe water quality for our students.
- We need to protect our assets.

We received a range of replies, most of which were saddened by the prospect of key hire ending but most could see the current system was unsustainable. We also received some startling tales of misuse of the pool. That issue was more of a problem than we realised.

Thank you to those of you that provided feedback, we have considered all your suggestions which included:

- increasing use of volunteers
- lifeguard on duty to test pool and manage behaviour
- increase cost of key hire
- use local pool company for water testing
- use more volunteers to do water testing
- fundraising for additional costs
- limit key access to current pupils and families
- review Easy Swim arrangements to reduce load on pool

As a Board we hold the primary duty of care for the pool under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015. This means we are required to take all practicable steps to ensure everyone using the pool remains safe and healthy. We have also invested money into re-painting and resurfacing over the past few years and we want to ensure we protect this investment for our students.

We weighed all of your suggestions up against costs, health and safety risks, security risks, continued wear and tear, and risk of damage to the pool. But as a board we have made the decision to cease key hire for out of hours use of the school pool for the 2019/2020 season. EasySwim will still be providing lessons after school in term time.

We are aware that this decision will sadden many of you who have fond memories of summer days spent at the pool. Our priority has to be with our students and meeting their needs. The school pool is such an amazing asset that most schools are not fortunate to have. We need to ensure we are protecting our pool for future generations.

RESULTS FROM THE PARENT SURVEY SHOW THE SCHOOL IS IN GOOD HEART

In term 2 the board undertook our biannual parent and caregiver survey. We have completed our analysis of the results and have concluded the school is in good heart. There were a lot of supportive comments for our teaching and support staff. They were described with words such as hardworking, dedicated, engaged, approachable and helpful. Respondents also commented positively on the surroundings, facilities, class sizes, activities and the school culture and values.

We asked respondents eleven questions and the results are below:

Teaching and learning

86% agree their children are encouraged to reach their potential.

80% agree they understood how their child was progressing.

68% agree the school addresses their child's individual needs

Communication and engagement

94% agree they were kept informed about what's going on at school.

90% agree the school made them feel welcome.

72% agree their concerns are listened to and acted on.

Environment and culture

86% agree the school provides a safe environment for their child.

80% agree they understand the school's values.

78% agree the school has an inclusive culture.

Leadership and management

90% agree the school is managed and governed effectively.

88% agree their child is happy at school.

We also asked what could be improved at the school and we received some practical helpful suggestions. Behaviour management and culture was an area some respondents commented that the school needed to work on.

This is an area that is a goal in our strategic plan. The school is currently taking part in the Ministry of Education School-wide Positive Behaviour for Learning programme (PB4L). The programme is not about changing the students; it's about changing the environment, systems and practices you have in place to support them to make positive behaviour choices. We look forward to updating you as we continue to move our way through this exciting programme.

You can find out more about School-wide PB4L on the Ministry of Education website:

<https://pb4l.tki.org.nz/PB4L-School-Wide>.