



ISSUE 6: Term 2 2016



Empower all People
Whakamanatia nga tangata katoa

"I am excited by the opportunity to work alongside the 'Puke Kid', providing excellent educational opportunities

for all students, teachers, whanau and the wider community to empower each child to achieve their personal best.



I look forward to meeting **with you all."**

– Ngatai Walker

2016 is definitely a year of changes at Puketapu

At the start of the year we welcomed Anna Moratti, a first year teacher, just beginning her teaching career. At the end of Term 1 we said farewell to Mike Johnson, our "Mr J", at the end of his long and illustrious career - 43 years as a teacher and more than 10 years as our Principal.

Now, we look forward to our new Principal, Mr Ngatai Walker, joining us from the start of Term 3. Mr Walker is an experienced educator, formerly Deputy Principal at Inglewood Primary and most recently Learning with Digital Technologies Facilitator with Core Education. Believing strongly in growing positive citizens, he is a leader with a strong knowledge of teaching and learning and a passion for community. He is excited about the role and we are all looking forward to a new and exciting chapter for Puketapu School.

In the meantime I am delighted to be Acting Principal for the term, with the support of all the staff and our wonderful community, continuing to build on all that we have achieved so far.

Together we continue to make Puketapu School a great place to be.

Kia ora tatou

Corinne Sattler, Acting Principal



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Rimu Syndicate

Years 1 & 2



We have been having lots of creative adventures! On Thursday afternoons the children from all rooms in our syndicate have been able to choose from a variety of hands on experiences to have a go at.

It is lovely to have the Year 6 tamariki from Room 9 with us. They are great role models and helpers for us. Working in groups, we have been having a fantastic time creating, building, painting and working alongside each other. We say a big thank you to Woodward's for their donations of wood.



Room 2 have been creating lots of butterflies, so decided to paint a gorgeous garden wall with all sorts of beautiful flowers for them to live in. We have also been working to make sure our class teddies are warm for the winter. We wrote letters and emails to one of the Grandmas and she helped too. Now they have lovely jerseys to keep them warm! We like reading books to our teddies at quiet reading time.



Room 3 had great fun re-designing rainbows and making some amazing edible creations.

Room 4 have been writing letters, to each other, to a pen pal class and also to Mrs James, inviting her back to visit us. We have also spent lots of time in our 'making and creating' area, making art work and practicing our writing in lots of different creative ways.



Totara Syndicate

Years 3 & 4



In term 1, Room 5 wrote Richie McCaw a letter to see if he could come to our class. Miss M sent the letters to Richie McCaw. Everyone was excited. In the letter we did writing to him. It was fun. We said congratulations on winning the New Zealander of the Year. The background was a rugby ball. We love him so much. In term 2 we got some exciting news Richie McCaw sent back a letter and our letters. He signed our letters to show he had read them and said thank you! What a cool experience for us. - *By Room 5*



The Four Fountains

The four fountains sounds like one gigantic bell and three miniature bells, like this do dodo do do do.

There were four items:

- First one, the colour is white based on a frosty peaceful land.
- Second, shiny brown based on earth.
- Third, blue based on the ocean.
- Fourth, green based on life forms.

My impression was "The best day ever".

- *by Jeosh, Room 6*



... the bottom of the metal sticks stay still but the top goes a little bit clockwise then a little bit anti-clockwise. They move fast. That is called kinetic art. Kinetic means moving. - *by Alex, Room 6*

... we learned about shadows we captured some! Then we looked at photos WITHOUT CAMERAS. I was so amazed, this was so awesome. - *by Ashaela, Room 6*

Totara Sleep-over

Beds getting made, friends excited to see each other, torches ready! We went outside... skipping, obstacle courses, good fun on the playground, lots of games! Next we went inside... it started to get dark so we all ran out to play spotlight. After spotlight we all raced back to the Hall to grab our pyjamas.

Songs, supper, Mr J.'s

story and bed.

- *by Emma, Room 7*

Kowhai Syndicate

Years 5 & 6

Room 8 have been focussing on adding detail and using interesting vocabulary in our writing:

Pools with My Dad

I excitedly sprinted over to the pool area. Of course we had to pay but then I saw my Dad about to spin the wheel. I crossed my fingers with luck. My Dad ran over with free passes for two. We ran excitedly to the changing rooms and quickly got into our togs. I heard loud screams coming from the blue sparkling humungous pool. I was in my togs and ran over to the pool and jumped into the cold water. It splashed on **my face. I thought to myself, 'what should I do next?'. I felt refreshed.**

- by Brayden, Room 8

We all enjoy our milk at school so Room 10 wrote letters to Fonterra to celebrate World Milk Day. Thanks Fonterra!

Room 9 have been investigating fire and developing our understanding about how fire behaves and how to be firewise! We visited the Fire Station and wrote letters to the firemen who showed and taught us many interesting things.

"...it was interesting to know how the smoke levels change as a fire spreads and the difference leaving a door open makes. Shutting down a door can slow down the fire." - Samantha, Room 9

"... I was pretty shocked to learn just how fast a fire can spread and burn and also how much damage it does to things I mean OMG!" - Loretta, Room 9

"... an early warning system can made a big difference and in fact it could be the difference between life and death." - Chloe, Room 9

"...we found out about how heat rises by lighting an empty teabag ... when it was nearly all burned it floated to the ceiling!" - Caleb, Room 9



Dear Fonterra

Thank you for delivering milk all around the World. Most children love your milk. It must be very hard getting the milk in the tanker then driving the tanker to the factory. It is really healthy for everyone and it is good because I get **to see you sometimes on my Dad's farm. It is good for our bones and helps me concentrate on my learning.**

Thank you. From, Bailey, Room 10

Kauri Syndicate

Years 7 & 8

In May, the Puketapu Leaders travelled to Rotorua for the National Young Leaders Day conference. We heard some really inspiring speakers who talked to us about good leadership and role modelling. We learned new ideas about ourselves and about **leadership, ideas such as "choose the right way rather than the left way", and "if you want to be a leader at school, you have to be a leader at home too". We all wrote down some leadership skills to improve on. The biggest thing we learned was that you don't have to have a badge or a title or a special top to be a leader.**

Year 8 Debate Team

We were the negative team for two times in a row. Our first debate was against Francis Douglas, **arguing against "that the school day should be two hours longer" which we won.**

Our second was against Hawera Intermediate who we sadly lost to but we all enjoyed ourselves.

- By Brianna, Room 13



This month Room 13 completed our Primary Enterprise Programme, developing companies, preparing CVs, interviewing employees, planning, researching, surveying, analysing, designing, creating and marketing products to sale at our Market Day. The proceeds from the Market Day go to our Ski Trip in Term 3.





From the Board

Kia Ora Koutou,

Lots of significant milestones to start our year.

Farewelling Mr J at the end of Term 1 was a great opportunity to remember and celebrate his 10 years with us and all he contributed to our tamariki and community during his time. Mr J left Puketapu in good heart and in a strong position moving forward.

As a Board we had the responsibility of leading the very exciting process of selecting of our next principal. This process meant a chance to reflect on our strengths as a school (which was very encouraging) but also to see the opportunities for development into the future. With great excitement we announced the appointment of Ngatai Walker as our new Principal starting in term 3.

As a Board, we believe Ngatai will bring a fresh perspective to the Puketapu community and build on the strengths we already have. Watch this space, because the next few years are going to bring change which will be exciting to be a part of.

As a Board we would like to acknowledge our staff especially Ms Sattler who is Acting Principal this term. They are all doing an awesome job, going above and beyond looking after our school. We also have a great community of parents and wider whanau at Puketapu with seven nominations for the recent BoT elections and a strong and enthusiastic new Board recently announced to continue growth in our school.

If you want to keep in touch with what is happening at Puketapu, check out our Facebook Page or our website.

Mike Warring, Chairman, Puketapu Board of Trustees



Parent Support Group

Well we have had a busy start to the year!

We held our gala in Term 1, a twilight event this time, and it was great to see everyone come along for dinner and enjoy the fun. A big thank you to all who supported our gala especially the businesses that helped out in some way.

A big thank you also to Methanex for supporting our Breakfast in Schools programme. We supply breakfast two mornings each week and a team from Methanex come along every Wednesday morning and serve breakfast to the children. They also had a food drive and brought a whole lot of groceries to help keep the kids well fed.

I would like to say farewell to our principal Mike Johnson who has been at Puketapu School for the past 10 years. He is definitely going to be missed around school. I would like to welcome our new Principal, Ngatai Walker, to Puketapu School, who begins his new role at the start of Term 3.

Once again thank you to everyone who has continued to support Puketapu School in 2016 especially the business community.

We look forward to lots of events throughout the year.

Fiona Pearce, Chairperson, Puketapu School PSG.



From left: Kiritopa Veza, Zackavahn Thompson, Liz Maddox-Strong, Marara Murray, Rewa Plant and Roger Lamplough.



School Events



We made the most of the amazing summer and a fabulous swimming season during Term 1.

We held a Twilight Gala in April, which was a huge amount of fun and great fundraising too. We enjoyed our annual trip to Muru Raupatu



We are delighted to have artist **Joni Murphy** back at Puketapu adding to our collection of murals and taking after school art classes.

Supported by NPDC's Creative Communities programme, these classes are open to non-Puke kids to, so if you know any budding artist who would like to join the fun, please call the school office for more information.

Marae and our hikoi home through "our patch" getting to see how our community is changing and growing.

We have had some great success in sports, with Cricket and Touch teams doing well in summer, and Netball, Basketball and Miniball this term. We even have people playing Canoe Polo!

Thanks to the TSB Community Trust, the whole school is enjoying the new laptops, ipads and big screens for a whole range of new learning experiences and fun.

At the end of Term 1 we said farewell to Mr J, with a special bike celebration on his last day. We will all miss Mr J, but we are also excited about Mr Walker starting next term.



Thanks! to Bell Block 4 Square who donated \$500 to spend on plants for our Junior Playground. It looks great!

