



# Team Pukeko

## Term 1

### Newsletter 2019

**Tena koutou katoa**  
**Hello Team Pukeko Families,**

A very warm welcome to the new school year to all of you. We hope the Summer holidays treated you well and you have created many long lasting and fun filled memories with your family. It will be great to meet you all over the next few weeks as we work together on your child's learning journey in 2019. We are looking forward to a fabulous year ahead.

#### Beginning of the year

During the first few weeks of school, we will focus on getting to know your child, their interests, strengths and their challenges. Most likely your child is eager to reunite with friends and make new ones. During this time we will focus on friendship skills, team building and familiarise the children with Team Pukeko's expectations and routines. All of which are needed for successful learning in our collaborative environment.

#### Arrival in the Morning

We encourage you to arrive 8.30am or shortly after. This will allow children to unpack their bag, catch up with friends and have a short play on the playground.



If you arrive at school before 8.30am wait in the shelter until the 8:30am bell.

#### Daily Routine

Your child will start their day in their Whanau class at 8:55am. The Whanau teacher will ensure that all children are settled, take the roll, and have Calendar Maths.

Throughout the day the children will be immersed in learning through play across the curriculum, attend workshops for instructional teaching in maths and literacy. Also, interwoven throughout the day will be explicit teaching of key competencies, positive behaviour for learning values and active learner profiles.

Our School Values are	NZ Key Competencies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respect</li> <li>• Kindness</li> <li>• Integrity</li> <li>• Resilience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thinking</li> <li>• Using language symbols and text</li> <li>• Managing self</li> <li>• Relating to others</li> <li>• Participating and contributing</li> </ul>

#### Active Learner Profile

- Active Learners
- Collaborative
- Creative & Critical
- Digitally Fluent
- Engaged Citizens

#### Growing Independence

Five, six and seven-year olds benefit from being able to do things for themselves. Carrying their own bag into school, checking that their bookbag, lunch, drink bottle and hat etc are in their bag before they leave for school are all examples of growing their independence.



#### Late Arrival / Early Pick-ups

If your child has arrived after 8:55 please report to the office to collect a **yellow card**. If you are picking your child up before 3:00, please report to the office before collecting your child. You will be given an **orange slip** to confirm you are taking your child early.

#### After school pick up arrangements

To begin the year we will dismiss the children when there is someone there to collect them. Please talk with your child about who is picking them up after school. Let your child's Whanau teacher know if your pick up arrangement changes so we can provide support. Please advise the office when are you running late in the afternoon.

#### We are a sunsmart school

Children must have a named sunhat at school and will be asked to stay in the shade to play if they do not have a hat.



It is also a good idea to apply sunscreen to your child before school.



#### Lunchbox Checklist:

- Healthy snacks
- Litter free
- Keep treats for after school

### How our Learning Through Play Environment works

Our environment allows children to grow self regulated learning skills. Pukeko Learners will practise hands-on learning in real life contexts as well as manipulate and play with loose parts to startle their imagination, explore their interests and problem solve. Authentic Play is an essential part of your child's social, emotional, physical and cognitive development and a valued mode of learning.

In our learning through play environment children are encouraged to test ideas, work through uncertainties, explore social interactions and make sense of the world around them. We aim to help your children to understand 'how they learn' and to encourage them to be self reflective learners - transferable skills which will hold them in good stead for future learning.

Our learning environment is divided into two main areas, our 'Workshop Space' in room 5 and our 'Learning Through Play Hub' located in rooms 6, 7, 8 and the court area outside the ESOL room. We teach Literacy and Numeracy skills in our workshop space and our learners have the opportunity to practise these alongside their exploration through play in our hub.

Team Pukeko teachers rotate the roles of workshop and hub teaching which means that your child will be taught by every teacher at some point during the term.

### Donations/ Recyclable materials

Donations of the following *clean* recyclable materials are always welcome. Please take to Room 8.

- Cardboard tubes
- Egg cartons
- Plastic bottle caps
- Squeeze Yogurt caps
- Ribbon
- Flowers
- Shells
- Buttons
- Cardboard boxes
- Stickers
- Feathers
- Paper plates
- Paper cups
- CDs
- Greeting cards
- Milk bottle tops



- 7 - 14 Feb → Life Education
- 14 Feb → Swimming (2018 Pukeko children only)
- 20 Feb → Meet the Team Evening 6-7pm
- 5 March → House Play Day
- 6 March → Rain Day for House Play Day
- 15 March → Team Pukeko's turn to share at School Assembly approx 9.45am
- 8 Feb, 20 Feb, 15 March, 22 March → Families in the Parks
- 12 April → End of Term

### Parent Help

We are interested to hear from those parents who are able to help in the classroom or take some work away to do at home.

We will always need help with

- Sharpening pencils
- Sorting/ tidying equipment

If you have an hour of time during the school day that you could spend listening to children's reading or working with small groups - please let us know.



### Seesaw

Your child will have their own individual Seesaw journal which you can access via smartphone or computer. Students and teachers use this platform to share pictures and Learning Stories with you. Parents and whanau have the opportunity to see their children's work and leave comments and encouragement.

It is a great way to connect with what your child is learning on a regular basis.

### Inquiry Learning - Who are we? Ko wai au?

In the beginning of the term, we will focus on exploring our personal identity. We will investigate what makes a good friend, how we know what other people could be feeling and how to respond to challenges in our learning. We will enhance our inquiry learning in our collaborative environment.



## Home Learning

As our focus in the first few weeks is on building relationships with your children and taking time to settle them in to routines we will not be sending readers home straight away. It is good to keep in mind that your child has had a busy day at school and may be quite tired when they get home and will slowly build up resilience to the school day over the coming weeks.

### Literacy

To start with your child may want you to read their reader for them. This is perfectly acceptable as we want to foster enjoyment in reading. Reading to children is so valuable. Through listening to you read, children will hear how reading should sound as you model fluency and phrasing. At the end of reading we encourage you to talk about what has happened in the book and get them to talk about any new words they find interesting or don't understand.

Some of the ways you can include writing at home include

- Writing shopping lists together
- Writing to whanau and friends handwritten and email
- Writing outside with pavement chalk



Talking with your child is another way you can enrich their oral language development. Take time to talk through problems and encourage conversations whenever possible.

### Numeracy

Some of the ways you can include numeracy at home include

- Finding numbers around your house and neighbourhood
- Counting forwards and backwards starting with different numbers
- Playing board and dice games together like Snakes and Ladders
- Talking about shapes you can see in the environment around you
- Measuring and counting in authentic contexts such as cooking, sharing out items and using money



## Communication

Please feel free to contact us if you need to discuss anything. Open lines of communication between the parent, learner and teachers are vital to us. If the matter requires more time we recommend that you make an appointment. **The Whanau teacher will always be the first port of call.**

### Team Pukeko Teachers

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