



Gate Pā School
Pukehinahina

WHĀNAU - SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Tuesday 22nd March

Newsletter No. 3



For ongoing updates, please follow us on Facebook - Gate Pā School- Pukehinahina

Kia ora whānau

COVID seems to have peaked at our kura with a much smaller number of daily cases being reported. Check out our school facebook for specific details. New cases include staff. Relievers are particularly hard to source in this climate so please bear with us as we do our best to organise classes with the staff we have available. Please continue to report positive cases and household contacts. Hard learning packs are available for those tamariki who need to isolate. Sincere thanks for your support and communication as together we have (touch wood) navigated the worst of this outbreak.

New Staff



Room 9 Kaiako (Teacher) Sadly, Ms Yasmin Waltham has resigned from her teaching position at Gate Pā School. Ms Waltham has been at Gate Pā School for over 20 years and is loved and respected by staff, students and the wider community. She will be missed. We wish her well. Ms Waltham's position is currently being advertised, in the meantime we welcome Ms Ellen McDougall. Whaea Ellen will be the teacher in Room 9 for the remainder of the term. Ellen is familiar with our kura as she worked at Gate Pā School as a Teacher Aide before training to be a teacher. Ellen is passionate about the outdoors, especially swimming and fishing. Welcome back Ellen.



Caretaker

A warm welcome to our new caretaker, Matua Tux.
Ko Mauao te maunga
Ko Tauranga te moana
Ko Takitimu me Mataatua nga waka
Ko Ngati Ranginui me Ngai te Rangī oku iwi
Ko Ngati He me Ngai te Ahi oku hapu
Ko Takiri Ririnui (Matua Tux) toku ingoa.



Van Driver

Matua Jess is our new van driver. He is already loving our happy, chatty tamariki.
Jess has three grown up children and four grand-children.
Previous roles include being a watchmaker. He loves walking and military history.
Haere mai Jess.

School Grounds Update

Junior Playground - The revamp of our junior playground is scheduled for completion by the end of the April school holidays. Until then we have to cope with some parts being cornered off. It will be worth it!

Carparks - For pick-up and drop-offs, parents/caregivers please use the Church car-park. For safety reasons, the staff car-park is for staff use only.

Security - Our grounds are for everyone to enjoy, please feel free to use our awesome facilities after school hours. If you see anyone not respecting our grounds, please call the police or Nutech security on 07 578 8233.

Comments and Complaints

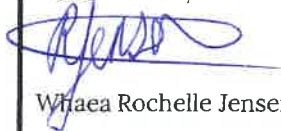
We do our best everyday to get it right for every child, your feedback supports us to know if this is happening. If you have any feedback - positive or negative, we want to hear it. In line with our school policy, in the first instance please meet with the person directly involved to discuss the matter. If the matter remains unresolved please contact a member of the senior management team.

Staff Only Day

Our first Staff Only Day was scheduled for Friday the 18th March however this was postponed due to being in the middle of the Omicron outbreak. The second is planned to go ahead so school will be closed for all students on **Thursday 14th April**, therefore the last day of term 1 is **Wednesday the 13th April**. Staff Only Days are part of the conditions negotiated for all NZ teachers in the Primary Teachers' Collective Agreement. They aim to reduce teacher workload by enabling time for professional learning. Thanks in advance for your support.

Hoping we will soon be able to welcome all whānau on site for some fun and celebration !

Noho ora mai,



Whaea Rochelle Jensen (Tumuaki/Principal)



Haere Mai / Welcome to our new tamariki:

Anahera, Paeton, Storme-Severe, Tipene, Korbyn,
Noah, Ivory, Billy, Leah, Alfie, Ava, Brayson, Ranginui,

Kiara, Amos, Iosefatu, Faith, Aloiafi,

Turirangi, Carlene, Lennox and Ayani.

It is great to have you here!



2022 Important Dates

Term 1

- Wednesday 13th April-End of Term 1.
- Thurs 14th April-Staff Only Day (School Closed).
- Fri 15th April-Good Friday (School Closed).

Term 2

- Mon 2nd May-Term 2 Starts.
- Fri 3rd June-Staff Only Day (School Closed).
- Mon 6th June-Queen's Birthday (School Closed).
- Wed 8th June-School Photos.
- Fri 24th June-Matariki (School Closed).
- Thurs 30th June-Student Led Conference & Art Exhibition.
- Fri 8th July-End of Term 2.

Term 3

- Mon 25th July-Term 3 starts.
- Fri 30th September-Term 3 ends.

Term 4

- Mon 17th October-Term 4 Starts.
- Wed 14th December-End of Term 4