



# Howick Primary School Newsletter 2 Term 1 2021

Dear Parents and Caregivers

We have finally reached the end of a very tumultuous term, surviving two lockdowns and the disruption of Easter in the term. It has been unsettling to have so many stop starts and teachers have been working hard to keep your children as focused as possible under the circumstances. Miss Ali Wood's survey of online learning has given us a wealth of information going forward as we continue to plan for further lockdowns while hoping we won't have any. If we continue to keep safe and follow the strict protocols, we can at least make an effort to remain covid free. It isn't easy to keep up the regime but as soon as we become complacent, the opportunity is there.

---

We are very sad to **farewell one of our lovely teachers, Mr Woody Au**. He has won a position at a school very near to the house he is currently building in Papakura. Commuting in Auckland is not improving, as many of you will experience every day. We wish Mr Au the very best and thank him for his excellent service with us at Howick Primary. We are very fortunate to appoint an **excellent replacement to teach in Room 2 - Miss Danielle Taylor**. She comes from Tauranga and amongst other things, is a keen runner and netball player. Miss Taylor has been in the school this week to get to know our systems and the children. We will welcome her officially to the Howick Primary School Community at our first assembly, planned for week 2.



---

Despite the lockdowns, we were able to run a **very successful Drive-In Movie Night**. Thanks to The PTA and school staff, led in this project by the Board Presiding member (formerly Chairperson) Callum Hey. We made a small profit and have plans underway for next year's Drive-in. We have had a lot of feedback and added this to our review to make the event even better next year. No other school is doing anything like this and so it is a great opportunity to create our own unique event. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported our amazing evening.



You may have noticed builder's vehicles in the school ground for some time now. We have had a **few projects** ongoing and more to come. Our new PE shed beside the library is waiting for shelving and storage before we open it to the children to collect play equipment at lunchtimes. The room beside Room 9, which has been a variety of things, including a junior book room, Counselling office and AP's office is being transformed into a meeting space for our specialist teachers such as Learning Support Coordinator, Resource Teachers of Literacy or Learning and Behaviour, Psychologists etc. We are also creating a new uniform shop space beside the sick bay and an office for Mrs Oliphant in the old meeting room off the foyer. Rooms 17, 1-4 and the admin block are being recarpeted and Rooms 5-7 are having new wall linings installed. We were hoping to have the junior turf laid this break but that may not be pushed out to July. It is exciting but a little chaotic so please understand what we are working around. Hopefully all will be sorted before the new term starts.

With winter comes the shift to warmer **school uniforms**. The long sleeve polo shirt is a great hit, as are the girls boot leg pants. However, we will be strict about students wearing non-uniform pieces such as skivvies or t-shirts showing underneath the polo shirt or girls wearing leggings. The only things to wear under the uniform dress are tights or socks. If your child is wearing incorrect items of clothing, they will be asked to remove it.

**Garden To Table** is going great guns with our highly energetic Miss Beccy Long. We appreciate the support from the volunteers who make the gardening and cooking work so well. If you have a year 5 or 6 student, you may have been subject to some surprising admissions about new food likes such as kale or feijoa muffins. We are always looking for helpers so if you have a spare hour or two to give on a Wednesday, please get in touch with Miss Beccy Long at [b.long@howickprimary.school.nz](mailto:b.long@howickprimary.school.nz) Donations of surplus kitchen equipment or veges is also appreciated. See Miss Long about these.

**Road Safety** - I cannot emphasise enough the importance of taking more care than you need to to ensure ALL our students keep safe outside of our school gates. The number of times parents put their children and others at risk by "just stopping for a minute" on the yellow lines or encouraging children to cross away from the pedestrian crossing is staggering considering the tragic accident at Pigeon Mountain School. We are actively photographing serial offenders including those rude people who park inside our neighbours driveways. The police are supporting us and will prosecute, so be warned. Be a good citizen and role model to your children by following the law.

Don't forget to book in for the SKIDS holiday programme, which will be operating over the holidays. Book in at [www.skids.co.nz](http://www.skids.co.nz) if you are interested.

**skids**  
Safe Kids In Daily Supervision  
Howick Primary  
40 Willoughby Avenue, Howick

CLOSED	07:00 a.m.-08:00 a.m.	\$0.00
Half Day (AM)	07:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	\$35.00
Half Day (PM)	12:30 p.m.-06:00 p.m.	\$35.00
Short Day	08:30 a.m.-03:00 p.m.	\$40.00
Full Day	07:00 a.m.-06:00 p.m.	\$50.00
Trip Day	07:00 a.m.-06:00 p.m.	\$60.00

**MINUTE 2 WIN IT**  
Mon 19 Apr  
Do you have what it takes? Of course you do! A day full of crazy games. Cool prizes to be won!

**DIY FABRIC PAINTING**  
Tue 20 Apr  
A very arty celebration day we have installed for you. Create your masterpiece to take home. Outside activities are also on the agenda.

**RICIE MONSTERS**  
Wed 21 Apr  
Create your yummy, delicious, tasty good looking Monster Brownies. A fantastically fun treat for our mini ricie monsters to take home.

**TRIP - GRAVITY**  
Thu 22 Apr  
Going to Gravity Translines? If you already have Gravity socks, please bring them with you. Bring large water bottle. Please wear red shirt.

**FRIDAY FANCY FUN DAY**  
Fri 23 Apr  
We have socks for you to decorate. Make them wacky and wear them home if you dare.

**ANZAC DAY**  
Mon 26 Apr  
PUBLIC HOLIDAY. WE ARE CLOSED.

**MOTHERS DAY GIFTS**  
Tue 27 Apr  
Time to give back. Let's make a special gift for mum, or that special person in your life. Other indoor & outdoor activities rest of the day.

**CALLING ALL BAKERS**  
Wed 28 Apr  
I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream. Muffin Ice Creams to make and to eat. YUM!!

**TRIP - MINI GOLF**  
Thu 29 Apr  
We are off to Treasure Island Mini Golf. Be onsite by 9am. Bring plenty of food and water. We are back by 4pm. Please wear a red shirt.

**FRIDAY FUNHERO DAY**  
Fri 30 Apr  
Come to skids in your onesie or pj's. Please bring a shared lunch for end of holiday party! Create your group super hero too.

For more information, call Onsite Mobile - 022 582 9407 Or Wayne - 021 616 513 or email [howick@skids.co.nz](mailto:howick@skids.co.nz)

Register now at [www.skids.co.nz](http://www.skids.co.nz) click on **Parent Login** MSD-Approved Work & Income NZ-OCCLB Subsidy available!

Upcoming **Term 2 Dates:**

21 May - Pink Shirt Day Mufti

Thursday 3 June - Staff Only Day - First Aid Training

Friday 4 June - Staff Only Day - Professional Development

Monday 8 June - Queen's Birthday

---

Please have a safe and relaxing break. We are all looking forward to some refreshing down time and to be ready for another exciting term ahead. Thanks for your ongoing support.

Kind regards

Leyette Callister  
PRINCIPAL