



PANUI - NEWSLETTER - Week 2 Term 4, 2023

Mai e te Tumuaki - From the Principal

Kia ora whānau

As we embark on the final term of this year, it's incredible to reflect on the remarkable journey we've had at Plimmerton School. Term 4 promises to be filled with exciting events, enriching learning experiences, and opportunities for our students to shine brightly. I'm already excited about what 2024 will bring!

In the next couple of weeks, we will share a range of information, including syndicate teacher make-ups and how we are planning to structure classes and learning next year. In a large school there will always be some staff movement so we will also introduce you to some new faces!

We would like to thank everyone who participated in the BOT Strategic review as we look to finalise this document and input the ideas and feedback we received. So watch this space, as 2024 is going to be incredible!

This term, our focus remains on providing a stimulating and supportive learning environment. Our dedicated teachers are planning engaging lessons, interactive activities, and inspiring projects to ensure that every child reaches their full potential.

Last week, we were lucky enough to have Friends of Taupo Swamp (FOTSC) and CRATOS come in with a drone to do a live flyover of Taupō Swamp and our School! CRATOS is a locally-based drone company who are working with FOTSC to map the changes that are occurring in the wetlands. CRATOS launched one of their drones from the Plimmerton Domain and flew it over the local area and swamp. The drone was controlled from inside the school hall and we watched a live feed of its flight. Later in the day classes were able to talk to the drone operators and see the drone up close. We then watched the drone lift a 2 litre milk bottle 115 metres off the ground and drop it on the cricket pitch!





This week the Years 5-8 classes spent time at the Plimmerton Domain investigating features of the swamp in more detail. We were lucky enough to have Natalie Parker who is the Community Engagement Coordinator at Porirua City Council, Mountains to Sea Wellington and a team of volunteers run a number of stations. Students did some planting, visited the MENZ shed, learnt about the local catchment area and learnt how to identify Macroinvertebrates. On Wednesday 25 October it is the Year 1-4s turn to visit the domain. Parents and caregivers are most welcome to come along. Please contact your child's teacher to find out when they are going.

Remember to save the date, 18 November 2023, for our annual School Gala. I look forward to raising money by volunteering in the dunking machine, I'm sure there will be a large queue ;) The PTA has worked all year to prepare and plan this day, so please support it. All money raised goes directly back into our school for our tamariki.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Let's make this term a memorable and successful one for our students. Together, we can nurture bright minds and create a future full of possibilities.

Nga mihi

Chris Steffensen, *Principal - Tumuaki*

Today's Students vs Staff Netball Game: 17-9 to the staff



Coming Events - for your Calendar

Term 4 - Week 3

Wednesday 25 October Years 1-4 visiting the Plimmerton domain
Pestfree Plimmerton visiting Hongoeka and Taupo syndicates
PTA Meeting, 7.30pm

Monday 23 October Labour Day (school closed)

Thursday 26 October Hongoeka Athletics day
Pestfree Plimmerton visiting Motuhara and Mana syndicates
Board of Trustees Meeting, 7pm

Friday 27 October National Teachers Day

Term 4 - Week 4

Monday 30 October Taupō Athletics Day

Wednesday 1 November New Entrant Photos
Beekeeper visit to Mana Syndicate

Thursday 2 November Beekeeper visit to Motuhara Syndicate
Author Gillian Candler visiting Motuhara and Mana syndicates

Friday 3 November Mana Syndicate Swimming Sports

PB4L Gem Focus

Our school wide focus for weeks 1-4 is about being a sun smart school.

Teachers will be doing lessons in class about why it is important for us to be sun smart and all children and staff need to be wearing a wide-brimmed hat (no caps) when they are outside.

If you would like to purchase a school hat they are for sale in the office for \$18.00.

Plimmerton is a sunsmart school

When we are outside we:



slap on a brimmed hat



slop on sunscreen



slip on clothing that covers as much skin as possible



slip into the shade if we forget our hat



wrap on sunglasses

Whitireiatanga
We aim high



Parumoana Rippa Tournament

On Monday ParaPlim Rugby Club held a rippa rugby tournament for the Parumoana schools. Plimmerton School entered 2 teams in the Year 5/6 tournament and 2 teams in the Year 7/8 tournament.

All teams played 5 games during the day and had a mixture of wins, losses and draws. There was an awesome atmosphere down at Ngati Toa and the Plimmerton teams displayed great team work, sportsmanship and enthusiasm.

Thank you to the parents who managed the teams on the day and to the supporters who came down to cheer our teams on.



Student Achievement

On Friday the 6th of October Phineas attended the national championships for wrestling (Olympic style) at a Tauranga Boys College with his local club (Tawa Tigers), competing in the 30-34kg weight range, and he took first place. Only the top wrestlers from each club attend nationals and Phineas won each of his 4 matches.



Library Corner

“Reading for pleasure is fundamental to complete literacy” (Kate Di Goldi).

Welcome to term 4 with lots of activities planned including issue 7 of Scholastic Book Club, the round robin chess competition, the library survey (what can the library do better to meet the needs of staff and students) and also the opportunity for our leaving staff and students to donate a book to the library inscribed with their name.

But first... I attended the Library Association Conference during the first weekend of the holidays. It was amazing to be in a room with celebrated authors, inspiring presenters and passionate librarians. Speakers included Megan Daley (recipient of the Australian Teacher Librarian of the Year), Alan Dingley (the current Te Awhi Rito NZ Reading Ambassador) and Darryn Joseph and Kate Di Goldi (both published authors). The conference reinforced the importance of reading. Reading not only improves literacy but it is also great for mindfulness and for encouraging kindness, compassion and for appreciating different perspectives. Research continues to show that those who read have massively improved outcomes in terms of literacy and that reading is a powerful tool to escape poverty and build nations of compassionate, well-balanced individuals. So I challenge you to read with your children - 5-10 minutes per day. Make this a MUST DO activity in your household.

I also seemed to have had the midas touch during the conference and won \$200 worth of Super-Readables for our library (thanks Library AV NZ), a book covering roll, a signed book from Darryn Joseph and a LinkTV box.

The acrostic poem (created by myself with more than a little help from ChatGPT) summarises my thoughts about reading.



We have had some fabulous new books these first two weeks of term, including a fiction book about the Titanic (where one of the perspectives is told from a stowaway on-board the *Carpathia*, which was the first ship to get to the Titanic after it hit the iceberg), a story about how do you forgive yourself when no one else will (The Impossible Story of Hannah Kemp) and a very clever picture book - I See I See by R. Henderson which is a picture book best read with a friend where each reader views the page from a different perspective.

Issue 7 of Scholastic Book Club will have been brought home last week - this is our last book club for the year and I thank you so much for your support throughout 2023. This issue contains some great Christmas books and bargains. If your order is a gift, please let me know and I will store it in the library for collection rather than delivering it to your child's classroom.

Orders for issue 7 must be made by **Sunday 22 October** and they 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). You 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@bookclub@scholastic.co.nz; phone: 0800 266 525. All orders will be sent to school and WILL ARRIVE IN NOVEMBER.

Please remember to check out our library catalogue - <https://nz.accessit.online/PLM03>.

Happy reading,
Sarah

2023 Term Dates, Holidays & Teacher Only Days

Term 4

Starts: Monday 9 October

Labour Day - Monday 23 October

Teacher Only Day - Monday 13 November

Ends: Wednesday 20 December

2024 Term Dates, Holidays & Teacher Only Days

Term 1

Starts: Thursday 1 February

Waitangi Day - Tuesday 6 February

Easter - Friday 29 March - 2 April

Ends: Friday 12 April

Term 3

Starts: Monday 22 July

Ends: Friday 27 September

Term 2

Starts: Monday 29 April

Teacher Only Day - Friday 31 May

King's Birthday - Monday 3 June

Matariki - Friday 28 June

Ends: Friday 5 July

Term 4

Starts: Monday 14 October

Teacher Only Day - Friday 25 October

Labour Day - Monday 28 October

Ends: Wednesday 18 December

Plimmerton School PTA



proudly supported by

AM *Janssen*
Harcourts Team Group

GALA - News

The Plimmerton School gala is on Saturday 18 November from 11-3pm.

Volunteers

The Plimmerton School Gala is our biggest fundraiser of the year and we simply couldn't make it happen without a great team of volunteers! We are looking for families to donate some hours either on the day or prior to the day for sorting in the school hall. There are literally loads and loads of things to be done: working in the kitchen, food stalls, book / clothing / toys stalls - the list is endless! So please complete the form that was sent via Hero or email your interest to pta@plimmerton.school.nz. You can find the form here: (please insert link)

Mystery Jars

The mystery jars are a huge hit each year at the gala and sell out quicker than anything else - except maybe the cakes! For those of you who are new to school or who haven't been part of the gala previously - a mystery jar is exactly that. You simply get a jar (any size) and fill it with goodies that kids would enjoy ie hair ties/clips, mini cars, balloons, stickers, trinkets, lollies, bubbles - the list is endless). Once the jar is full, wrap it up and drop it to the office!

You can also donate items for mystery jars and we are happy to make them up for you. Also bring in your clean jars with lids for this purpose.

Remember to keep it fun for the kids and put things that they would enjoy in there. Mystery jars can be dropped to the school office in the week leading up to the gala.



White Elephant Sale

Now is a good time to check out your cupboards, under the stairs, drawers, toy boxes and the garage! Plimmerton School Gala is looking for good quality goods for the white elephant sale! Clothing, toys, sports equipment and gear, books, bric-a-brac and crockery. Remember one man's junk is another man's treasure!

That said, we don't accept TV's, computers, hard drives, screens or printers. All toys must be in saleable and working condition. Clothes should not be dirty or ripped! Please do not send underwear or socks.

Plimmerton School likes to be as eco-friendly as possible. If you have any spare banana boxes, reuseable eco bags or brown paper supermarket bags with handles, we would love to take these off your hands!

The school hall will be open Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 November between 10am - 2pm for drop-offs as well as during school hours from Monday 13th - Friday 17th November.

Raffle tickets

For those who have not been part of the gala before, the Gala community raffle is sold in the community, prior to and during Gala day. Please sell your allocation of tickets as soon as you can.

We have some amazing prizes for this year's community raffle (see below). We have printed 5,000 tickets, so if we can sell them all we will have made \$10,000! Very soon your family will be receiving two books of raffle tickets to sell (20 tickets - \$2 per ticket). This year we will be offering a selection of prizes for the families who sell the most tickets, these will be on display in the office next week. Come and see the office for more raffle books to sell, or to return your raffle stubs with the money collected. The raffle ticket's highest sales prizes are sponsored by [Parka Insurance](#).

Gala Community Raffle Prizes:

- 1st prize: Pacific Horizon Motorhomes - 7-day mid-winter holiday valued at \$2,000
- 2nd Prize: City Fitness Porirua - Premium Gym Membership valued at \$883
- 3rd prize: FS Cycles - Fox Racing Clothing Package valued at \$750
- 4th prize: Plimmerton Motors - WOF and service package valued up to \$400
- 5th prize: Mitre 10 Upper Hutt Vegepod Kitchen Garden valued at \$399
- 6th prize: Easyswim - Swimming lessons valued at \$300
- 7th prize: Zohar Holistic Acupuncture - treatment valued at \$200
- 8th prize: Mana Pharmacy - Hamper valued at \$150
- 9th prize: Kapiti Chocolate Factory - Selection valued at \$75

We don't want to bombard you with all of the gala information at once, so stay tuned to future newsletters and Hero messages about how you can contribute to making this our best gala ever!

The PTA Gala Organising Team

GALA - Sponsorship

We sincerely thank AM Janssen and Team Group/Harcourts Paremata for their continued support as the primary sponsor of our event, back again in 2023 :-)

Would your business like to support our event too? This year we have three tiers of support on offer:

1. Gold Sponsors - \$500 + of cash or product/service
2. Silver Sponsors - \$200 + of cash or product/service
3. Bronze Sponsors - \$100 + of cash or product/service

For all the details of what you get for these tiers and how to sign up, please email sponsorship@plimmerton.school.nz.

Join the PTA

The PTA is always looking for new members so please think about joining this dedicated group of parents. Meetings are held at 7.30pm in the staffroom on the 1st Tuesday of each month. If you would like to know more about the PTA or offer your help at future fundraising events please email the PTA at pta@plimmerton.school.nz



Community Notices

KELLY SPORTS IS BACK FOR TERM 4 - SPRINT INTO SPORTS!!

The Kelly Sports sessions are a great way to improve your child's motor skills and coordination within a FUN environment. We aim to develop and enhance balls skills, catching, kicking and throwing, while improving strength, flexibility, hand/eye coordination and spatial awareness. In Term 4 we will be focusing on the following sports: *T-Ball, Athletics, Cricket and Football!*

We teach new skills and improve ability by using games, drills and exercises. It's a great way to try new sports, improve skills and maintain fitness - all while having FUN! To Enrol go to www.kellysports.co.nz and in the school box put "Plimmerton"

AOTEA COLLEGE STUDENTS ARE PUTTING ON A...

Year 7 & 8 Party!

Friday October 27th 6pm - 8pm
Aotea College Gym

DISCO
LOCAL DJ
GAMES
LOLLY SCRAMBLE
SELFIE SPACE
AND MORE!

\$5 entry only
\$10 entry+baking+drink+lollies

BRING SOME \$ FOR...
COMPETITIONS
TATTOOS
HALLOWEEN FACE PAINTING



THIS IS A FUNDRAISER FOR AOTEA COLLEGE STUDENTS TRIP OF A LIFETIME TO JAPAN... PLEASE SUPPORT US!

PRE-SALE FORM: <https://forms.gle/qnMcwhTvHshnSwQTA>
FOR MORE INFORMATION: <https://forms.gle/qnMcwhTvHshnSwQTA>

FULL ADULT SUPERVISION
PARTY-GOERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO BE COLLECTED BY AN PARENT/ADULT

Pre-Sale Form: <https://forms.gle/4oHoqzhLifhirYQc6> For more Information: <https://forms.gle/qnMcwhTvHshnSwQTA>

JOIN AN ATHLETIC COMMUNITY THAT IS PASSIONATE, DETERMINED, AND SUPPORTIVE



Whether joining Athletics for fitness or fun, or looking to compete locally or nationally, we cater for everyone from 5 years and up. The 2023-24 season will run from 17th October 2023 to 31st March 2024, with a short break for Christmas. Club nights offer a mixture of competition and coaching to enable children to gain the necessary skills to participate in a variety of running, jumping and throwing.

Join for a full summer season or join from October-December. If you're unsure about committing, just come along and give a club night a go. Check us out at manaathletics.co.nz or on Facebook: Mana Amateur Athletics Club



MEGA *Garage* SALE

SATURDAY, 28 OCTOBER
9AM - 1PM

PAREMATA SCHOOL - PAREMATA CRES

2ND HAND ITEMS, FOOD & MORE

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*Join our Western Suburbs
Fantails Hub today!*



Are you wanting to give football a try?



Introducing **Western Suburbs** Fantails Hub!

Our Fantails Hub is for **girls aged 6-12 years** who are new to football, or want to play football more socially.

Our sessions introduce young females to the beautiful game of football with a focus on helping girls make friends, having fun, improving their skills and being active.



Find out more and register via the QR code or at
<https://westernsuburbs.co.nz/wests-fantails/>

Does your child like to sing, dance, act and perform?

Would you like your child to build more
confidence and make more friends?



Performing arts classes led by a
London West End performer!

After school and weekend classes in
Aotea, Johnsonville, Karori, Newtown,
Lower Hutt, and Upper Hutt!

Two-week trials available.



SPOTLIGHT
PERFORMING ARTS

For more information, please visit


www.spotlightperformingarts.co.nz



GIVE IT A GO THIS SUMMER!

Find your local club at athletics.org.nz

Thanks to our partners

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