



Team Pukeko

Term 4

Newsletter 2019

Tena koutou katoa
Hello Team Pukeko Families,

Term 4 is well and truly underway and we extend a very warm welcome to you all, especially to our new children and their families. We hope you had a great spring break. As always, it is going to be a busy term in the lead up to the summer holidays.

For the next 4 weeks we are very lucky to have Mr L working alongside us. It will be great to have an extra pair of hands.

Beginning of the Term

The focus for our first week was on re-establishing routines and behaviour expectations throughout our 'Learning Through Play' hub. We have also started to teach the children how to 'Buddy Read' and this will be happening everyday, straight after lunch. The children are enjoying the process and are being very supportive teachers for one another.

Numeracy and Literacy workshops are back up and running this week in room 5.

Windy Ridge Mural Project

For the first two Mondays of the term, Windy Ridge students have had the opportunity to work with guest artists to produce a painted wooden bird representative of their teams. On Monday week 2, it was Team Pukeko's turn to paint our Pukekos.

The finished pieces will be displayed on the fences by the Teachers carpark.

Handwriting

In Term 3, we started a handwriting programme with our whanau classes. This has been a great success and we have noticed a big improvement in the children's confidence, neatness and proficiency. The children are proud of how much improvement they can see for themselves in just 1 term. Well done everyone!

Phonics and Spelling

This term we will be focussing on phonics and spelling in Team Pukeko. In simple terms, Phonics is understanding and using the letters and the sounds they represent for the purpose of reading and writing. We will be grouping the children according to their phonics stages so that we can target the teaching to the children's learning.



Library

We have changed our timetable slightly this term.

Whanau 7 & 8 will have library on Tuesday afternoons
Whanau 5 & 6 will have library on Friday afternoons

Firewise Programme



To complete our Firewise programme we will be having a visit from Firefighters who will bring in their fire engine and talk to the children. We are in discussion with the Fire Service, and will let you know the day once we have a date confirmed.



- 28 Oct → Labour Day Holiday
- 4 Nov → Photolife Class Photos
- 6 Nov → Football Taster Sessions
- 15 Nov → Scooter Skills Training
- 15 Nov → School Disco 6 - 7:30pm
- 18 Nov → School Athletics Day (Seniors)
- 19 Nov → School Athletics Day (Juniors + whole school sprint finals)
- 22 Nov → Families in Parks (5-7pm)
- 29 Nov → ESOL end of year celebration & Shared Lunch
- 9 Dec → Prizegiving Assembly
- 11 Dec → Wheels Day
- 18 Dec → Last Day of School

- Firefighter Visit (TBC)
- Pukeko Cultural Big Day In (TBC)

Athletics

On Thursday afternoons we will be starting to train for athletics. Activities will include running, jumping and throwing. Please support your children in wearing appropriate shoes and sporty clothes.



Pokemon Club

For those children who are interested, Ms Maxwell is running a Pokemon club during lunchtime on Thursdays.. This provides the children with a supervised time to play together with their Pokemon cards. Mrs Law has a box in her room to keep cards safe.

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
- Tape
- Paper

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, Handwriting, 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"> • Respect • Kindness • Integrity • Resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thinking • Using language symbols and text
Active Learner Profile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing self
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Learners • Collaborative • Creative & Critical • Digitally Fluent • Engaged Citizens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relating to others • Participating and contributing



All Team Pukeko Learners regularly expand their learning journal and report about their learning activities. This term we will continue 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.



As part of our Learning Through Play Hub during the Summer Months, we will be including water play in our planning for the outside area. It would be a good idea for the children to bring a change of clothes to school each day just in case they get wet.



During Term 4, children are required to wear a sun hat when outside. **Brimmed** sun hats protect best from the sun. The weather will become warm so we need to be sun smart. Children without sun hats will be asked to stay in the shade and they will miss out on playing. A good idea is to have a hat which can be left at school during the week and taken home for a wash on Fridays. Please apply sunscreen to your child before school.

Home Learning

Daily reading is important. Book bags will be coming home every day for the children to practise their reading with you. In addition to their workshop readers, children will take buddy reading books home each day. The focus for reading these books is on fluency and expression. Please remind the children to **bring their book bags to school daily** and put them in their whanau class book bag boxes when they arrive in the morning.. We have a school policy of **'No book bag no book.'**

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.

When your child gets stuck on a word you could prompt them by saying:

"Get your mouth ready for that word and say the first sound. What word can you think of that starts with that sound and would make sense in the story?"

"What can you see in the picture that might help you?"

"Read the sentence again and think about a word that would sound right and make sense."

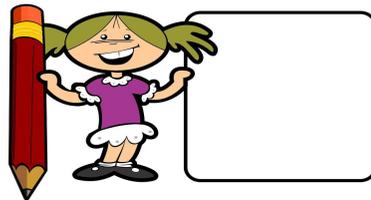
Some of the ways you can include **writing** at home include

- 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.

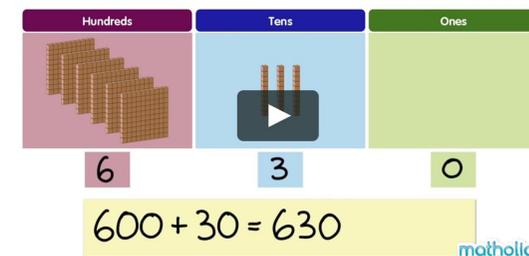


Numeracy

We would like to let you know the next areas for development. Here are some things you may wish to work on at home with your children:

- **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
- **Place Value** - knowing how many tens and ones there are in 2 digit numbers and then moving towards hundreds tens and ones in 3 digit numbers

How many blocks?



- **Basic Facts** - Having instant recall of the addition pairs to 10 eg 2+8, 3+7 etc, Knowing doubles and halves to 10 eg 2+2, 4+4
- **Skip counting** - forwards and backwards in 2's to 20, 5's to 50 and 10's to 100 is a good lead in to early multiplication and division.

A good online resource for ideas on how to help your child with maths at home can be found on the NZmaths website. <https://nzmaths.co.nz/maths-our-house> and <https://nzmaths.co.nz/number-knowledge-activities>

<p>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.</p>  <p>If you arrive at school before 8.30am wait in the shelter until the 8:30am bell.</p>	<p>Growing Independence</p> <p>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.</p> 	<p>Late Arrival / Early Pickups</p> <p>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.</p>
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<p>After school pick up arrangements</p> <p>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 you are running late in the afternoon. Most afternoons, teaching staff have meeting commitments many of which start at 3:15.</p>	<p>Lunchbox Checklist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy snacks • Litter free • Keep treats for after school 	<p>Inquiry Learning - Sharing the planet</p> <p>In the second half of Term 4 we will think and inquire about how we express ourselves. We will look at how different cultures celebrate their special times. We hope to have some input from the many families representative of the 24 different cultures in Team Pukeko.</p> <p>We will be having a Big Cultural Day In followed by a shared lunch. On the day, we will have games and activities from our different cultures, so will value some ideas and help from parents and families.</p>	<p>Reminder - No Toys are to be brought in to school</p> <p>The only exception will be if we send a note home advertising a 'Toy Day' or if it has been pre-arranged with a teacher.</p> 
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Communication
Please feel free to contact us if you need to discuss anything. Open lines of communication between the parent, learner and teachers is 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.**

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