



## PANUI - NEWSLETTER - Week 4 Term 1, 2024

### *Mai e te Tumuaki - From the Principal*

Kia ora whānau,

On Monday, 19th February we hosted the “Our Kids Online Safety Information Evening” led by renowned author and filmmaker Robe Cope. In his two-hour presentation, he delivered a presentation that was at times hard-hitting, confronting and emotional. But mixed with humour, honesty, personal experiences and, importantly, solutions.

Rob not only educated the people in the room about the online risks of the internet, but his presentation expanded to how we need to educate our children about the online risks of gaming, social media and cyberbullying. Rob touched on how to reconnect as a whanau, set boundaries with online usage and brought us back to the reality of how much time we spend online and not in the moment.

I wanted to celebrate that we had 159 whanau members attend. For those of you who couldn't attend, we have purchased “The Big Reconnect” package, which is an Online Safety Course for the whole family. This is normally \$99 per family, but it is free for all of you for the next 12 months. That is our gift to our community and commitment to supporting you as parents and our students to keep them safe in this fast-paced online world. Although the presentation was for adults, across the Kura, we will be delivering a student education programme focussing on safe practices, boundaries, and education in the online world.

Follow [this link](#) to access the site, select **ENROL** and use the code **plimmertonfree** to make it free for the next 12 months.

Rob highlighted numerous times that parenting is hard work. There is no manual or set way, so don't beat yourselves up; stay connected and communicate with each other freely. Take a moment to pause and celebrate the significant and positive role you play in your children's lives! We have a great school filled with incredible people. So, thank you again for being a part of it and supporting what we do daily.

As the year continues to fly by and our tamariki settle into classes, we see more personality begin to show. Sometimes, this personality results in students making choices ‘below the line’ aka not following school rules and expectations. Kaiako are working hard to address any behaviour immediately by de-escalating it before it becomes a bigger issue. In 2024, school-wide expectations have been raised around addressing negative behaviour and applying age-appropriate consequences to support changing and modifying the negative behaviour. We aren't always going to get it right, and sometimes it takes time to embed change. But don't worry, we are also creating different and fun ways to celebrate the success of the many, many students working above the line most or all of the time!

Lastly, Aroha mai (apologies) from me as I had hoped to have shared our Strategic Plan with you by now, but I am waiting until our BOT has approved the final modifications at the Week 5 meeting. It is amazing and will make a significant and positive difference in the life of a student, kaimahi and community/whanau member. It centres around our learners, is fun and involves you every step of the way!

Nga mihi,

**Chris Steffensen** *Principal - Tumuaki*

## 2024 Harakeke Leaders

In 2023 we introduced the Harakeke Project to give year 7/8 students opportunities to take on leadership roles around the school. In 2024 the Harakeke Project will be continuing and will be bigger and better. Year 7/8 students were invited to apply for the following roles, each needed four students: **School life Tupuna, Cultural Tupuna, Sports Tupuna and Art and Drama Tupuna**. As part of the application process they had to give ways they could contribute to the life of the school and what makes them a great role model. We had over 40 applications for the 16 roles and the level of the applications was of a very high standard. We are thrilled to announce the following students have been selected to be our Harakeke Leaders for 2024.

- **Arts and Drama** - Poppy GC, Max G, Ilyana M, Maisie S
- **Culture** - Isaia A, Ava S, Vai H, Lana B
- **School Life** - Will P, Issy M, Molly P, Gaia N
- **Sport** - Josh K, Saskia M, Rex L, Giana M



## Coming Events - for your Calendar

### Term 1 - Week 5

Tuesday 27 February

Hearing and Vision Testing for NE Students

Thursday 29 February

Board of Trustees Meeting, 7pm (staffroom)

### Term 1 - Week 6

Tuesday, 5 March

PTA Meeting, 7.30pm (staffroom)

## School Issued Chromebooks for Years 5-8

At Plimmerton School we are committed to developing our students' digital competence. In Years 5 to 8 we integrate ICT across the curriculum allowing students to learn, create, share, and collaborate.

We are continuing a BYOC policy in Hongoeka and Taupō syndicates to ensure a good level of access to devices for our students. It is an option for parents to purchase a Chromebook for their child from Year 5 and up.



Please don't feel under pressure to do this, the school has a supply of devices that can be allocated to students. These Chromebooks are issued to a student for use at school and are not taken home unless we are moving to learning from home. If you require a school-issued Chromebook please complete and return this [agreement](#).

## Library Corner

Thank you to all families who ordered books from issue 1 of Scholastic Book Club. I appreciate that the Scholastic website is not the easiest to negotiate so if you do have problems, please let me know. The orders normally arrive within a week or two of the close-off date, and these will be delivered to student's classrooms.

We have changed the process for students who wish to be student librarians at lunchtime. This year students have had to apply for the role, and are allocated one day per week for a term. Thanks to Marnie (23), Scarlett (23), Sofia (20), Aanya (20), Beth (22), Zack (23), Issy (16) and Emee (15) who have been rostered on for term one lunchtime duties. They are all doing an awesome job.

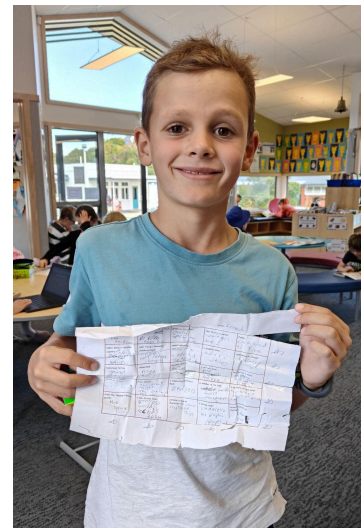


Zac and Beth issuing a book



Book Bingo is well underway and we are loving the enthusiasm shown by students. The idea is for students to step out of their comfort zone and read books that they wouldn't normally read - and get rewarded with chocolate each time a row or column is completed. Congratulations to Fred (23) who really got into the spirit of Book Bingo and completed all 25 slots on his bingo sheet. In Fred's words *"it was challenging but fun to read different books"*.

We had lots of amazing entries from Motuhara and Mana syndicates for our Year of the Dragon colouring competition. Congratulations to the following students - Arie (12); Finn (6) and Neihana (13). Please come to the library on Monday to collect your prize.



Please take time to check out our library catalogue - <https://nz.accessit.online/PLM03>. This website allows you to search for books in our library and there are a number of links to other sites that might be of interest.

Happy reading, Sarah

## Student Absences

If your child is unwell and will not be at school please advise the office as soon as possible (before 9am is preferable). You can do this directly via the Hero app or you may leave a message on the school's absence line (04 233 8677 press 1), or you can email [absence@plimmerton.school.nz](mailto:absence@plimmerton.school.nz) the office will then notify your child's teacher.



## Sunhats

In Terms 1 and 4 all students need to have a named brimmed sunhat. The sun hat needs to provide protection to the ears, neck and face. Bucket hats, legionnaire caps or "cricket"- style hats are all suitable. Students without a suitable hat will be asked to remain under the verandah or in the library during break times.

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!



## Period Packs

The government provides period packs to all schools in NZ for Year 5-13 girls. We have a supply of these in the office. Girls in Years 5-8 are welcome to come to the office and get a pack whenever they want during the year. They can also pick up one for older sisters.



**Periods are a fact of life for half the population.**  
**Period.**

Everyone deserves the right to feel comfortable at school, focus on learning and manage what is a normal part of life.

Period products are now available in your school if you need them.



## Movin' March

Plimmerton School is doing Movin March this year. What's Movin March? It's a programme that runs for the entire month of March and celebrates the benefits of walking, scooting and biking to school. Any student who walks, scooters or bikes to school in the month of March can get their passport stamped at the gate every morning. Getting their passport stamped gives them the chance to win some fantastic prizes and there will also be spot prizes given out at the gate. Participation is optional but for those who wish to participate their teacher has everything they need.

## 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

## PTA News

The Plimmerton School PTA is a fun, friendly committee of parents, just like you! We coordinate awesome events for the school community to come together to socialise and fundraise for school 'extras.' All profits made, go back into Plimmerton School and our kids. We don't expect you to dedicate every waking hour to the PTA so if you can offer an hour or two here and there, we would love to talk to you. Meetings are held monthly on the first Tuesday of each month from 7.30pm in the staff room. Supper provided.

To find out more either come along to our next meeting on Tuesday 5 th March or email [pta@plimmerton.school.nz](mailto:pta@plimmerton.school.nz) today.

We have three exciting events coming up, so put them on your calendar so you don't miss out.

### Mana Lions Classic Car Show

Plimmerton School field Sunday 25th February 10am - 1pm. The PTA will be running a sausage sizzle so come on down, check out the cars and buy a sausage.

### Easter Raffle and Colouring Competition

As we approach Easter, the school will be running a colouring competition and an Easter Raffle. Further information to follow but in the meantime if you see anything "Eastery" that you would like to donate (activities, books, toys, easter eggs etc) to the raffles and as prizes, please feel free to drop them into the office. There will be prizes for different age groups/syndicates for the colouring competition.



Team *Pitchie*  
P: 0800 DO IT NOW

Harcourts  
Team Group



## Kids Clothes Swap

Do you have an excess of kids' clothes and are looking for somewhere to donate? Look no further - Julia and her team will gratefully take them off your hands for the annual Plimmerton School Kids Clothes Swap. You can start dropping off donations NOW to the labelled boxes beside the lost property next to the school office.

Start organising your friend group now so that you can all come along and stock up on all the kid's clothes you need for only \$20! Supper will be supplied, making this a super fun and easy night out of shopping. Stay tuned for the date announcement - this will be an event not to be missed!



## Community Notices

🍀 **Discover the Magic of Irish Dance** 🍀 *Calling all budding dancers ages 4 to 7! Are you ready to leap into the world of Irish Dance? We're thrilled to announce that our school is now offering Irish Dance classes tailored just for you!*

Saturdays, Plimmerton School | 4 & 5 Years - 10.00 - 10.45am | 6 & 7 Years - 10.45 - 11.30am  
Mondays, Plimmerton School | 4 & 5 Years - 3.30 - 4.15pm | 6 & 7 Years - 4.15 - 5.00pm  
Thursdays, Ngati Toa Domain | 4 & 5 Years - 3.30 - 4.15pm | 6 & 7 Years - 4.15 - 5.00pm

☀️ **Enroll Today and Let the Dance Begin!** ☀️ *Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to introduce your child to the enchanting world of Irish Dance! Book your free trial today by emailing us or visiting our website.*

[Kerryschoolofirishdancing.co.nz](http://Kerryschoolofirishdancing.co.nz) | [kerryschoolofirishdancing@gmail.com](mailto:kerryschoolofirishdancing@gmail.com)



## Roar & Snore | Te Papa

Fri 15 - Sat 16 Mar 2024, 7.00pm-9.00am

Dinos probably didn't roar, but the kids will at this one-of-a-kind, whānau-friendly sleepover at Te Papa!

Roar & Snore is an extraordinary opportunity to sleep among the dinos of *Ngā Taniwha o Rūpapa - Dinosaurs of Patagonia*. Bed down next to tiny *Manidens*, ferocious *Tyrannotitan*, or the colossal 30-metre-long *Patagotitan*.

Explore the exhibition after hours, hear *kōrero* from Te Papa's scientists and researchers, and enjoy a hot drink and treat.

Roar & Snore offers a unique way to engage with prehistory. Tickets are limited, so book your spot now for the sleepover of a lifetime! Continental breakfast included.



Whānau Day, 2023. Photograph by Jo Moore. Te Papa.







# **PAREMATA PLIMMERTON RFC**

## **JUNIOR RUGBY REGISTRATIONS 2024**

We'd like to invite all new and returning players to register for the 2024 junior rugby season!

Club rugby grades are based on your school year.

Grades range from Nursery (aged 3yrs +) to Year 8.

Year 3 is the first year of tackle rugby.

We continue to have Rippa Rugby available for all ages which provides a great way for all to stay in the game.

Please register now online and remember to upload a current photo.

<https://www.paremataplimmertonrugby.club/juniors/junior-registrations>

Once you have registered and paid online, come to one of our rego days to collect your playing top, purchase any merch and to ask any questions.

Registration fees need to be paid before you can receive your playing top.

**REGO DAYS at Pare-Plim RFC, Ngati Toa Domain**

**Tues 12th March 5.00 – 7.00pm**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March 11am – 1pm**

**If you have any questions, please email: [juniors@pareplimrugby.co.nz](mailto:juniors@pareplimrugby.co.nz)**