



# Team Pukeko

## Term 2

### Newsletter 2019

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

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back to the start of Term 2. We loved hearing the holiday stories children told us, and we love even more seeing them occupied with learning. What a great start to the term. A special welcome to our new families. We are glad to have you!

#### Beginning of the Term

Whilst it was sad to farewell our wonderful colleague and teacher Ms Lynley Bendall at the end of last term, we are extremely fortunate to welcome Mrs Sarah Huppler to our team for the next few weeks. From her time in Team Fantail she already has wonderful relationships with many of our children and is doing a great job! We also welcome Learning Assistant Rapeka Kitson to the Team. She will be working in our team 5 mornings a week.

#### Learning with our Wilson School Friends

This year we are lucky to be able to work closely with our colleagues and friends from the Wilson School. In term 1 we started collaborating in our outdoor learning space encouraging our students to play together, sharing fun, laughter and understanding through play. We joined forces for our School Assembly item and since then have explored how we can encourage more interaction between our two teams. Daily opportunities for shared play will continue along with buddy reading and shared fortnightly assemblies. On Tuesday and Thursday afternoons the Wilson School are hosting small groups of children for music and games which has been really popular with the children.

#### Daily Routine

Your child will continue to start their day in their Whanau class at 8:55am. Their Whanau teacher will ensure that all children are settled, take the roll, and have Calendar Maths, Oral Language and Phonics activities before moving into Whanau Writing, Learning Through Play Hub activities and Workshops.

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> </ul>
Active Learner Profile	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Active Learners</li> <li>● Collaborative</li> <li>● Creative &amp; Critical</li> <li>● Digitally Fluent</li> <li>● Engaged Citizens</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Managing self</li> <li>● Relating to others</li> <li>● Participating and contributing</li> </ul>



#### Writing Inquiry

Team Pukeko are undertaking an Inquiry focusing on enhancing the speaking, listening and writing skills of students in our Team. As part of this inquiry we have taken steps to adapt our weekly timetable to facilitate this. Three mornings a week the children will be immersed in activities that

develop their phonics skills, and foster their understanding, enjoyment and confidence in the writing process. We will be focusing on developing learning goals for writing during our Goal Setting Conferences in a couple of weeks.

#### Arrival in the Morning

We encourage you to arrive at 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.

#### 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 etc are in their bag before they leave for school are all examples of growing their independence.



#### Late Arrival / Early Pickups

If your child has arrived after 8:55am please report to the office to collect a **yellow card**. If you are picking your child up before 3:00pm, 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

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. Most afternoons, teaching staff have meeting commitments many of which start at 3:15.

#### 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 Yoghurt caps
- Ribbon
- Flowers
- Shells
- Buttons
- Cardboard boxes
- Stickers
- Feathers
- Paper plates
- Paper cups
- CDs
- Greeting cards
- Milk bottle tops



- 14 May → Junky Monkey
- 17 May → Pink Shirt Day
- 20 & 21 May → Goal Setting Conferences
- 3 June → Queen's Birthday holiday
- 7 June → Team Pukeko Item in Assembly
- 19 June → Community Education Evening @ Glenfield College
- 28 June → Glenfield Matariki Festival @ Windy Ridge School
- 5 July → End of Term
  
- Date to be confirmed → Museum Trip



All Team Pukeko Learners regularly expand their learning journal and report about their learning activities. This term we are going to support children to use Seesaw as a tool to explain their thinking and make it visible. Seesaw gives families an immediate and personalised window into our learning space and many parents have been commenting on their child's learning. Thank you to all parents who have made an effort to look at, and discuss their child's profile regularly.

This term, we have started teaching the students to capture their own learning through photos and videos. You will see them starting to reflect on their learning through adding captions and voice recordings to their journal entries.

### Dressing for the Colder Months

Our rooms are heated during the colder season. When choosing clothes for your child use thin, warm layers rather than one thick layer. It will insulate better and allows children to remove layers if the temperature climbs or when they are inside. Please name all clothing, so it can be easily returned to the owner when left lying around.



### 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.



## Home Learning

Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to develop a home learning routine with your children. It is important now, for the children to be reading the browsing books, and workshop readers they bring home from school. We will be checking your children's reading diary at least once a week this term. Well done to those children who have already achieved their 25 nights reading stickers!

In addition, we have sent some students home with alphabet charts and suggestions for how you can work with your children to help them learn their letter names and sounds at home. This term we will also be sending home high frequency ring word sets with children who need them. Being able to recognise these words quickly will help them develop reading fluency.

### Literacy

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.

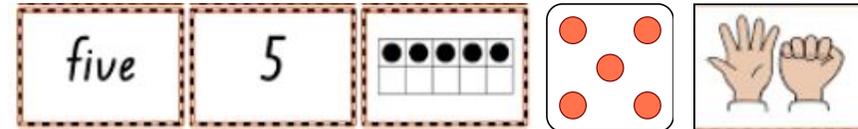
Take time to talk through problems and encourage conversations whenever possible.

Our Team Library day is a Friday. Your child will be able to return their library books and choose new library books weekly. The library is also open daily during lunchtimes.

### Numeracy

We have noticed some knowledge gaps across the team that you may want to work on at home with your children:

- 'Teen' and 'Ty' confusions when counting eg saying '90' for '19' - ask your child to emphasise the 'teen' part of the word when they count from 10-20
- Counting backwards starting with different numbers and being able to say the number that comes before a given number. This will help with subtraction problems
- Basic Facts - number bonds and doubles and halves to 10
- Subitising - instantly recognising number patterns to 10 on hands, tens frames dice etc



## 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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