



Term 2, Week 4: 22 May 2019

Learn to Strive. Strive to Learn

PRINCIPAL'S HEADLINES

We continue to look forward to encouraging our students to participate in positive behaviours. Sport is valued by this community and we saw the majority of our Year 3 - 6 students participate in the **Franklin soccer tournaments** this week. The teachers are always proud to take our students to participate in these events because of the sportsmanship and positive behaviours we see from them. We are also fortunate to have parent support, so we can take part.

Fun Food Friday depends on parent help. These are also a highlight for the children. However, it is becoming difficult to get enough help for these events. If you can help please let the office or Nicole Fricker know.

We try to **communicate** effectively with all parents. Staff are finding that emails and mobile numbers do change and some of you forget to notify us of the changes. If there is a school emergency or your child is ill or has an accident at school, it is imperative that we have correct communication details. Besides your email addresses and mobiles, The Skool Loop app and the website are still our main forms of contact for programmes, trips etc.

We received fifteen responses on **Learning Forums** and I thank those parents who took the time to reply to the three questions. I was impressed with the quality of the feedback. It did demonstrate that the people who responded understand the intention of them. With the use of SEESAW teachers are able to keep you in touch with your child's learning throughout the year, but the Forums provide the opportunity for the children to be accountable for their learning. It is not the time to go into details. You are always welcome to make an appointment to come back and speak to the teacher with or without your child if you wish to address any other concerns.

A **summary** indicated that from the fifteen responses 86.7% agreed that the Learning Forums are informative about children's learning. How Learning Forums could be improved was based around more time for each forum and some time for a few parent questions. As a result of the use of SEESAW in more meaningful ways and the new report format which teachers will use at the end of this term, the times will remain the same but parent questions are welcome.

Strike 29 May. A letter has been sent home informing you

of the teachers' and principals' strike. The decision to take further strike action was not taken lightly by any of us. For the first time, both primary, secondary teachers and principals are striking together because the crisis in education hits us all very hard and we need the Government to understand how serious it is.

The fact is that teaching is no longer considered an attractive profession due to long-term under-funding of the education sector. A significant pay jolt is part of the solution, alongside significant improvements to our heavy workloads. Otherwise our schools will end up with larger class sizes and more teachers leaving.

Board of Trustees nominations are due by noon Friday 24 May. There are present board members who won't be standing again, so here is the opportunity for others to take up the role. Think seriously about how you could help with governance of our wonderful school by getting someone to nominate you. I expressed my thanks to the outgoing board at our last meeting. They have worked competently behind the scenes assisting in the successful operations of the school. Their commitment to their roles and support has been truly appreciated. A special thank you and recognition of the outstanding work completed by **Rani Amaranathan** (Chairperson) who has been a 'leading light' for Pukekohe East School and has supported me immensely in her role. **George Reeves** has also been a wise and helpful board member who truly cares about staff and student welfare. Perhaps two of the busiest people I know, who were able to give extra time to Pukekohe East School.

We continue to be grateful to the **parents** who come into classrooms and help on a daily basis in the school. Our teachers and students benefit from your consistency. Also **Jenny Walter and Anthony Searle (Board members)** who spend a lot of time assisting with property matters. **Lara Utatao** has looked after the school finances and guided us in appropriate spending. I would also like to acknowledge the **practical help** the following people have given to our school recently:

Dennis Loxton – coming in and getting rid of huge piles of trees and weeds in the Gill Thompson Reserve

Matt Hooks (ex parent) who donated a digger to improve the area behind the hall

Theo van Lieshout (grandparent) who drove the digger

Johan Wielenga – parent who organised and brought soil into the school from the Wallace family's property and his own.

Merillees Nicholls,
Principal

REMINDER - Primary Teachers NZEI Strike Action

School Closed on Wednesday, 29 May

<https://www.backtheteachers.co.nz/>

CONGRATULATIONS TO.....



George Mason who received the Giraffe Award and Frankie Utatao who was presented with the Lion Award at our last Whole School Assembly. Well done!



Luca Shaw competed in the Tristar gymnastics competition last Sunday with 5 clubs from around Auckland for MAG (Men's artistic gymnastics) level 1 and placed first overall for the highest score over 6 apparatus. He received a gold medal. Congratulations Luca!

PTA NEWS

Remember: **FFF orders to be handed in by 9.00am Thursday morning please.**

Harvest Festival 2020

This year the hard decision was made to cancel the Harvest Festival due to bad weather. We thank you for your support and understanding on this decision.

We have taken into consideration the feedback given and this was discussed at our last PTA meeting. Next year we have moved the dates to earlier in the year to hopefully catch better weather. We have also brought dates forward so it falls during daylight saving hours and will not clash with the start of winter sports. There will also be a postponement date.

Harvest Festival date for 2020: Saturday, 14th March
Postponement date: Saturday, 21 March.

Information and pumpkin seeds will be sent home at the end of term 3. Certificates for children who sent in photos for growing pumpkins and making vegetable creations for this year's Harvest were presented in assembly. **Congratulations kids - they looked amazing!**

Keep an eye out for the 2019 Pet Day Booklet which will be sent home on Friday and the class list for mystery bottles next week.

Dates to Remember!

TERM 2			
Dates	Times	Events	Check
24 May		Fun Food Friday	
29 May		SCHOOL CLOSED - Strike	
3 June		Queen's Birthday Holiday	
7 June		Mufti Day - Bring Mystery Bottles	
8 June	7.00pm	Bus BINGO - Puke East Community Hall	
11 June	7.00pm	PTA Meeting	
17 June	9.00am	Tortoise and the Hare Show	
19 June	9.30am	Open Morning New Entrants	
21 June		Fun Food Friday	
26 June		Production - History Rocks! Matinee and Evening Show - times tbc	Book Tickets
5 July	2.15pm	Last Day of Term 2 Whole School Assembly	Titoki
22 July		Start of Term 3	

IMMUNISATION

In the event of a measles outbreak, could you please notify admin@peps.school.nz if your child/children have **NOT** been fully immunised. Some parents have not clarified this on enrolment, so it is crucial to the safety and wellbeing of all children and staff that we have this information available. This will save a lot of time with the Ministry of Health if we are notified of any cases of infectious diseases in our little school.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Young at Art offer art and craft classes in Pukekohe. Our children's winter holiday workshops and term 3 classes are now open for booking. These holidays we have workshops in watercolour and acrylic painting, papier mache, printing, paper craft and more. For more information or to book please check out: <http://www.youngatart.co.nz/>, email: admin@youngatart.co.nz or phone: 021 161 6412. Bookings are essential as places are limited.



PUKEKOHE EAST PLAYCENTRE welcomes new members.

For a fun, stimulating and supportive learning environment we invite you to visit us today.

Session days: Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays

Session time: 9am to 12pm

Ages: birth to school age

For enquiries please phone [09-238 0594](tel:09-238-0594)

email pukekoheeast@playcentre.org.nz

or just pop in for a visit during session time.

The Flash Bang Science club are holding a children's science workshop 'ELECTRIFYING SCIENCE' in Pukekohe and Ellerslie for the next holidays. For more information or to book please check out: <http://www.flashbangscienceclub.co.nz/holiday-workshops/> email: admin@flashbangscienceclub.co.nz or phone: 021 161 6412. Bookings are essential as places are limited.