

Pūrākaunui School Pūrākaunui School Newsletter



March 5, 2020

Term 1#2

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Hi everyone.

It has been a busy and exciting couple of weeks since the last newsletter. Camp was a great experience and we have some lovely pictures and stories to include in this newsletter. Thanks to all the parents who joined us on camp to make it all work with regards to logistics. It was pretty cool to explore our own backyard, or peninsula. The weather was excellent for tenting and the setting right beside Hoopers Inlet was beautiful. I spent a fair bit of time gazing up at Hereweka. The lovely warm inlet water at the end of the day was a real treat. The four main activities being the Monarch, the Albatross Colony, the Aquarium and Larnach Castle were all marvellous. Not only were they lots of fun, they were of a very high educational standard. It was awesome to see the engagement of the children throughout camp and their behaviour was excellent. Another highlight for me was being joined by all of the regulars from our Little Papis playgroup for the Monarch trip and Aquarium visit. It was awesome to see our school whanau looking so numerous and to have so many enthusiastic future students with us on an adventure. Next year's camp destination is not yet confirmed so any thoughts or suggestions are welcome. Our first term topic of Food Science has been humming along. We conducted some very interesting experiments with red cabbage which acts as an indicator as to whether various products are acidic or basic (alkaline). This learning about pH levels has complimented some of the interesting learning we did about the pH levels in our local stream as part of last year's Source to Sea work. We have also tried out our new classroom oven with some biscuit and scone baking before camp which all went well and tasted really good! Thanks to John Davidson for sharing his scone making skills with us!

Camp photos 2020 - Otago Peninsula

Water activities at camp. Kayaking and paddle boarding, with the stunning Hereweka backdrop.



Harbourside Junior Football

Harbourside Football Club provides Junior Football in the West Harbour areas from Ravensbourne to Aramoana. Our players range from 5 through to 13.

Registrations are now open and will close on Sunday March the 8th.

Contact either Tim Cook on 4728024 (email timrcc@yahoo.co.nz) or Ian Landreth (email ian_landreth@yahoo.com) on 4728381 to register or for further information.

Motoitoti - Documentary Screening at School **Wednesday the 18th of March 6pm**

The Motoitoti documentary that the school kids were involved with a couple of years ago has been completed, and we have been offered the very exciting opportunity to host a community screening here at school. We have invited Brian Allingham along as a special guest as he was a big part of our school's involvement with the filming. Our interactions with Brian through his archaeological lens while on location at Whareakeake Beach whilst being filmed was an exciting new experience for all of us. We very much look forward to seeing the whole documentary. Everybody is welcome and we will certainly invite our ex-students who were involved in the filming. We plan to begin at 6pm with refreshments, cheese and nibbles followed by a brief introduction with the screening to start at 6:30pm.

Port Chalmers Library Activities.

There are regular activities hosted by the Port Chalmers Library.

There is a Book Club on the first Monday of each month. It starts at 3:30pm and there are some snacks provided. There is also a story session every Thursday afternoon after school for younger children, aimed at pre-school and new entrant aged kids.

Dates for your Diary

Swimming - Every Friday
afternoon, last date March 27
Otago Anniversary Day - Monday
March 23rd
End of Term Assembly -
Wednesday April 8th
End of Term One - Thursday April
9th
Good Friday - Friday April 10th
Term Two Begins - Tuesday April
28th



Fluffy Ducks

Camp photos 2020 - Otago Peninsula

Coronavirus

There is obviously a great deal of coverage in the media about Covid-19 or the coronavirus, especially now there's been positive cases in NZ. I am receiving emails daily about the latest situations and recommendations. The most practical advice received so far concerns hand hygiene, so at school we are practicing good hand washing habits, especially before eating food.

Goal Setting Parent Teacher Meetings

We look forward to catching up with parents over the next two weeks to discuss students' academic and social goals for the first half of the year. These meetings are designed to consolidate our Home-School partnership, and to ensure parents know what their students are currently needing to work on. We will keep aside **Wednesday the 11th and Wednesday the 18th of March and Thursday the 19th of March** for these meetings. Between 5pm and 6pm after Ask Anto is available as well if that is useful. Please let us know a time that suits you.

Fluffy Ducks

Our first two fluffy duck recipients for the year are Nicole and Lachie.

Nicole

Nicole received fluffy duck for an outstanding effort with her reading in her first couple of weeks of school. I could tell she has been reading lots during the summer and practicing. She was also reading aloud with gusto during our big book shared reading sessions. Keep it up Nicole.

Lachie

Lachie received the award in the week leading up to camp as he made some good progress with his efforts at swimming time. It's great to see you having a fun time in the water and learning this great new life skill.



A sheltered spot at Allans Beach, with Fluffy Duck in attendance!

Touch tanks at the aquarium. Hours of fun!



Larnach Castle in the sunshine

Tim Cook
Principal

