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Paraparaumu Beach School

Newsletter 2019/15

21 May 2019

Upcoming Events

TERM 2

WEEK 4

- **Tues, 21 May**
 - ◊ Yr 5-8 Rippa Rugby Tournament
- **Wed, 22 May**
 - ◊ Midweek Munchies
- **Fri, 24 May**
 - ◊ Nominations for BOT elections close at 12pm

WEEK 5

- **Tues, 28 May**
 - ◊ Ngaru Cross Country - 1.45pm first race
- **Wed, 29 May**
 - ◊ **NZ TEACHER STRIKE—**
School closed

WEEK 6

- **Mon, 3 June**
 - ◊ Queen's Birthday
- **Fri, 7 June**
 - ◊ BOT Election Day and voting closes

WEEK 7

- **Tues, 11 June**
 - ◊ Declaration of BOT results out
 - ◊ BOT Meeting 7pm in the staffroom

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hi Everyone

At PBS we currently have 620 students and I make it an annual goal to know as many of the students as possible. One way I try to achieve this goal is to spend time in each classroom, which I'm doing this term and again in Term 3. The purpose of my classroom visits are threefold:

1. Students get to know me a little better and discover that I'm a teacher too
2. I get to share in the student's learning and talk to them about their work and interests
3. Spending time in each class enables me to reflect on how I can best support the staff and students

Personally there's nothing I enjoy more than sharing in student's learning. Kids are so wonderfully curious and they say what's on their mind. When you spend time with children you see their natural sense of optimism and their ability to notice the little things. Kids have a lot to share and teach us, so it's important that we take the time to listen.

(Photo: Creative lunch time play "Nest building and baby birds")



Before I sign off this newsletter, I wanted to let you know that a former, long-standing employee of Paraparaumu Beach School passed away recently. Barbara Sander, who was the school secretary for more than 20 years, has passed away peacefully last week. Barb was the epitome of a hard worker, so dedicated to her job. She had a great sense of humour and was always a wonderful support for her colleagues. We offer our deepest sympathies to Barb's husband Peter and her family. Since her retirement, we have continued to remember Barb every year at senior prizegiving when we award the Sander Cup for 'service to the school'. Go gently our friend.

Warm regards

Jess Ward - Principal ~ Tumuaki

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS

Do you want to make a difference? Have you thought about joining our Board of Trustees? We are looking for parents who are team players with a genuine interest in the school community to help us keep moving PBS forward!

Current board members are very happy to chat with anyone who is considering standing for the Board. They can answer your questions and explain the governance role first hand. If you want to learn more, just leave your name and contact details with Marie Barfoote (in the school office) mbarfoote@pbs.school.nz and she will arrange for one of our board members to get in touch.

The deadline for nominations closes at noon this Friday, 24 May. Please return your forms to the school office before this day.

Heads up: If you are one of our successfully elected Board Members, your first meeting will be Tuesday 11 June at 7pm in the staffroom.



MESSAGE FROM BOARD CHAIR

It is with some measure of sadness that I write this final Board of Trustees update as Board Chair. I have been involved in the BoT for the last six years, initially as a board member then as Chair for the past three years. Looking back over that time, I am proud of the work that the BoT has done and what the school has achieved with our support. Below are a few highlights from a list of over thirty major achievements initiated, funded and seen to completion by the past two BoTs.

- ◆ *From a student perspective, the BoT regularly funds additional teacher aide resources and the release of a specialist SENCO (a model that the government is looking to roll out to more schools nationally) to support our students with additional learning and health needs - approximately 95% of our special needs students do not receive MoE funding. We have also seen the most inclusive rollout of BYOD in the district, and we regularly assess the effectiveness of the school programs with twice yearly reviews of student achievement.*
- ◆ *From the staff perspective, we are this year funding flu shots for all teachers to reduce the likelihood of illness. We are also continuing to fund additional release days so that staff are able to complete reporting tasks without so much of the huge late night workload that our staff undertake supporting our children. An ongoing program of staff welfare initiatives was introduced and regular review has seen a reduction in (already low) staff turnover and an improvement in overall wellbeing.*
- ◆ *From the management perspective, I am extremely proud and pleased to have been part of the panel that appointed Jess Ward and Mike Thomas to the school leadership positions - what an outstanding and ongoing success that has proved to be. The quality of our management, staff and processes are reflected in the three consecutive four/five year review periods in our ERO assessments (less than a handful of schools in the country can boast this achievement).*
- ◆ *And finally, from the perspective of our campus (capably maintained by John Trask) - we have provided additional funding above MoE entitlements for the refurbishment of the school hall as well as the recent full refurbishment of two of our classroom blocks. This has enabled the projects to utilise a higher quality of fittings and finishings, meaning that ongoing maintenance costs will be reduced and the classrooms and hall will remain serviceable for longer.*

The BoT is an important feature of the current school governance model and is a rewarding undertaking to be part of. The BoT provides governance and oversight while the school's leadership undertake the day to day management of the school. It is a partnership that works well for us and your involvement is critical to ensuring that the great success that is enjoyed by Paraparaumu Beach School continues into the future. I heartily recommend getting involved.

Signing off for the final time—Julian Morrin, Board Chair

KID'S QUOTE

It's great to watch the kids get active over lunch times. One sunny day recently I commented to a few kids pretend playing they were animals rolling around on the grass.

"Be careful you don't get your clothes dirty."

One student replied **"But dirty is the new clean!"**



WERE YOUR EARS BURNING? Staff Gratitude Section

Every time I read an article or some research on 'Learning through Play' I feel very proud of the job our Year 1 teachers are doing in their classes. The learning I see happening in their classrooms reflects the best practice written about by esteemed educators. So thank you to Rachel McDowell, Jalah Davis, Sandy Saunders and Sheryl McKnight for providing planned and purposeful play experiences.



STUDENT WORK

Room 6 kids have been very creative making paper collages of "Our Star the Sun". These creations are looking fantastic!



WINTER ILLNESSES

With a drop in temperature lately we are seeing children starting to come down with colds and illnesses, so please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the conditions. During Terms 2 & 3 we ask kids to have shoes on when playing outside, even if the conditions are dry.

Don't panic! At PBS we are not experiencing a flux of the following infections - the information below is just so that we can all be aware and vigilant. However, when kids have colds or are run-down they are more susceptible to other conditions like cold sores, impetigo and shingles.



Cold sores - are small fluid-filled blisters that usually appear on lips, chins, nostrils and cheeks. Children with cold sores will most likely require antiviral cream from the chemist. Cold sores spread via close personal contact.

Impetigo (School sores) - is a highly contagious skin disease, which is usually found on the hands and face, especially around the nose. Children should visit the doctor if impetigo is suspected. We ask that children with impetigo stay home from school until the sores are healed.

Shingles - is a painful, itchy skin rash that usually appears on the chest, back, legs or face. If shingles is suspected take your child to the doctor as soon as possible. Pain from shingles can be acute. Shingles are infectious when the blisters burst.

IMPORTANT REMINDER RE ABSENCES

Please remember that it is very important that you advise the office if your child is going to be absent from school. Please text a message to 027 755 7915, phone/leave a message on the landline (04) 298 5775 (by 9am on the day of absence) or complete a student leave form (if applicable). **If no reason is given for an absence, then that student is coded as truant.**



UPCOMING LOCKDOWN PRACTICE

We are planning a lockdown practice for Tuesday, 28 May. We will be using the scenario of "a swarm of wasps". Please reassure your child(ren) that our lockdown is only a practice and there are no wasps!

NB: School lockdowns are used for a variety of reasons including chemical spills, swarms, air dropped pesticide, intruders and harmful community events.

CHANGES TO THE SCHOOL TIMETABLE: Play, Eat, Learn

In Weeks 7-10 of this term, we will be trialling an approach called Play - Eat - Learn which will see some relatively minor changes to our timetables. This approach is being used in a number of schools locally and across the country. It was developed in response to evidence around brain based learning that came out of Christchurch post the earthquakes.

The reasons behind the decision include:

- To support the growth of Restorative Practices by allowing teachers time to connect with students; as well as the opportunity to work through any social issues if needed.
- To encourage students to eat more, if not all of the food in their lunchboxes. Currently some are so keen to get out to play they are not eating much.
- There are health benefits to eating at the end of exercise as opposed to running around with a full tummy.
- To provide three structured opportunities to eat during the day keeping blood sugar levels more stable and therefore having children in a better place to learn.
- It will also lead to a shorter afternoon session in class which traditionally has been the hardest for students to stay focused.

The adjustments are as follows:

8.55 - 10.00 - Learn - Morning session

10.00- 10.05 - Eat - Fruit Break

10.05-10.50 Learn - Morning session continues

10.50-11.10 Play

11.10-11.20 Eat - Morning tea

11.20 - 12.50 Learn - Middle block

12.50 - 1.35 Play

1.35-1.50 Eat - Lunch

1.50-3.00 Learn - Afternoon session



In regards to the fruit break, the children will only be able to eat fruit or vegetables. This does not include fruit sticks or muesli bars or processed fruit/vegetable products.

Other local schools have reported that their children adapted well to the changes and we are hopeful that our children will be the same. We also hope to see improved social and academic outcomes for children with them eating more frequently and greater quantities.

Feel free to provide us with feedback either through your class teacher or directly to myself.

Regards—Mike Thomas

Deputy Principal

SCHOOL FENCING

The Ministry of Education has agreed to pay for new fencing and gates at the Martin Road and Gray Avenue entrances to the school, including the school car park. The purpose of this fencing is for the safety of special needs students. We are pleased that the Ministry is working with us to ensure the end product is an effective and attractive solution.

SCOOTER SAFETY AT SCHOOL



We are talking to all the children about using their scooters safely at school. Whilst it is great to see so many scooters coming to school and children having heaps of fun on the scooter court, we are also seeing a number of children scootering through the school grounds before and after school in amongst the busy foot traffic! As a result, children are being asked to leave their scooters at home for a period of time.

If you are walking with your child to/from school, please ensure they are not scootering on school grounds. Your support in this would be appreciated. Thank you.

Mike Thomas
Deputy Principal

PS: Whilst helmet wearing on scooters is not compulsory, we highly recommend it!

PINK DISCO

Thank you all so much for helping to make our PINK SHIRT DAY DISCO such a success. Everyone had so much fun and were so well behaved!

A special thank you to Mel Tonga, Diego Tonga, Rosalie Harvey, Nikki Gibson, Claire Pringle, Cheryl Woods, Chantel Lynch and Sharon Walker who did a “glowing” job selling glow products and helping out with everything. We really appreciate your help!

From Te Motu Syndicate



Yr 3/4 Syndicate Fundraising

NGARU SYNDICATE FUNDRAISER



Ngaru Syndicate are fundraising for their end-of-year trip this term by holding Midweek Morning Tea Munchies over a three week period (starting last week).

There will be a selection of yummy treats available for purchase ranging from \$1-\$2.

This fundraiser allows us to significantly reduce the cost of the trip making it more accessible for all. Thank you for your support.

KINDO—OUR PREFERRED METHOD OF PAYMENT

Make your busy life simpler by signing up to Kindo! The fast and convenient way to shop, pay for trips and give permissions. This is quick and easy and requires no filling out of forms/permissions or finding cash in the busy morning rush!

To set yourself up today [click here](#).

Automatic Payments

Don't forget you can set up an automatic payment any time in Kindo to start saving for your child's camp fees, or any expenses for that matter—just like automatic payments through your bank. *Please note: We no longer accept automatic payments direct to our school bank account.*

Questions

Any questions call the Kindo Help Desk on 0508 4KINDO or ask Libby at the school office between 12 and 4pm.



SKOOL LOOP

The App

Are you being 'kept in the loop' with goings-on at our school? If you haven't down-loaded the free app yet, then go to Google Play or the App Store, search 'Skool Loop' and choose our school once installed.

Subscribing to Groups

Did you know that when you click on "Notices" in the app there are 3 lines at the top right of the screen? If you click on this symbol you can subscribe to notices for individual syndicates (and some classrooms), as well as general notices? Check it out today!



Queries

If you have any queries, please contact Libby Richardson in the office between 12 and 4pm.

TALKING TOGETHER WORKSHOP

A workshop for parents and teachers of children with unclear speech will be held on Tuesday, 28 May from 10-11.30am OR 4-5.30pm at Kapiti Impact Church, Tongariro Street, Paraparaumu. No cost.

The workshop will be run by a speech-language therapist from Learning Support at the Ministry of Education and forms part of the intervention programme for children needing support with their speech sound development. To confirm your attendance, please contact the Otaki office on 06 364 0840 or support.otaki@education.govt.nz