



Parua Bay School

"Success Through Effort"

"Ma te mahi ka matou"

Newsletter – 8th February 2017

Term 1, Week 2

Kia ora parents / whanau

It has been a simply magnificent start to the year at Parua Bay School - the weather is absolutely stunning, the teachers are re-generated and enthusiastic, the classroom environments, especially Rooms 1-8, have had a makeover and the students are raring to go.

For those of you who have popped into school, you will have noticed Rooms 1-4, the junior area of the school, Years 0-2, have had a complete transformation. These classrooms have now become modern learning environments - new autex on the walls, new carpets, glass sliding doors, a breakout space for independent reading / writing, brand new whiteboard units housing large televisions connected to the wireless via chrome boxes, freshly painted, new heat pumps / air conditioning units and new LED strip lights. It's really exciting also to witness the start of the roll growth development at the far end of the school. This 4 classroom modern learning environment will be ready for Term 3 this year and it will house our Year 3/4s.

Although there are many benefits and challenges associated with teaching and learning in collaborative settings, the main purpose for moving away from single cells classrooms, with learning occurring from the front of the class in an autocratic manner, is for students to take control of their own learning, instead of being viewed as a beaker to be filled with knowledge. With this focus, it is imperative for students to learn and understand how they best learn - an awareness of their own learning habits (metacognition). Students need to understand that they are capable of managing their own learning, and that they can solve problems by themselves or with each other. The world no longer requires the majority of its workforce to be manual labourers; most jobs require a certain amount of independence, self-managing and problem solving skills.

Our journey with "collaborative teaching and learning practices" began, in earnest, at the beginning of last year, and although the school is not yet set up with Modern Learning Environments, we feel that we have made a solid start to this changed way of thinking. Students and staff, surveyed at the end of 2016, showed great increases in confidence, satisfaction and knowledge of collaborative practices; however, the results of parents' perceptions of "collaborative practices" declined at the end of the year. Due to this decrease in confidence and understanding of collaborative practices, as shown in the survey results, we have arranged a meeting to be held in week 6 to discuss these issues. On Wednesday 8 March from 6.00 - 7.30 p.m. there will be an opportunity to hear from us about what happened last year in our collaborative practices. There will also be a chance to ask questions and raise any concerns you may have. This meeting will also be shared with an opportunity to hear about the Keeping Ourselves Safe programme being delivered later this term.

Finally, please be aware that two mornings a week (Tuesday / Thursday) the teachers meet in the staff room at 8.15 a.m. for a briefing which lasts usually no more than 10 minutes. Teachers are timetabled (2-3) to be in and around classes at this time of the morning, but it is important to realise that there will be fewer teachers around at these times.

I look forward to welcoming you all to the "Meet the Teacher" social this afternoon from 4.30 - 6.30pm on the school field.

Nga mihi nui
Danny Jewell



Upcoming Events



Wednesday 8 th February	Meet the Teacher Picnic - 4.30-6.30pm
Tuesday 14 th February	Scholastic book orders due
Monday 20 th February	Y7/8 Parua Bay School - Swimming Sports Competition
Thursday 23 rd February	Y4-6 Parua Bay School - Swimming Sports Competition
Friday 24 th February	Y4-6 Parua Bay School - Swimimng Sports non-competition
Monday 27 th February	Y5-8 Zoned Swimming Championships with Whangarei Heads School -10.00am
Monday 27 th -Wednesday 1 st March	Y4 Camp
Thursday 2 nd March	Y4 Zoned Swimming Championships with Whangarei Heads School -10.30am (selected students only)
Tuesday 7 th March	Y4-8 WPSSA Swimming at Whangarei Intermediate school (selected students only)
Wednesday 8 th March	Collaborative meeting/Keeping Ourselves Safe - 6.00-7.30pm
Tuesday 14 th -16 th March	New entrant conference (after 6 weeks at school) 3-6pm
Thursday 16 th March	Y3 Camp Year 6-8 Triathlon 10-12.30pm
Tuesday 21 st March	Y4-6 WPSSA Summer Sports
Thursday 23 rd March	Y2 Camp Lit Quiz Y0-1 Beach clean up
Tuesday 4 th April	Y7-8 WPSSA Summer Sports
Tuesday 28 th March -29 th March	Student Led Conferences at Parua Bay School
Thursday 13 th April	End of Term 1



Healthy Eating at Parua Bay School



It is our obligation and duty to promote healthy eating and lifestyle as part of our curriculum at Parua Bay School. Therefore, the Senior Leadership Team has decided to reduce the number of days we will allow fast food into the school for lunches to 2 days: Tuesday and Thursday only. On these days students will be allowed to eat hot chips, pizza, pies and other fast food options delivered from shops across the road.

In the rare event that a parent runs out of time and cannot prepare a packed lunch for their child on one of the other three days, Monday, Wednesday or Friday, we will have a reserve of food at school and we will ensure that your child has lunch that day.

I know this may be an inconvenience to some of you; however, I am sure you will agree that we have your child's best interests at heart when making this decision.

Remember Tuesday and Thursday only!

The following information will be handy as we start the school year:

- ✓ **Newsletters** are issued every Tuesday via e-mail. If you do not receive one please contact the school office to ensure we have the correct email. Please notify the school if you wish to receive a paper copy of the newsletter. Newsletters are also available on our website (www.paruabay.school.nz).
- ✓ It would be appreciated if all pupils have their **stationery** by the end of this week. Stationery lists are on the school website or available from the school office.
- ✓ Parua Bay School is a '**no litter**' school. This means that students take their lunch wrappings home. Please assist us by ensuring that items in the school lunch boxes are able to be disposed of properly. Food scraps (excluding citrus and banana skins) may be left at school in the "Chook Bucket".
- ✓ We discourage students from bringing lollies and fizzy drinks into our school. Please pack a **drink bottle** with water as students can refill these during the course of the day. 
- ✓ Years 0 - 3 students who use the **bus transport** need to have a written note from their parents if there is a deviation in their normal method of transport. At all other year levels we do appreciate it if you are able to notify the office if your child is permanently off or on any buses on a particular day. 
- ✓ Assemblies will now be held every 2 weeks. The Juniors Years 1-4 will be held on Fridays at 9.00am and the Seniors Years 5-8 on Wednesdays at 2.00pm
- ✓ **School starts at 8.45am** each morning. It is important for students to be punctual. Students are not allowed in the school grounds prior to 8.15am, unless they are bus users.
- ✓ Break times :



✓ Session One	✓ 8.45am - 10.45am
✓ Morning Tea	✓ 10.45am - 11.15am
✓ Session Two	✓ 11.15am - 12.45am
✓ Lunch	✓ 12.45 pm - 1.30pm
✓ Session Three	✓ 1.30pm - 2.45pm



- ✓ Please phone school on the day explaining why your child is **absent** before 9:00am. It is important we know where your child is, if they are not at school. If your child has an unexplained absence you will receive a text asking for an explanation.
- ✓ Please **name all clothes and children's equipment/belongings**. This is really important at this time of the year when many students have similar stationery and other items.
- ✓ **Swimming** is part of our Physical Education Curriculum and we do require children to bring togs (swimming costumes). If your child cannot swim for medical reasons we DO require a note. Please name all togs and towels as well as clothing.

- ✓ During these early weeks of school protect your child by giving them **sun protection** - sunhats, sunscreen and sensible clothing. Bucket hats in Whanau colours are available from the school office (\$10.00). Our school has a Sunsmart policy. Remember 'no hat, no play'.



- ✓ We love **parents to visit the school**. Under OSH rules we are required to sign you in at school when you are here for any length of time (5 mins or more). PLEASE come to the office and record your name when you arrive, and also do the same on departure.
- ✓ We are fortunate to have an amazing **Friends of Parua Bay School (PTA)** who support our school in many ways. However they are always looking for new faces and ideas at their meetings, so keep an eye on the upcoming events to attend the next meeting.
- ✓ Keep up to date with happenings in our school by checking out our calendar on our **official school website**: www.paruabay.school.nz
- ✓ Before and after school care is available at Parua Bay School through sKids. If further information is required please visit their website www.skids.co.nz.
- ✓ **And finally** if you have any queries regarding our school please do not hesitate to contact us. Parua Bay School has an open door policy and you are welcome in the classrooms at any time. If you have a concern please approach your child's teacher or team leader. If it is a general concern, contact Carol Abbott (Principal's Secretary) and she will make an appointment with either the Principal or Team Leader.

Term Dates / Public Holidays for 2017

Term 1	10 ½ Weeks
Tuesday 31 st January	Teacher Only Day
Wednesday 1 st February	Teacher Only Day
Thursday 2 nd February	First Day Term 1
Monday 6 th February	Waitangi Day
Thursday 13 th April	Last Day Term 1
Friday 14 th April	Good Friday (Public Holiday)
Monday 17 th April	Easter Monday (Public Holiday)
Tuesday 18 th April	Easter Tuesday (School Holiday)
Term 2	10 Weeks
Monday 1 st May	First Day Term 2
Monday 5 th June	Queen's Birthday (Public Holiday)
Friday 7 th July	Last Day Term 2
Term 3	10 Weeks
Monday 24 th July	First Day Term 3
Teacher Only Day (date to be confirmed)	
Friday 29 th September	Last Day Term 3
Term 4	9 Weeks
Monday 16 th October	First Day Term 4
Monday 23 rd October	Labour Day (Public Holiday)
Tuesday 19 th December	Last Day Term 4

Staffing Structure for 2017

Principal		Mr Danny Jewell
Deputy Principal		Mrs Ange Vette
Assistant Principal		Mrs Hazel Smith
Principal's Secretary		Mrs Carol Abbott
Year 1	Room 3	Ms Donna Chapman
Year 1	Room 4	Mrs Carolyn Henwood/Mrs Caroline Wilson
Year 2	Room 2	Mrs Amanda Askew
Year 2	Room 1	Miss Melissa Mattushek
Year 3	Room 12	Mrs Helen Smith
Year 3	Room 13	Mrs Marian Chubb
Year 4	Room 5	Mrs Barbie Reynolds
Year 4	Room 6	Miss Sam McNeight
Year 5/6	Room 7	Ms Rai Shortland
Year 5/6	Room 8	Mrs Gail Green
Year 5/6	Room 9	Ms Deanna Uttley
Year 7/8	Room 10	Miss Lynfa Harris
Year 7/8	Room 14	Mrs Ange Vette
Year 7/8	Room 15	Mrs Christian Reynolds
Release		Ms Tineke Martin
Support Staff		
Office Assistant	/ Librarian	Mrs Linzi Morgan
Teacher Aides		Mrs Jenny Snell
		Mrs Rebecca Anderson
		Mrs Claire Harrison
		Mrs Crystal Rhodes
		Mrs Karen Anderson
Caretaker		Mr Lynton Hammond
Cleaner		Mrs Bev Niha

Board of Trustees

Under the Education Act 1989 Board of Trustees were elected from the local community, with elections being held every three years. The main purpose of the Board of Trustees is overall governance of the school.

The Parua Bay School Board of Trustees are:

Parent Representatives:	Tangiwai Baker, James Buckland, Kathy Faulker, Staci Paul, Conal Summers.
Staff Representative:	Helen Smith
Principal:	Danny Jewell

Whanau Competition

Manaia

Taihika

Pakikaikutu

Motukiore

The names of each whanau group are of particular significance to our community. During pre-European times, local hapu (sub tribes) would warn the iwi (main tribe) at Parihaka of approaching danger by a series of signals beginning at Mt Manaia who would in turn signal hapu at Taihika (Mt Tiger). They would then send a signal to Motukiore (the island out from Solomon's point) who would relay it on to Pakikaikutu (the mountain range above Waikaraka). The signal would then go to Onerahi and on to Parihaka at which point the iwi could prepare for the danger of an approaching war party.

Upon enrolment, every child at Parua Bay School is placed into one of the above whanau groups. Children are always placed in the same whanau group as any previous or current siblings and whanau. Children will remain in that whanau group for the duration of their time at Parua Bay School. Teachers are also placed into a whanau group.

Students participate, and learn healthy competition through lunchtime sports competitions and academic competitions, as well as gaining points through demonstrating the four kinds in and around the classroom and wider community. School wide events, such as Swimming Sports, Triathlon, Athletics and Cross Country greatly contribute towards the overall points.

With the students developing a sense of belonging and pride within their whanau, along with the growing history and prestige of the Whanau Competition, this year promises to be another exciting year of competition. We welcome and encourage parents and whanau to get in behind this initiative. You can do this by coming along to watch and support your children during the lunchtime sports competition, academic events and of course the school wide events such as Swimming, Triathlon, Cross Country and Athletics.

Lunchtime Sports Competition

Every Tuesday and Thursday at lunch time, between 1:00pm and 1:30pm, children from year four to eight compete in a sports competition. There are usually one or two competitions per term. These are usually in the form of a round robin competition, followed by a 3rd and 4th play-off and a final. Previous sports include water polo, capture the flag, ripper rugby, volleyball, dodgeball and strategy ball to name a few. The winning whanau is presented with a trophy at assembly as well as 4000 points.

During the first half of term one 2017, whanau groups will be competing in 'Capture the Flag'. Week two will be an opportunity for the kids to have a go in order to familiarise themselves with the rules and strategies. The round robin competition will begin on Tuesday, 16th February.

I would strongly encourage parents/caregivers to come along and watch their children participate and compete in this competition if you have the opportunity.

The Parua Bay School Inter-Whanau Competition has been running since 2012, with the Whanau Champions Trophy having been won by Pakikaikutu in 2012, 2013 and 2014. Taihika were the 2015/2016 champions. This year promises to be another tightly fought battle.