



Newsletter

Wisdom begins with Wonder



Week 6 Term 4 2024

Thursday 21 November

Principal Korero

Athletics - Last week we hosted Ōtāne and Poukawa schools for our annual athletics event at Te Aute College. Before talking about our tamariki, I would like to thank Whaea Kiri and the Te Aute College boys who assisted on the day. They were phenomenal!! Polite, respectful, and willing to help, these young men were fantastic ambassadors for their kura, and we couldn't have done it without them. Tumeke!!

The event itself was a huge undertaking, and I'd like to thank Heidi (Mrs. Slavin) for all her efforts organising and coordinating it. Success doesn't happen by chance, there is a heck of a lot of hard work that often goes unseen!

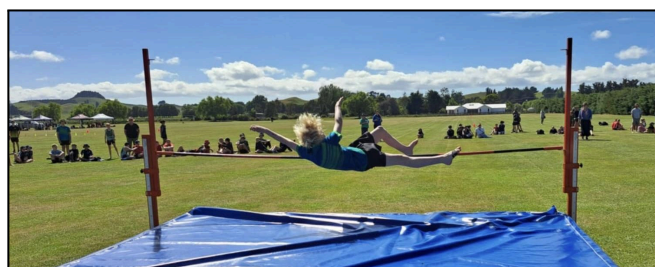
It was awesome to see our tamariki giving it their all on the day. We always talk about our Pukehou School 'can-do attitude' and it was definitely on display throughout the day. I was hugely impressed by the way they encouraged each other and students from the other schools. Because we do a number of events with Ōtāne and Poukawa, it's great to see our students reconnect and reestablish friendships that have developed over time.



CHB Inter school Athletics - This year, the inter school event was held during the day for the first time, and it was a huge success. We took a small group of enthusiastic athletes, the level of competition across all events was very high, so students had to bring their 'A-game!' They all performed admirably, giving it their all.

There were some standout performances. Leo (Y3-4) and Millie (Y5-6) both narrowly missed qualifying for the 100m Sprint finals with the 9th fastest times (their times would have been good enough for 5th in the finals!). Millie did qualify for the gruelling 200m final, finishing 5th! Jayce, after setting the early pace, finished a credible 6th in the open boys 800m. In the open boys Shot Put, Regan did exceptionally well, placing 2nd!!

As always, the event culminates with the 4x100m relays. Our Y5-6 boys team of George, George, Jonny, and Lucca finished 4th in their heat and 5th overall. And Millie and Kayla deserve a special shout out too, for willingly stepping up to run in the Year 7-8 girls relay, doing a commendable job!



Curriculum Day

Our recent Teacher Only Day was hugely beneficial. We received excellent support from our Ministry of Education Curriculum Lead and Miriama Gemmell, an educator from Ngāti Pāhauwera. Because we've been teaching Structured Literacy and PRIME maths for some time, we feel prepared to take on the changes to the English and Maths curriculums. Miriama then worked with us as we collaboratively developed an English unit plan for next term, drawing heavily upon our local context, specifically the Tuki Tuki river. We're still in the planning and collaboration stage, but it was exciting and refreshing!

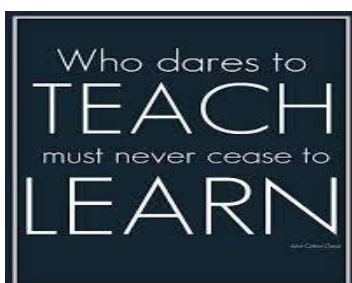
We are still waiting for more direction from the Ministry for what next year's Curriculum Teacher Only Days will look like. We know that there will be two for Maths, but are unsure when.

Sabbatical Awards

Each year, TeachNZ provides a very small number of sabbatical awards for teachers and principals across the country. To put it in context, there are somewhere between 70 - 80,000 teachers and only 50 sabbaticals awarded. Likewise, there are only 105 for principals too. The purpose of a sabbatical is to reflect, rejuvenate, and to undertake professional learning.

In 2025 both myself and Rachael (Mrs. Strong) have won sabbaticals which is exciting! My specific area which I'll be researching is around how schools use local narratives or stories to build graduate profiles for their students. As part of this, I'll be carrying out some literary research and visiting other schools to see it in practice. I'm a huge believer in the power of story and can't wait to bring what I learn back to school to develop learner profiles. Rachael will focus on cultural leadership, improving her reo skills and developing connections with mana whenua.

I would like to reassure you that the Board is working through our staffing options to ensure that there is minimal disruption to the learning programmes in each class. The sabbaticals will be taken in different terms with Rachael taking hers in Term 2 and mine will be in Term 3.



Gymnastics

Not only have we had gymnasts compete at the CHB Festival this year, but four dedicated gymnasts - George, Kayla, Maja, and Stella - competed with distinction at a recent festival at the Omni Gym in Napier. They were outstanding, receiving 'Gold' for excellence in their routines!! We are super proud of these four flexible contortionists. They have trained during lunch breaks to get performance ready!! Thanks to Mrs. O for all her mahi and to Emma for supporting them on the day.



Staff Member Profile

Rachael Strong



I'm the grey haired 52 year old that you see around school. I'm a Mum of a pigeon pair and a Nana to two dear wee girls, Maisie (2 ¼) and Eloise (3 months), who I adore! I'm married to a POM who I met and married whilst on my OE.

I roll my r's as I was born on the banks of the Clutha River, yip I'm a Southerner. However, the Hurricanes are my favourite rugby team as I've been up here since 1987.

I went to Teachers College straight from CHB College and started teaching at Waipukurau School when I was 20. I have been at Pukehou School for a few years and love it and what I do! I always need tissues at prize giving!

I love walking with my dogs Kahu (a farmhouse special) and Ash (a Kingston Labradoodle, we clock up a few kilometres a week. I love nothing more than sitting in my garden reading a good book. I have only ever caught one fish. I do have quite Nanaish hobbies, I love to knit, crochet, sew, and take Nana naps under my Indian bean tree.

Merry Christmas from me to you.

Nga mihi nui,
Rachael

House Points:	PUKEITI	PUKENUI	KAUHEHEI	KAHURANAKI
Week 5 - 6	5,650	4,190	5,500	7,770
End of Term totals:	24,140	18,520	24,830	20,785

Pukehou School Discovery Day



We invite 4 year olds and their parents to visit Pukehou School.

Join Kereru Class (year 0-2) for 'read and feed' (fruit break), join in with art & craft, enjoy a play in the classroom and our playground before morning tea at 11:30.



2024 Discovery Day Dates: 10am-12pm

Term 1: Wednesday 20th March

Term 2: Wednesday 19th June

Term 3: Wednesday 11th September

Term 4: Wednesday 4th December

Please contact Heidi to confirm numbers the week prior.
(06) 856 8169 heidi.slavin@pukehou.school.nz

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IMPORTANT DATES:

(Check updates on the HERO Calendar)

NOVEMBER

SUNDAY 24 PUKEHOU GARDEN TOUR

Wed 29 Final 2024 Pita Pit Lunch option

DECEMBER

Wed 4 4 yr old Discovery Day

Mon 9 Board of Trustees Meeting @ 6 pm

Tues 17 Final Assembly / Prize Giving

Wed 18 End of Term (half day)

2025 start date - Monday 3 February



Our last **Discovery Day** for the year is fast approaching!



If you're considering enrolment or just want to check out whether Pukehou School is the right fit for your child, we'd love to have you visit on Wednesday 4th December 😊

Remember to check **HERO** for more events and to keep an eye on your account.

Regular automatic payments are a fantastic way to keep on top of things. Don't hesitate to ask us if you'd like more information about this option.



**FILTHY FUN @
FLEMINGTON**



I SURVIVED THE FLEMINGTON MUD RUN

