



Gate Pā School
Pukehinahina

WHĀNAU - SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Monday 17th July - Term 3

Newsletter No. 7



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Empowering Tamariki to Become Rangatira Who Value the Past to Create the Future

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Rochelle Jensen

Kia ora, Talofa Lava, Malo e lelei,
Bonjour, Ni Hao, Namaste, Olá, Hello,

Welcome to Term 3, a term packed with exciting learning opportunities including a focus on visual arts and drama. This is made possible through the establishment of an Art specialist role which will see every class involved in structured art lessons. Preparing for our production, 'Taurikura', will also dominate the first half of term 3 as children not only become familiar with a local legend but also develop their skills in music and drama.

NEW STAFF

Continual roll growth means new staff. This term we welcome back Whaea Ellen McDougall and Whaea Olivia Amundsen. Whaea Ellen will be team teaching with Whaea Sandra Sells before starting a new Y0/1 class in Room 1. Whaea Olivia will be relieving throughout the school. We also welcome third year University of Waikato student Matua Flynn Henderson. Matua Flynn will be a student teacher in Rm 15.

SAFETY

Keeping our tamariki safe is our number 1 priority, because of this we are making changes to our end of day exit procedures.

School Starts: 8.55am -- School Ends: 2.55pm

Report Attendance ☒ 0275785325 www.gatepa.school.nz ☎ 075785325 ext 1



Gate Pā School
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WHĀNAU - SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Tuesday 7th February

Newsletter No. 1



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Rochelle Jensen

These changes will impact many families so please read the **attached newsletter**. These changes will come into effect from next Monday 24th July. A 'Keeping Ourselves Safe' learning programme run in collaboration with the NZ Police is also a focus of Term 3 - **see letter overleaf** for more details including information about a parent meeting.

CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS

A reminder to all whānau that we welcome your feedback as we strive to do the best for each and every child. If you have any concerns or complaints, please follow our policy. This is available on our school website and is summarised here:

1. Contact the person involved to arrange a time to discuss the matter. This is likely to be the classroom teacher.
2. If still unresolved, please contact the school to request a meeting with a senior staff member. Depending on the nature of the concern this could be a Team Leader, Assistant Principal or Principal.

3. If still unresolved or if you feel your concern is more serious, please put the complaint in writing and send it to the Presiding member (BOT chairperson). Contact details are on our website.

MATARIKI MUFTI DAY - THIS FRIDAY

A mufti day will be one of the many activities held this week to celebrate Matariki. Tamariki are encouraged to dress in bright colours and bring a gold coin donation with proceeds going towards production props and costumes. Our Friends of the School group will also be selling \$1 munchies including popcorn, chips and drinks.

Finally, we look forward to working with you this term to nurture the talents of each and everyone of our tauira (students) and extend a warm welcome to new families.

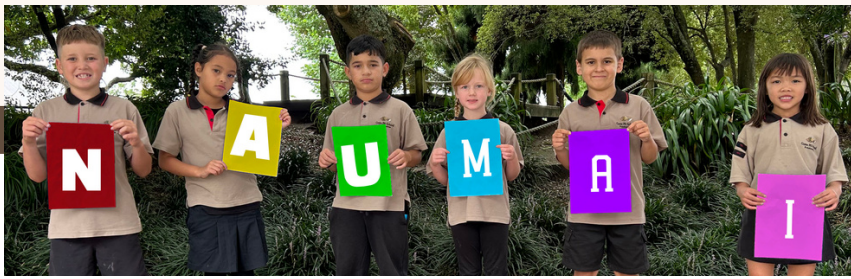
He waka eke noa - We are all in this together.

Noho ora mai,

Whaea Rochelle Jensen

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NAU MAI, HAERE MAI - WELCOME TO OUR NEW TAMARIKI:

Legend, Reihana, Cacia-Faye, Alike Qiji Su,
Katie, Aditya, Ashira.

IT IS GREAT TO HAVE YOU HERE!

Term 3 Dates

- Matariki Mufti Day - Friday 21st July
- Thurs 20th July 9:30am-Keeping Ourselves Safe Parent Meeting
- Wed 2nd August 6:30pm - BOT Mtg
- Thurs 24th August 6:00pm - School Production
- Wed 6th September 6:00pm - BOT Mtg
- Fri 8th Sept - Choir Perform at Baycourt
- Mon 11th- Fri 22nd Sept - Life Education
- Mon 18th Sept - School Closed - Staff Only Day

Events specific to syndicates/teams will be communicated via syndicate newsletters.

New Polo Shirts

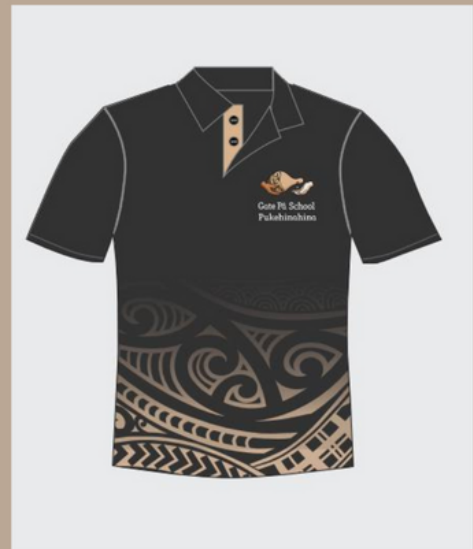
Can now be purchased - \$35

Order online from:

<https://www.gatepa.school.nz/store>

You can pre-order via our online store and then pay in person via eftpos or cash.

All orders must be done through the store for stock taking purposes, if you cannot get onto the web to use our online store please come to the office.





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KEEPING OURSELVES SAFE

17th July 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian

Over the next two weeks, we will be teaching the personal safety programme Keeping Ourselves Safe. Keeping Ourselves Safe has been designed to give students the skills to cope in situations involving abuse. It has three overall aims:

- to develop and strengthen children's skills to keep themselves safe with other people, both online and face to face. This includes stranger danger, appropriate touch and bullying.
- to support and encourage abused children to get help from caring adults
- to make teachers and parents and caregivers more aware of the need to keep children safe from abuse by adults or other children.

Keeping Ourselves Safe will be taught by your child's teacher, with support from the local Police School Community Officer as required.

To be successful, Keeping Ourselves Safe needs your help and support. Your child may have home activities to work on with you. It is important that you participate as much as possible and talk to your child about what they have been learning. This will reinforce the messages the school is giving, and help your child to use his or her new skills with confidence.

A parent and caregiver meeting will be held as follows:

- Date: Thursday 20th July, 2023
- Time: 9.30 am
- Venue: Gate Pā School Staffroom

Please contact the school, your local Police, or go to the NZ Police website <https://www.police.govt.nz/> if you want more information about the programme or child abuse.



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Monday 17th July, 2023

IMPORTANT CHANGES : CHILDREN EXITING SCHOOL AT THE END OF THE DAY

Kia ora e te whānau

Due to feedback from whānau and recent events that have put our students at risk, we have reviewed our school exit procedures. This is to maximise the safety for our youngest and most vulnerable children. These important changes will come into effect on Monday 24th July. Please read the details carefully and make contact if required. Your support will be necessary as we implement these changes.

NEW PROCEDURE: CHILDREN EXITING SCHOOL AT THE END OF THE DAY

The following is effective from Monday 24th July:

Children in Years 0 to Year 2 will have pick up time from 2:45pm. This means that if you have a child in any of the following rooms you can collect them from 2:45pm: Room 1, Room 2, Room 3, Room 4, Room 5, Room 6, Room 7, Whare Reo Juniors and Room 8. Senior students with siblings in these rooms will also be dismissed at 2:45pm so they can meet their younger siblings.

Children in Years 0 to Year 2 will ONLY be released to an adult or senior sibling. This process will be supervised by the classroom teacher and will happen outside the classroom or inside if wet. With the exception of Whare Reo juniors who will wait outside Room 2.

If Y0-Y2 children have not been collected by 3.10pm the children will be brought to the office by the class teacher and home will be contacted to come and collect them. The exception is if they are waiting until 3:15pm for a sibling from Tauranga Girls' College.

In short, our children in YO- Y2 will not be released to walk home by themselves or to make their way to surrounding carparks. Parents/Caregivers will need to come and collect their child(ren) from outside the classroom. The only exception is if we have written permission from the parent/caregiver to the classroom teacher.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I have a child in Y0-Y2. What is the best thing for me to do?

The safest option is to arrive at 2:45 pm, park in the church carpark and collect your child from their class.

Can I wait in the car for my child (Y0-Y2) ?

No.

Where shall I park?

The church carpark. There is ample parking here and it is safe and close. The Girls' College carpark is out of bounds to us and is also very unsafe due to the multiple traffic movements that occur.

My child goes to Coastkids and/or they use the school van. What happens now?

Nothing changes as children in Y0-Y2 are already collected from their class by a Learning Assistant.

I have two children(Y0-Y2), can they make their way home together?

No.

I have special circumstances and this is not going to work for me?

Please contact the classroom teacher so we can work this through with you. Written permission from the parent/caregiver to the classroom teacher will be required.

I have a young child(Y0-Y2) and older ones (Y3-6). How does this work?

Your older child(ren) will be released from class at 2:45pm, they can pick up the younger child and leave school together.

My children are all older than Y2. What happens?

Nothing changes. They will be dismissed at 2:55pm to make their way home as usual.

Thanks in anticipation for your support with these changes.

Any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Ngā mihi nui,

Rochelle Jensen - Tumuaki / Principal