



## PANUI - NEWSLETTER - Week 8, Term 1, 2022

### *From the Principal*

Kia ora e te whānau,

As covid has spread through the community, many students and families have been affected. We are grateful that we have so far avoided having any students seriously ill, and have been able to keep all classes continuing at school.

It was wonderful to see our Hongoeka students getting out to Kapiti Island this week. Thank you to the Hongoeka staff and parent volunteers for ensuring this could go ahead within the current health requirements. Learning outside the classroom setting is such an important part of children's learning, and it has been hard having to restrict this. We are eagerly awaiting the Ministry of Education's advice to see what the recent government announcements will mean for increasing outings and sporting and cultural events!

It's now 20 days to Easter and the school holidays! Keep reading for info on the PTA Easter fundraiser and competition.



### INFORMATION SHARING INTERVIEWS

This term teacher-whānau interviews will be held on Wednesday 6th April and Wednesday 13th April.

These interviews will take place at school in your child's classroom, or via phone, and all parents/caregivers are encouraged to attend. Interviews are 15 minutes in length. The first block of interviews is from 3:15pm to 5:00pm and the second block is from 5:45pm to 7:45pm.

The purpose of these interviews is to meet your child's teacher, share a picture of your child's current achievement, discuss next steps, and how you can help at home. Students are welcome to attend with their parents/caregivers.

To ensure everyone's safety and meet the current guidance, caregivers attending an on-site interview will need to wear a mask, maintain a 1-metre distance from other families while waiting to go into their interview and sanitise as they enter/exit the classrooms. If you do not feel comfortable coming into school for your meeting please select the phone option when you are booking your interview(s) and your child's teacher will call you for a phone interview at the allotted time. We will also call you if you end up isolating at the time of the interviews.

Bookings for appointment times are available directly at this [link](#) which will take you to "Book School Interviews Online". Enter the Code 6w5wz then book your interview(s.) If you are unable to do this online please contact the school office for assistance.

### STAFF UPDATE

Agnes (Aggie) Widfeldt joined Kowhai Syndicate as the new Room 4 new entrant teacher this week. Aggie is taking over from Lisa Cowley who was filling the role temporarily. Aggie has taught in both early childhood and primary schools and we are delighted to have Aggie join our school whānau.

## HONGOEKA SYNDICATE KAPITI ISLAND TRIP

Thank you to all the parent volunteers who ensured that these class trips could go ahead - especially those who got up early for the 7.15am departure!



## ABSENCE NOTIFICATIONS - MUST BE AN EXPLANATION FOR ALL ABSENCES

When emailing the [absence email](#) or leaving an absence message, it is essential to leave a clear explanation for your child's absence. This will help us to monitor the current situation.

## COVID UPDATE

Our first school case notification was 34 days ago on 16 February. Since then 74 students have been known cases. 50 of the students have recovered and returned to school. Over the last four weeks we have had around 5% of our students isolating with Covid on any given day. Over the same time period about 5% of the school have been away isolating as a household contact.

We are grateful that caregivers have been closely monitoring their child(ren) for [symptoms of Covid-19](#) and getting them tested. Please remember that if your child receives a positive Covid-19 test or is a household contact please let us know as soon as possible by emailing or phoning the [school office](#) (04 233 8677).

We have been very lucky to have relatively low numbers of staff affected to date. There has had to be some juggling of relievers to cover teacher absences, and our teachers have also been very willing to accommodate extra duties, and reduction in release times to help us keep all classes open. However, at this stage a syndicate closure is always potentially just a few days away!

Again, as always, thank you all for your support!

*Ngā mihi, Mike Forrest, Principal*

## Library Corner

Thanks to everyone who purchased Scholastic Books from Issue 1. We raised \$340 which will be used to purchase new books for the library. The next issue that we will be distributing at school is Issue 3 which will be available early in term 2.

This week in the library we have introduced a diverse range of new books that will be available for issuing next week. These include mythical creatures from all around the world, science experiments that you can try at home, a picture book about sharing, a graphic novel *Animal Farm* which gives our older readers an insight into life under communist rule and a middle fiction story about a boy who wants to be a comedian but has a stutter.



Happy reading and a reminder that our library catalogue website is available to all at <https://nz.accessit.online/PLM03>

Sarah

## PTA News

The Plimmerton School PTA Easter raffle is underway!

Thanks to your generosity so far we have 6 amazing Easter hampers filled to the brim with all manner of tasty treats, books, and toys to win!

The Easter raffle will be drawn on Monday 11th of April 2022 and our 5 lucky winners will be advised by phone.

Each family has now been sent an envelope with 5 raffle tickets to sell, or buy. Raffle tickets are \$2 each. If you would like to sell or buy more raffle tickets please let Aleida in the school office know via [aleidav@plimmerton.school.nz](mailto:aleidav@plimmerton.school.nz)

- Please return all raffle money to the school office by 3pm Thursday 7th April. Eftpos is available at the office for the purchase of raffle tickets.
- Please return any unsold raffle tickets to the school office as soon as possible so that they can be redistributed.

Kids, keep your eyes open for the colouring competition, there are plenty of yummy prizes for winners in each year group.

All prizes have been donated by our wonderful Plimmerton School families, meaning that 100% of the money raised in this fundraiser goes straight back into our school. The PTA as always appreciates your support!

Donations for our Easter baskets are welcome until the day before the raffle is drawn.



There will also be an Easter-themed Kids Colouring-In-Competition, with prizes for each year level.

## Ice Blocks for sale!

The PTA is going to be selling ice blocks on Tuesdays and Fridays for the rest of Term 1.

Ice blocks will be \$2 each.

Children need to give their money to their classroom teacher in the morning and the ice blocks will be delivered to their classroom before lunch.

Thanks in anticipation of your generous support this year!

Kind Regards,

Plimmerton School PTA.

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



## Community Notices

