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Paraparaumu Beach School

Newsletter 2017/33

24 October 2017

Upcoming Events

TERM 4

Week 2—PBS BOOK WEEK!

Tues, 24 October

- Parent Camp meetings at 7pm

Thurs, 26 October

- PTA Meeting—7.30pm in the staffroom. All welcome

Fri, 27 October

- Book Character Parade

Week 3

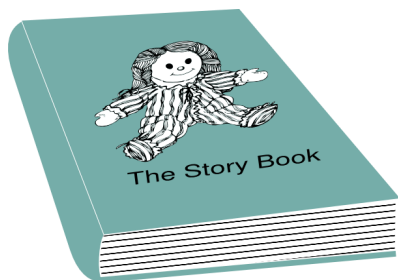
Mon, 30 Oct-Fri, 3 Nov

- Rms 8, 15 & 16 on Camp

Week 4

Mon, 6 Nov-Fri, 10 Nov

- Rms 13 & 14 on Camp



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Kia Ora fellow Kiwis,

I hope you had a lovely long weekend; we were certainly lucky with the weather.

Last week saw the announcement of the new government and regardless of who we voted for, I for one, am hopeful that a change in government may bring about some much needed change in Education. A review of education policy will hopefully address the assessment heavy system we currently work in and bring change to National Standards, which many NZ teachers and principals have low faith in. We need to recapture the joy of teaching and spend more hours teaching rather than assessing kids. Again, this is just my personal opinion, but one that has the best interests of our kids at heart.

Thanks to the 39 people who have filled in the Board's Parent Survey so far. With over 400 families in our community I hope we will have a lot more responses before the survey closes on Wednesday, 8 November. This two-yearly survey, is online and will take parents 5-10 minutes to complete. I strongly encourage every parent to complete the survey as the feedback we gain is vital for the future direction of our school. The survey is open for two more weeks – ending on Wednesday, 8 November. (If you do not have access to the internet, paper copies of this survey can be collected from the school office). Anonymous surveys can bring out negative comments, but if a person or place truly wants to grow and improve it's vital to be open to critical feedback along with the praise. I am open-minded and accept that we can learn from your insights. However, don't forget to tell us the good things we are doing too – so we know what you value and can keep doing those things. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/paraparaumubeachschool17>

Finally, let's all keep our fingers crossed for fine weather this Friday, so we can hold our Book Week Character Parade....what to wear? What to wear?

Kind regards, Jess Ward – Principal/Tumuaki



PBS Book Week (24-27th October)

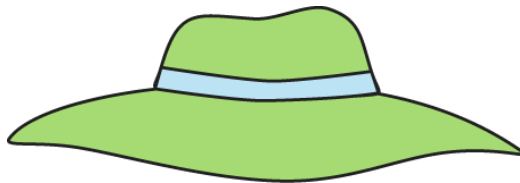
This week Paraparaumu Beach School is celebrating Book Week. There are lots of exciting things planned in all our classrooms. Every class will be creating a decorated door or window to celebrate a book or author. Teachers are going to read around classrooms and buddies will get the opportunity to share their favourite books with each other.

On Friday we are having a dress-up character day. Students need to start planning their favourite book character costume to show off during our parade at noon on Friday, 27 October. Come along to share in our fun.

We are so looking forward to sharing our love of reading together!

SUNHAT TERM

A reminder that Term 4 is a sunhat term. Students must wear a bucket-style/wide brim hat when outside. Caps and fedora style hats (with a small brim) do not provide enough protection to the face or neck, so please ensure your child has the appropriate sun protection. We also recommend that students keep a small tube of sunscreen in their bag for daily use; roll-on sunblock seems to be the easiest for kids to dispense and apply themselves. School hats are available to purchase from the school office at a cost of \$14.



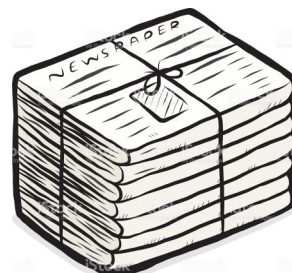
KID'S QUOTE

"Which teacher would you like for next year?"
"I don't know; they're all wonderful"



CLEAN NEWSPAPER WANTED

Room 6 would like clean newspaper to be used for technology. If you have any, please deliver to Room 6.



PROCESS FOR 2018 CLASS REQUESTS

At PBS we prefer that parents do not submit requests, unless there are exceptional circumstances. For this reason, we have a formal process which parents must adhere to. Requests from parents must be for specific reasons (e.g. *based around the child's needs*). It is preferable that you don't name a specific teacher. I can assure you that we act professionally and thoughtfully when placing students in classes for the new year. This process is an extremely complex and time consuming task with many variables to consider. When undertaking this process we have to consider: *class size, gender balance in each room, the distribution of students with social/behavioural and learning needs (including special abilities), medical needs etc.*

In a school our size, it can take between 6-8 weeks to put class lists together; whereas in a small school there may only be one class at each level – so no process is needed. Therefore, we ask that parents/caregivers are both understanding and supportive of the complexities involved. Whilst we will continue to allow parents to submit such requests, we do ask in return, that the final school decision on class make-up (**whether or not** a request has been able to be met) is both respected and promoted positively by parents to their children. We are extremely lucky to have such an “across the board” teaching strength in our school, and with all classes within a syndicate following a similar, collectively-planned programme, we can confidently say that *every class* will offer access to quality teaching and learning, along with the opportunity for many wonderful new friendships to be made.

All requests must:

- be in writing to the Principal (jward@pbs.school.nz)
- be in by 4pm October 31
- specifically describe student's needs and reason for the request
- be from the child's parent/guardian



All requests will be carefully considered, however there is no guarantee that a request will be met. Thank you for reading.

YEAR 4 CHROMEBOOKS FOR 2018

We are aware that some families of current Year 4 students have already purchased or leased their Chromebooks in preparation for 2018 and BYOD. Of course there is no rush with this. As a school our preferred device is a Chromebook – the brand itself doesn't matter.



About a third of our school families with students in Years 5-8 have purchased direct from a shop e.g. Harvey Normans, Noel Leemings, Warehouse Stationery etc. The other two thirds have either leased or paid outright for a chromebook through the local Education Trust (Whakaaro Hou Education Trust) which assists all schools on the Kapiti Coast.

If you wish to go through the Trust you can buy a device outright or lease to buy over a two year or three year period. The Trust only does one roll-out of devices per term. Their next roll out requires 'Expression of Interest' forms to be in by 17 November. Putting in an expression of interest does not tie you into anything, it merely starts a line of communication between yourself and the Trust. School will send home more information about this with Year 4 students shortly. For more information on the Trust go to:

<https://whetrust.weebly.com/>

PLAYGROUND DESIGNS

The Board are committed to replacing our ageing playgrounds and plan to do so in three stages, starting with Stage 1 (see picture below) next March. Playgrounds don't come cheap, so we have applied for some charity money in addition to the money that the PTA raised at their last gala. The equipment and install for Stage 1 costs \$68,000 +GST. This doesn't include the safety matting, which we will be lifting and relaying. This first stage takes up half the footprint of our Big Adventure playground on the field.



HELP WANTED - WORKING BEE

As you may already know, the Student Council are busy creating a fitness course for around the outskirts of the field. We need as much help as we can get.

If you happen to know anyone or are interested yourself and are able to help us 'execute' the building of this project, please contact Mike Thomas. It would great to have people experienced in building, but if you are happy to help dig holes and get stuck in, it would be awesome to hear from you.

At this stage, we are planning to do this on the morning of Saturday, 16 December. You can contact Mike at:

mthomas@pbs.school.nz or ph 298 5775 or pop in to the office.

Thanks heaps

From Eilidh and Tara on behalf of the Student Council



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RECENT STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Netball: Congratulations to Korey Kavakura who has made the U13 North Island Maori Womens Netball team. He nui tou paetae Korey. What an outstanding achievement!

Golf: Congratulations also to Alec Prentice who has been invited to represent the Eagles Golfing Society of Wellington at a Triangular Golf Tournament to be played at Pahiatua Golf Club on 5 November. The three provinces involved are Hawkes Bay, Manawatu/Wanganui and Wellington.

Taekwondo: Congratulations to Emily Woods who won a silver medal in her age and weight level during the holidays at the National Taekwondo Tournament in Porirua. Emily did the tournament in memory of her Taekwondo instructor who passed away in August from cancer.



WERE YOU EARS BURNING? – Staff gratitude section

Every Monday afternoon I try to get along to our Senior Kapa Haka practice. This group of 100+ students is simply inspiring. A huge thank you to Cath Franks and Rangi Halbert for their hard work and dedication. I look forward to watching our group perform at the district Kapa Haka hui on 1 December at Kapiti College. Kia Kaha!



CALENDAR ART ORDERS—LAST CHANCE FOR LATE ORDERS—PTA FUNDRAISER

As advised last week, we are running one more short order-taking period. And while we didn't promote them, you can also order note books and mouse mats. These might make great last minute gifts at Christmas. Also, if you have a great family photo, don't forget you can order a photo item as well.

- Calendars **\$11**
- Greeting cards (pack of 8) **\$12**
- Diaries **\$16**
- Mouse Mats **\$14**
- Notebooks **\$13**
- Order forms have been given out - keep a look out for them in school bags
- Orders close Monday, 30 October (**there will be no extensions**)

If you have any queries please contact Nicki Bradley on 021 066 8183.



STUDENT'S WORK

Plastic bags should be banned from supermarkets by Georgia Room 1

As you probably know, plastic bags are one of the WORST inventions ever made. Even though plastic bags are helpful, light and cheap they also can harm the environment, and even us. This is why I think plastic bags should be banned from supermarkets.

Firstly, plastic bags are not very durable. You can often only use a plastic bag once or twice. When most people go shopping, they have to be careful of how much weight they put in their plastic bag, otherwise they could rip and all their groceries could fall out. Only being able to use a plastic bag once means that there are millions, or even billions of plastic bags ending up in the landfill and then, getting blown into the sea.

Secondly, plastic bags release dangerous toxins that could make humans or animals sick. Plastic bags contain a product called Bisphenol A, also known as BPA. BPA is a product used to make something stronger and in this case, to make plastic bags more durable and be able to hold more weight. BPA can cause stuff like breast cancer, early puberty, etc. It can also poison or even kill us.

Thirdly, plastic bags can harm marine life. Plastic bags are one of the major threats to marine animals. When a plastic bag is no longer being used it is thrown out, and then ends up in the landfill. Eventually, the plastic bag will be blown from the landfill and into the sea. When in the sea, the plastic bag will be pecked at by birds, or nibbled on by marine animals. The plastic bag then ends up in their stomachs and poisons, or even kills them. But, all the plastic poison in the animals works its way up the food chain, poisoning all the animals along the way, and in the end it poisons us humans. We are all getting poisoned or sick by just one plastic bag eaten by a small fish.

After all these reasons you're probably still thinking. Well, what will I use instead of plastic bags, and what do I do with the ones I already have? Well, when you go to the supermarket, instead of using a plastic bag you could use a reusable bag or a cardboard box. But, what do I do with the ones I already have? Well, there are many things you could do with the probably hundreds of plastic bags you have. For example, you could make a big plastic bag or maybe blanket stitch a mat. You could make a basket, a necklace, the options are endless. They are just a few of the things you could do with your plastic bags.

In conclusion, I think that supermarkets should not use plastic bags. This is because plastic bags can harm the environment, make us sick or kill us, that they are not very durable and millions each year blow into the ocean and kill marine life. So supermarkets, DON'T USE PLASTIC BAGS!

NO PLASTIC BAGS



REUSABLE BAGS

Does your child need a togs bag for the up and coming swimming season??? Do you need a \$5 gift for your secret Santa this year???

Well we have the answer for you. Why not purchase a re-useable bag.? These bags are great as they fold away into their own little case and can be used at any time. They are strong and waterproof, so could be great for togs bags, shopping bags or just a bag that you can use at any time. In the photo below you can see the different designs and also how small they fold up to with the carry case that they go in. There are also some great prizes up for grabs – 3 different skateboards and some other prizes. You can order your re-useable bags by contacting Samara Shaw on email: doris110cc@gmail.com and paying \$5 electronically into BNZ PBS PTA account 02-0733-0148141-002 Ref: Child's name and room number or by filling in the order form at the end of the newsletter.



Re-useable Bag Order Form

Childs Name: _____

Childs Room Number: _____

Number of Bags required: _____

Design numbers requested: _____

Money enclosed: ☐

Money internet banked: ☐

If electronically banking money details are: BNZ PBS PTA account 02-0733-0148141-002 Ref: Child's name and room number.

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