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Pukeatua Press

What's happening in the School and Community?
Read all about it inside!

Newsletter

The pool really is a life saver
on hot days



BOARD & SCHOOL

Welcome to the start of 2019's school year. I hope that you have all been able to enjoy some relaxing time with family and friends and are now ready for the onslaught of the educational year! As always, the first term is a busy one as we make the most of the good weather. So with that in mind, I would like to let you all know of the "big" events happening this term:

- **Junior Swimming, 22 Feb**—a fun day demonstrating what the students can do. Come along, bring a picnic and enjoy the day.
- **Senior Swimming, 1 March**—an emphasis on having a go
- **Triathlon, 7 March**—All students to participate, Juniors will be buddied up with a Senior student to help them around the course. **Get bikes ready now! Remember that every child needs a helmet.** Bikes should be at school by Monday 4 March for practices. Bikes will be locked at all times.
- **Senior Camp—Years 5-8, Napier 11-15 March**

School is well under way now and thank you to all those who have attended to their children's stationery needs. To those still to do so, remember that payment options are available so please contact the office to make arrangements.

COMING EVENTS

2019

Feb	15	Flamin Pizza, Pukeatua Hall, 5pm
	22	E-Z Junior Swimming Sports
	25	BOT Meeting
Mar	1	E-Z Senior Swimming Sports
	4	Bikes at school
	7	School Triathlon
	11-15	Senior Camp at Hastings
Apr	3-4	Parent Interviews
	5	E-Z Touch Tournament
Jun	7	Cross Country
	14	Teacher Only Day

Next Newsletter: Thursday 21st February 2019

All items for the next newsletter are due by:

12 noon, Tuesday 19th February 2019

The next **Board Of Trustees Meeting** will be held in the Pukeatua School staff room on **Monday 25th February 2019 at 7.00 pm**

Everyone is most welcome to attend

TERM DATES FOR 2019

Term 1:	Tues 29 Jan to Fri 12 April
Term 2:	Mon 29 April to Fri 5 July
Term 3:	Mon 22 July to Fri 27 September
Term 4:	Mon 14 October to Dec (TBC)

Thank You To the team of ladies who either helped and or donated food to provide lunches for the Marshalls of the 4x4 National Trial on 19 January. They all very much enjoyed their lunches and wished to thank you all. Your fundraising efforts go towards the many subsidised events on the school calendar ie Visiting artists, Year 8 Trip, Senior Camp, Day Trips etc

Attendance

As part of our reporting to the BOT we report against attendance, this will also be reported to you in your child's report. We have a target attendance of 92% and above. We found this interesting breakdown when compiling the individual children's attendance rates.

The Ministry of Education attendance rates are as follows:

Absence Rates across the year:			
Acceptable	95%	=	10 days (2 weeks of school missed across the school year)
A concern	90%	=	20 days (4 weeks of missed school, one month)
Critical concern	85%	=	30 days (6 weeks of missed school, over half a term)
Very serious	80%	=	40 days (8 weeks of missed school, nearly one term)

Another interesting but scary fact - If your child misses one day a fortnight for various reasons, by the time they reach Year 10 they will have missed a whole year of schooling.

Absences do have a significant impact on a child's learning, please be mindful of this!

DISTRICT NOTICES

Small 2 Bedroom cottage

available to rent in
Pukeatua

Includes carport & Heat pump
Rent \$200 week

Contact James & Carolyn
Houghton

0274377632

Taoist Tai Chi Arapuni Hall

A beginners class is starting
on **Tuesday 5th March** at
10.00 am

Tai Chi is a gentle form of
exercise that stretches and
relaxes the body. It improves
energy, balance and flexibility

Enquiries to Lesley
Ph 07 883 5763

Or Kathy
Ph 07 872 2852



Pukeatua
War
Memorial
Church

Sunday 17th February

11.15 am Anglican
Family Eucharist

Sunday 28th April

11.15 am
ANZAC Service

All Welcome

The Church is available
for Weddings,
Funerals and Baptisms

Enquiries to
Kathie Claypole

Ph 872 4352

Principal's Message



Welcome to the new school year. We trust you had a great break over the holiday period with your families and we hope the New Year has started well for all! We especially welcome the 11 new students who have joined us! We started the year with 87 children which is 20 more than last year and 20 plus more than the year before! Welcome to the new families whose children have started at our school and we hope you enjoy your association with us! The weather was testing the first week with temperatures in the low 30's. Thankfully we have air con in most rooms and that we have a very good swimming pool! Some children had 4 swims in one day! Keeping cool does allow you to concentrate more!

On the subject of the pool, we thank **Adam Stockholmes** for keeping it going so well over the summer break! The job is not as easy as it looks as weather and usage can alter the fine balance quickly! We know many families have enjoyed the facility! We are lucky indeed! At bigger schools the children only get to swim 4 times a week!

Thank you to the parents who responded quickly to all the demands of a new school year in regards to stationery and other school payments. The amount paid does add up but I think we are pretty cheap when comparing to a new start at Secondary School!

This term does go pretty quickly because we are busy doing lots of "first term things!" **Swimming sports, triathlon, Senior School camp** to name a few! The senior children are looking forward to their week in the Hawkes Bay. We will be taking away a few more children than we normally do and we look forward to seeing and doing activities in a great part of the country.

There has been a lot of discussion in the media about the the **"Tomorrow's Schools Independent Taskforce"** recommendations for the future of schooling in New Zealand. There has been a 146 page document sent to schools to digest! It is interesting reading but will take a while to get through! In the end, what will be will be, as the Ministry and the Government tend to do what they want in the end! On a similar note there are **planned meetings for teachers sometime this term** to further discuss the teacher shortage, recruitment and retention and working conditions for teachers.

Next week we will be sending out a short form for parents / care-givers to fill in and return to school. From the feedback we can form our Strategic Plan for the next 5 years and include your ideas of what's important to Pukeatua people in our curriculum. Look out for that next week and please add pen to paper and send back.

Quote of the week

"For last year's words belong to last year's language. And next year's words await another voice. And to make an end is to make a beginning."
TS Elliot

Pupils of the week

Meela Jacobsen, Jake Gillespie, Hayden Curtis, Jaiden Molina,
Jaskaran Singh, Sayan Slade.

John McLean

Principal