



PANUI - NEWSLETTER - Week 3, Term 3, 2022

Mai e te Tumuaki - From the Principal

Kia ora e te whānau,

Firstly, let's start with acknowledging some of the great things happening at our kura, which you can read about on page 2. There are lots of positive citations of our kura kids doing great things in the sport, academic, and leadership realms - Congratulations! It has been exciting for me to walk around the classes and see so many different and exciting things happening in our kura. I look forward to seeing the outcomes of these projects while also thinking about how we can celebrate as a school community in Term 4.

Parent Interviews. It was great seeing so many whānau members around school engaging with their children's teachers and hearing the progress they have made so far. It is an immeasurable and worthwhile moment in time connecting with kaiako, making time to listen, encouraging and affirming progress, efforts and success. It really makes a difference to learning when whānau are part of the sharing. If you missed your chance, then book a time to talk with your child's kaiako. Thank you also to our rock star teachers for their effort and time writing the Mid-Year reports.

Last night at our School Board of Trustees meeting we acknowledged and said farewell to a number of our BOT members who are not standing again for re-election. We just wanted to again thank Raj Krishnan, Jasmine Hardy-Mills and Aaron Sherriff for their commitment and dedication towards ensuring our school is in the best possible position it can be and for the hard work behind the scenes to ensure our tamariki gain the best possible outcomes during their time with us. On that note, please remember to vote in the 2022 School Board Parent Elections.

As I have mentioned before I am coming into Plimmerton School with fresh eyes and ideas. I am really looking forward to sharing different surveys or open-door evenings with you to gain feedback on your needs as parents and supporting the future planning of our learning programmes. A big focus is doing the small things well and making sure what we do has a purpose, is meaningful, and meets the needs of our learners. Incorporated into this newsletter is a survey about how we communicate with whānau and our school reporting processes. If you don't share your opinion then change is never possible, so please take the time to be open and honest with your ideas.

SHORT SURVEY - Please click on this [link](#) to complete the survey.

Have a great weekend everyone and I look forward to seeing lots of you at the front gate during drop off/pick up.

Thanks

Chris Steffensen
Principal - Tumuaki

Parent Interviews

Thank you to all the families who took part in our Mid-Year information sharing evenings. It was lovely to catch up with you and share your children's achievements as well as set some goals for the remainder of the year. If you were not able to attend an interview with your child's teacher it is not too late. Please email them directly to set up a meeting in person or via phone/zoom.

School Board Parent Election 2022 - Candidates Confirmed

Candidate nominations closed on Wednesday 3 August and we received 10 nominations, they are:

- Leilani Ah Kuoi
- Peter Nicholas Barton
- Jay Carlsen
- Fraser Clark
- Tracey Jayne Fleming
- Gemma Goldfinch
- Simon Brian Minifie Pearce
- Keith Poore
- Emma Smith
- Aleida van Son

You can read the candidate profile statements further on in this newsletter, they can also be found on the school election website <https://plimmerton.boardelections.nz/>. By now you should have received information on how you can vote electronically, please [email](#) the school if you have not received this information.

Voting is open now and closes on Wednesday 7 September at 4pm. We look forward to your participation in this process.



Sporting Achievement

Jess Woodside recently represented Wellington in the 2022 NZ Gymnastics Championships held in Invercargill in the Step 6 Women's Artistic category. Jess placed 3rd Overall, 1st= Floor, 2= Beam and her team placed 3rd.

It has also been confirmed that Jess will be in the Wellington Year 7 Girls Cross Country team competing at the Inter Regionals Cross Country down in Nelson on 29 Sept Well done Jess!

Sporting Achievement

Tilly Smith has again been selected for the Porirua Basketball U13 Rep Development Team for 2022! She will be training multiple times a week before competing in local competitions in October. May all the hard work you put in pay off with some super star performances!



Year 7/8 Boys Netball Tournament

Last week two Year 7/8 boys netball teams attended a boys-only netball tournament. The day started off with a Zumba warm-up session and then each of the teams played 5 games of netball. For many of the players this was the first time they had played a full game of netball and it was great to see them getting involved and supporting each other. The day was enjoyed by everyone who attended and hopefully it will become an annual event.

After each game the umpires were asked to nominate the most valuable player and at the prize giving a special mention was made about Jamal who received a number of nominations. A huge thank you must also go to our four Year 8 umpires- Maia, Sarah, Becky and Pippa. Between them, they confidently umpired 10 games and were the only student umpires in the tournament.



Porirua Leadership Awards

Recently Porirua's young future leaders were honoured for going the extra mile to serve their schools and the community. The Rotary Clubs of Plimmerton, Porirua and Tawa, and the Porirua City Council presented Primary School Leadership Awards to 64 local school children at a ceremony at Elim Church.

The awards were presented by Rotary District Governor Marilyn Stevens and Porirua Mayor Anita Baker. Our special congratulations to Molly Sherriff and Daniel Lash who were presented with their leadership awards for leadership, service above self, and for being excellent role models.



Published Author

Hot off the press this morning... Petra Hubbard just received the news that her text "There is a Monster in My Head" which she submitted to Toitoti media was selected to be published and will now feature in future school journals.

Wellington Railway Station Trip

This week is Rail Safety Week and Plimmerton School was invited by Transdev to bring a group of students to visit the Wellington Railway Station. On Tuesday morning 26 train enthusiasts from throughout the school spent the morning learning how to drive a train using a state-of-the-art simulator. They drove the train from Wellington to Plimmerton stopping at each station. The rest of the group was in charge of choosing the weather conditions the driver had to face. Most of the 'drivers' spent their time travelling through thunder, lightning, snow and galeforce winds all at the same time.



School Donations

The school donation is voluntary, but any donation makes a huge difference in what we can offer our students. A BIG THANK YOU to those families who have already made donations, we are extremely grateful for your support! If you would like to make a donation but are yet to do so, please read on for further information and for easy payment options.

Library Corner

These winter temperatures provide a great excuse to stay indoors and read. This week's new library books include a sophisticated picture book about Malala Yousafzai (the Pakistani activist for female education and the world's youngest Nobel Prize laureate), a Minecraft book that describes 20 fun projects, sports books about French footballer Kylian Mbappe and one that describes various basketball players, and a wonderful middle fiction book called October October which was the winner of the Yoto Carnegie Medal 2022.



Toby and Asher reading the new book about Malala

October October is about a girl named October who lives in the woods with her dad and unexpectedly has to move to London and live with her mother. The contrast between life in the woods and life in London is huge, and the author skillfully portrays the differences between the two environments and October's struggle with life in a big city.

Orders for Issue 5 of Scholastic Book Club close this Friday (midnight on August 12). Just a reminder that ALL ORDERS MUST BE MADE ON-LINE. The school office will not accept orders. Simply log-in to mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz and click ORDER in the top menu (or REGISTER first to save your details for next time). Then select Plimmerton School and your child's class. Add your child's first name and last initial, and the item numbers from the catalogue. If you have any problems, either see Sarah in the library or contact scholastic at bookclub@scholastic.co.nz; phone: 0800 266 525. All orders will be sent to school for collection.

Scholastic is offering a special deal with this issue. If you spend over \$30, you will receive one free book; over \$50 (2 free books) and over \$70 (3 free books). A list of free titles to choose from will display before Checkout. Thanks for your support.

The persuasive essay writing competition is well underway and some students have already submitted their essays. The closing date is **9 September**. Just a reminder that the top two essay writers from Hongoeka and Taupō syndicates will be awarded a \$25 book voucher and their recommended books will be purchased for the library. Please encourage your children to participate. Additional details about how to craft an essay have been sent to all participating classrooms.

Book Week is being held from 19 September to the beginning of the following week. Planning is well underway for a raft of activities that will be happening. More details will be available in the next newsletter.

Check out our library catalogue to see what books are available (<https://nz.accessit.online/PLM03>). Happy reading, Sarah

School Donations

Last year your donations meant we could purchase 50 student Chromebooks, expand the catalogue of books in Te Korowai Manaaki, our new library, to engage and encourage all our readers, and provide additional reading recovery and teacher aide hours to support our students.

The school is primarily funded by the Ministry of Education. They cover our basic needs of staffing, property, and educational and administrative resources. There is very little scope for cost savings or redirecting ministry funding to cover any extras. Any additional resources are over to us.

As you are aware, COVID has had a significant effect on our PTA being able to fundraise. COVID will impact these efforts again this year, so we have had to cut back on teacher aide time and technology replacement to balance our budget. That means donations this year are even more important to our school, and the greater the generosity, the more we can offer our students.

In 2019 the government announced a policy to fund decile 1-7 schools \$150 per student if schools didn't ask their parents for a donation. This policy is currently **not** available to us as we are a decile 10 school.

In line with the government donation scheme the suggested donation this year is \$150 per student. As it is a donation the amount is up to you and voluntary. If this amount is a stretch feel free to adjust it accordingly. At the same time if you feel you could contribute more, please also feel free to adjust the amount. The school office will generate a tax receipt for any donation amount of which you can then claim 1/3 back from the IRD.

Payments can be made:

- At the school office via Eftpos or by credit card
- By direct credit to the school bank account. Please clearly state your child's surname, DONATION, and your 4 digit parent account number. **Plimmerton School Board of Trustees: 12-3478-0062343-00**
- Alternatively, please complete the [School Donations form](#) on our school website to request payment of the donation via your parent account - you can then pay this off over the next few weeks.

We appreciate your support.

Lunchtime Scootering on the Driveway

Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
Hongoeka	Kōwhai	Taupō	Mana

Rules:



- No scootering without a helmet.
- Only use your own scooter.
- Scooter down the drive and walk up the path.
- Tricks only at the bottom.
- Listen to the scooter patrol.
- 3 strikes and you're out for the session.

Coming Events - to put on your calendar

Tuesday 16 August	PTA gala meeting 7pm in the staffroom. All welcome
Friday 19 August:	PTA Sausage Sizzle
Monday 29 August:	Strike performance for the whole school
Tuesday 30 August:	Hongoeka and Taupō class photos, Hockey, Basketball and netball photos
Friday 2 September:	Onesie day to support Wellington Free Ambulance
Wednesday 14 September:	Crazy hair/Wig Wednesday to support child cancer
Monday 19 to Friday 23 August:	Scholastic book fair at school
Friday 23 August:	Dress up as your favourite book character and whole school interaction day PTA sausage sizzle
Monday 26 September:	Stu Duval author visit

School Board Election - Candidate Profiles

Leilani Ah Kuoi

Kia ora / Talofa lava! My name is Leilani Ah Kuoi and I live in Mana, with my two daughters - Hana Buchan, Year 6 at Plimmerton School and Zara Buchan (formerly at Plimmerton School), Year 10 at Aotea College. I am keen to contribute as a parent representative and I am seeking election to the Board of Trustees at Plimmerton School.

My educational background is in politics, public policy and commercial law. Professionally, I have worked across the education sector for over a decade, in various policy and leadership roles at the New Zealand Qualifications Authority, Ministry of Education and at the Teaching Council of Aotearoa New Zealand. This experience has previously limited my eligibility to contribute to the school as a Board Trustee. As I am now working in another sector, I can offer my knowledge, skills and experience to support the governance of Plimmerton School. I am passionate about student achievement, well-being and equity.

I am a strategic thinker with a collaborative working style and I bring a fresh perspective to the Board. As a parent, I have seen how the school has developed over the last eight+ years and I am keen to build on the momentum that has been created to navigate challenges and foster a strong partnership between parents, staff, our tamariki, Ngati Toa and the wider school community. I currently work in Digital Information Services at WorkSafe New Zealand to support the health, safety and wellbeing of internal staff and I provide strategic advice on harm prevention intervention investment choices. Other roles I have held previously include being a Board member for Porirua Budget Services and the Chairperson for the Fairmont Court Body Corporate.

I would value the opportunity to contribute my education expertise to serve Plimmerton School as a member of the Board of Trustees. Thanks for your support.

Peter Nicholas Barton

I live in Plimmerton with my partner Julia; we have three children at Plimmerton School. I am an active member of the school community evidenced by the School Triathlon which I've run over the past three years alongside other key PTA events. I am also a Cub Leader of five years with Ngati Toa Sea Scout Group.

I work at Porirua City Council where I am the Strategic Partnerships Manager within our Community and Partnerships Group. This includes managing the Children, Young People and Families portfolio at Council. I wish to extend my contribution to our school community by standing for the School Board where I feel my 15 years of management and leadership experience within a central and local Government setting can contribute to the governance of our school.

Jay Carlsen

Tēnā koutou. My name is Jay Carlsen, and I am standing for the Plimmerton School Board (MOE school profile number 2960).

I am a proud Plimmerton resident, and father of three; the eldest is currently in Year 4 at Plimmerton School. With one tamariki currently at the school, and two to start within the next few years, I would love the opportunity to be involved in the school board, helping shape the future success of the school, so all pupils have the best experience possible.

My day job is Commercial Insights Manager for an employee engagement platform called AskYourTeam. I help the company leverage its existing data to tell compelling stories, which add value for both existing customers and to help with the company's growth ambitions. Prior to this, I worked for Sport NZ for three years, where I gained specific experience surveying primary and secondary age school children about their physical activity behaviours and experience at school, ultimately helping schools around the country to improve their physical activity and sport offering.

I feel my research and insights background would be of great value to the Plimmerton School Board, placing a focus on the collection of data and insight to help ensure decisions, many of which directly impact our children, are informed by evidence of some nature.

Outside of work, I am a keen runner and musician, but most of my time is spent with my family, being as active as we can, be it a bush walk, backyard cricket or a scooter ride around the amazing Plimmerton waterfront (normally resulting in an ice cream at the half-way point).

I would really appreciate your support in my aspirations to take on this new challenge of joining the school board. I would love, and am committed, to making a difference for our tamariki, at our amazing school, in this special part of Aotearoa, New Zealand.

Fraser Clark

My name is Fraser Clark, and I am standing for the Plimmerton School Board.

With experience on other Boards, including another school Board, a long connection to Plimmerton, and an understanding of the challenges involved in running a school, I believe I can make a valuable contribution to the school and its continuing success. I was lucky enough to grow up right on Plimmerton beach (where my parents still live) and it was great to be able to move back here with my own family three years ago. Prior

to returning, I was on the Northland School Board for two years. I am also currently a Board member of WaterNZ, the water sector's industry association, and have reported to Boards in a range of senior management roles over the last 15 years.

The school has always been and needs to continue to be an important focal point for the community. You can see the web of friendships and relationships it has created every afternoon at the school gates. It has been great to see my kids (Toby, year 5, and Eva, year 3) comfortably settling in, making new friends, and enjoying being at the school and life in Plimmerton as much as I did.

The Board helps navigate a path through the many challenges of running a school. Issues such as property, health and safety, resourcing, and reporting can all take the time of the principal and staff away from being able to focus on the kids themselves. In my time on the Northland School Board I saw this first-hand, including managing through the construction of new buildings, adjusting resources as student numbers reduced (with parents avoiding the disruption of the construction period) and the implementation of new curriculum. Our current Board have done a great job steering the school through covid's impacts. Hopefully we can now look forward to a more settled period, with the fresh energy of a new principal to help move things forward. I look forward to providing support to him and all the staff if elected.

Tracey Jayne Fleming

My name is Tracey Fleming and I am standing for the Plimmerton School Board. As a past pupil myself, along with my siblings, nieces and now my own daughter, I have strong ties to our school, community and environment. Born and raised in Plimmerton many years ago and now as a mature parent I am invested and pleased for our child to grow here too.

In my work life I have worked in 3 very different Local Authorities (Queenstown, Porirua & Auckland) in the field of Environmental Health. This includes knowledge and skills in assessment, analysis, quality management, verification, negotiation and compliance. Latterly, I have completed studies in Early Childhood Education Level 4 and currently work part-time as a Learning Assistant at Discovery School.

I care about our children, our hard working school community and education. It would be my pleasure to invest my skills in the future of our school.

Gemma Goldfinch

I feel very lucky to live in the Plimmerton community and believe one of the ways of giving back is to play an active role in my children's school. I would like to support my children's school through a role on the Board of Trustees.

I would bring almost 20 years' experience working in education to the role. I have had various roles in education from classroom teacher, to working with special needs students as well as various leadership roles. Throughout this time I have always been an advocate for the rights and needs of students, creating engaging learning opportunities and adapting learning to suit the needs of the learner. I believe that this would be invaluable experience for a role on the board.

I am an experienced Board of Trustees member and have served two terms as the staff representative at my current school.

I enjoy learning and supporting learners. One of the ways I can do this is as a Board of Trustee member. I would like to support our school and children by playing an active part in the next part of Plimmerton's school journey.

Simon Brian Minifie Pearce

My name is Simon Pearce and I am standing for the Plimmerton School Board. I have two sons, Hugo and Eliot, that attend Plimmerton School.

I want to serve on the board to make a positive contribution to the school that is helping to educate my children and to give back to the community that has been good to me. Our family has links in the community going back 40 years.

My professional background is 13 years in financial services, I bring with me a strong financial acumen and experience managing situations with multiple stakeholders. I hold a Bachelor of Agricultural Science and a Bachelor of Accountancy. I've been involved in coaching and or managing the boy's Paremata Plimmerton rugby teams for the last 5 years.

Keith Poore

I am seeking another term on the Plimmerton School Board of Trustees because my four girls have had such a great start there, so it is a privilege to give something back.

My professional background is in finance, I have commercial board experience and was a previous Mana Montessori Treasurer. I have also been a youth mentor for Project K in Porirua. I am a good listener, open-minded and passionate about our kura.

All my family are active participants in the community, from sport, to volunteering, to supporting local. We love this place.

Emma Smith

Hi my name is Emma, I'm a current board member and would love the opportunity to serve another term for the school. I have a very keen interest in education and currently work as a teacher aide, working with children who have special educational needs. I love my job, assisting children in getting the most out of their schooling experience, but I also love contributing to the wider success of a school and creating an environment that benefits all children in being the best they can be, aiding their learning in a way that appreciates the many different ways in which they learn. I also like to challenge myself and my own development, so am currently studying towards a degree in Educational Psychology which has aided in my understanding of the workings of the school and how the strategies implemented impact the students.

My previous career was in HR where I specialised in project roll outs, employment relations, change management and recruitment. Along with my passion for education and my growing knowledge in educational psychology, these are the skills I bring to the board. I'm a proactive member of the board, always questioning and contributing in a positive and constructive way. I have learned a lot over these last three years and feel well placed to offer more over the next three year term.

My husband, Paul and I, have two children at Plimmerton school, in years 5 and 8. We have been in Plimmerton nearly four years now and love our lives here, being a part of this wonderful community and I hope to continue representing you on our school board of trustees, and working alongside our new principal in taking the school forward. Thank you.

Aleida van Son

My name is Aleida van Son, and I am seeking re-election to the Plimmerton School Board of Trustees as a Parent Representative.

My partner Daniel and I have 2 daughters currently attending Plimmerton School (our eldest left to attend Aotea College in 2021). I have been actively involved in the Plimmerton community for many years, firstly at Plimmerton Kindy, where I was on the Kindy Committee for close to 6 years, I joined the Plimmerton School PTA in 2014, where I have helped coordinate many of the school's major fundraising events since.

I began employment at Plimmerton School in 2017, where I initially worked as a Teacher Aide, but I have spent the last couple of years working in the School Office where I am lucky enough to have the best job in the world! My work has allowed me to develop some fantastic relationships with the students, and also their families. I am in a very privileged position to see how the decisions we make as a Board are implemented into the day to day life at school. During the past three years as a Board member I have learnt a great deal, I feel I have made a positive (and proactive) contribution to the team, while always keeping in mind what is best for our children. Three years have flown by and I have more to give, I would be honoured to continue on the Board if re-elected, so thank you for your consideration.

Saturday, 19 November 2022

If you're keen to join the PTA, have any suggestions for fundraisers, or if you'd like to know more, please contact the PTA at PTA@plimmerton.school.nz



For year 7 & 8s!
ANCHOR
NEXT GEN

Onesie and Movie afternoon
Sunday 14 August 3-5pm
Come along with a buddy
Movie Snacks Bible Chill out
Anchor Church, 1 Joseph Banks Drive, Whitby
nextgen@theanchorchurch.org.nz

Plimmerton Volunteer Fire Brigade
Open House!
All Donations Appreciated
All Proceeds Go To Leukaemia and Blood Cancer NZ
Sunday 14th August: 10am - 2pm
Rain or Shine

 leukaemia & blood cancer new zealand

Sausage Sizzle!

Station Tours!
See Inside A Fire Truck!
Squirt A Fire Hose!
Try On Fire Gear!



Nga Manu kicks off Conservation Club for kids



CONSERVATION WEEK - September 5th to 11th

Nga Manu Nature Reserve is giving kids the opportunity to get up close with bugs and grubs and learn to build their own bio-dome during Conservation Week.

Conservation Club will comprise of four one-hour sessions after school from September 6th to 9th.

Bugs & Grubs

Explore the world of creepy critters

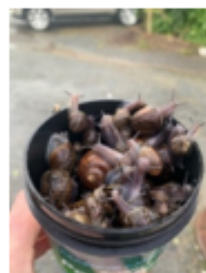
with Ranger Rhys

Wednesday 7th Sept: 3:30–4:45pm

Friday 9th Sept: 3:30–4:45pm

\$15.00 each or \$12.00 for Friends of Nga Manu Trust

Ages 6+ Limited places (8 max per session)



Build a bio-dome

Children will build a bio-dome from leaf litter and microorganisms and propagate native seeds

with Amanda from Enviroschools

Tuesday 6th Sept: 3.30-4.45pm

Thursday 8th Sept: 3.30-4.45pm

\$15.00 each or \$12.00 for Friends of Nga Manu Trust

Ages 6+ Limited places (8 max per session)



Want to come to both? Price for both sessions: \$25 per person or \$20 for Friends of Nga Manu Trust.

Can't make it to any of these? During the weekend of September 10th and 11th, we have a variety of family activities that will appeal to all.

Saturday 10th: Ranger talks on bush birds and whio as well as two eel feedings. At 12.30pm, there's a composting workshop with Eilish, KCDC's waste minimisation advisor.

Sunday 11th: Ranger talks on tuatara and geckos and two eel feedings. At 12.30pm, there will be a trapping and pest information session.

Nga Manu's Spring Wildlife Fundraiser on September 10th & 11th is a Pre-loved Clothing and More sale.

Clothing, including retro, vintage and designer items, shoes, accessories, and nature books will all be for sale at Robin's Nest, starting at 10am both days.



More details are on our website: ngamanu.org.nz