



Howick Primary School

Newsletter 1 Term 1 2021

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to a new year - one we desperately want to be different and better than the last. Staff are back preparing the school for the arrival of our students and families. Welcome to our new families. Please come along to our PTA events and get to know the great families we have in the Howick Primary School Community. We are focused on wellbeing as a very strong thread of our organisation and will continue to prioritise the support and welfare of our students and staff to ensure the best learning opportunities are possible.

As with last year, the school gates will be opened at 8:30 for **STUDENT ENTRY ONLY** apart from the very new new-entrant students. Parents are welcome to come into the grounds from 2:50pm to collect their children. During the day, the only gate that will remain unlocked will be the hall gate.

We are delighted to introduce one new teacher, Miss Emma Jay - teaching in Room 14 this year. All the rest of our teachers have returned but many are in different rooms now as we have had to rearrange to manage our growth. The school is also renaming our areas - Tui and Kea. Tui are the classes from rooms 17-8 and Years 3-6 and Montessori. Kea are in rooms 9-16 and are years 0-3. Teachers are in the following rooms:

Tui			Kea		
Room	Name	Year Level	Room	Name	Year Level
17 (The hub)	Miss Tyla Silva	6	9	Miss Sam Searle	1
1	Mrs Katy Currie	5/6	10	Mrs Yuka Hay	1
2	Mr Woody Au	5/6	11	Miss Lorraine Shen	1
3	Miss Jiaqi Shao	5	12	Mrs Karen Fields (starting when required)	0/1
4	Mrs Anita Munshi	4/5	13	Term 2/3	Year 0
5	Miss Ali Wood	3/4	14	Miss Emma Jay	2/3
6	Mrs Lydia Snyman	4	15	Mr Cameron Rhodes	2/3
7	Mrs Cayleigh Leslie	3/4	16	Mrs Sophia Toetu	2/3
8	Mrs Dawn Young	Montessori 1-6			

Miss Clair Chang, who was on leave last year and returned to teach while Mrs Toetu was on maternity leave, will be working closely with Mrs Hurley to teach small groups of students. Mrs Marjorie Rinckes continues four days per week as our Learning Support Coordinator. Mrs Sarah Aye continues as our ESOL teacher. Mrs Kristen Oliphant is fully released from the classroom to spearhead our work on transition to school, literacy development using the structured literacy approach we began last year and to support me in my new role for two days per week as the new Lead Principal for our Kahui Ako - Community of Schools. Mrs Leanne Hurley is stepping up to the Acting Principal role when I am absent on Kahui Ako business. It feels like we can just pick up where we left off with only one new member of staff and give us all a great sense of stability.

Our hygiene routines will be re-established straight away so students can protect themselves and others from any possible germ incursion and we will continue our stringent screening and sending home of coughs, sore throats and runny nose symptoms. **Hand towels are compulsory** and may be purchased (with a hook loop) from the school office for \$5 or you can send along a **named** hand towel for your child. In the light of this expectation, and in the interests of best practice, we are not providing anything else. Drink bottles are also essential. Please send a named drink bottle along as our drinking fountains were replaced last year with bottle filling spigots so children cannot use these to drink directly from.

To Align with our Positive Behaviour for Learning Values of Respect for Self, Others and the Environment, we will be reinforcing the high expectations for school presentation - **uniforms** for example - please check on the school website here: [Howick Primary School Uniform](#) for the requirements. The exception is the new whanau shirts that have replaced the maroon PE shirt for year 4-6. You will need to know which whanau your child is in before you purchase this. Please note how the uniform must be worn - and ask the classroom teacher if you are unsure. Incorrect non-uniform items will be removed and sent home.



Road Safety is a constant challenge. Yellow lines are legal markings so please have **safety for every child** at the forefront if you must park near the school gate. **DO NOT PARK OR REVERSE INTO THE SCHOOL ENTRANCEWAY.** Everybody needs to use the school student road patrol if you are on the other side of the road, **no exceptions.** Don't speak to staff with disrespect if you believe differently to our rules, designed to keep everybody safe. You are welcome to go to another school if you don't want to be part of our caring and safe community. I cannot believe how rude some people have been to me, my staff and even to our local policeman over crossing the road. If your child is injured or killed, you will expect me to take responsibility so stick to the rules. At the end of last year, a child was hit by a car because they ran out on the road. Fortunately, the child suffered only minor injuries however it served as an important warning to abide by the correct rules for safety.

Avocados will again be available to purchase - 5 large avocados for \$10 - as a fundraiser for the Student Leader trip and charity fund. Please use this [order form](#). **Orders must be completed by Thursday February 18** for delivery on Monday February 22.

Important Dates to note in your diaries:

Monday 8 February - Monday-ised Waitangi Public Holiday

Tuesday 9 February - Staff-Only day - Professional development. School closed but SKIDs will be open

Thursday 25 February - Family Picnic

Friday 19 March - Open Air Movie Night



Have a safe and wonderful long weekend and we look forward to welcoming all our students back on Tuesday, 2nd of February.

Kind regards

Leyette Callister
PRINCIPAL