

TE UKU SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

e x p a n d i n g h e a r t s a n d m i n d s

Te Pānui o Te Kura o Te Uku 01/18

01 Huitanguru 2017

Tena koutou e te whanau o Te Uku

Welcome Back to Term One 2018

Welcome back to a new school year. We hope that everyone had some time over the break to enjoy family time, and had lots of opportunities for swimming to cool down from some quite extreme temperatures!! This term 8 new children have started at Te Uku. All of the children have settled back into school really well; great to have the swimming pool in full use!

Pōwhiri – Friday 2nd February, 9:00AM

We will be formally welcoming our new children and their families at a pōwhiri tomorrow morning, 9:00AM in the Hall. The Junior Discovery families have been invited to provide some food for our morning tea following the pōwhiri. As many of you know, when new whānau are welcomed with a pōwhiri, and are well looked after, those new families will feel the thoughts, efforts and love in the food. All families are welcome to come along and support the pōwhiri.

School 'Open' Afternoon and Evening

We would like to extend an invitation to our families to come along on **Tuesday 27th February** to learn more about the learning programmes your children are engaging in both the Senior Discovery and Junior Discovery. We are offering two sessions so that parents/caregivers unavailable during the day can come along to the evening session. We will organise tours through the learning spaces as the children are working, involve children in presenting what they are learning to you, as well as teachers providing you with the philosophy supporting our teaching approaches. We will provide afternoon tea and a supper in the evening to encourage some socialising time. We will confirm times for both sessions in next week's newsletter.

It would be fantastic if you emailed or phoned me with any questions that you have about learning at Te Uku School, this will really help the teachers and I prepare our information presentation. My contact details are: 8255815 ext 12, rachela@teuku.school.nz.

2018 Staffing and School Roll

Staffing: We have started the year with 113 students (57 in the Junior Discovery and 56 in the Senior Discovery).

Rachel Allan	Principal for Term One: new principal will be appointed to start at the beginning of Term Two
Bernard Butler	Deputy Principal: Junior Discovery teacher
Catherine Lynagh	Junior Discovery teacher
Scott Johnson	Junior Discovery teacher
Bev Turilli	Senior Discovery teacher
Anna Woolston	Senior Discovery teacher
Lee Clarkson	Senior Discovery teacher
Carol Carlson	Part-time teacher (Years 7 and 8 Technology and 'classroom release' teacher)
Jo Wallis	Teacher Aide
Rachel El Kamraoui	Office Administrator
Basil Turnbull	Caretaker

Over the holiday break, we received Maioha Kelly's resignation. We would like to thank Maioha for his contribution as a teacher aide over the last 20 months. We have loved having Maioha on the staff and the Junior Discovery children were well supported by him. We wish Maioha all the best with his new job.

School Roll: This week we have had some questions asked about the school roll and staffing levels. Last year we started the school year with 137 students, and this year we have started with 24 fewer children (113 students). The Board would like to reassure our community that our staffing of six fulltime classroom teachers is stable for 2018. We expect the roll to reach 130 by the end of the year, and continue to have 6 teachers on the staff in 2019.

In September each year, the Ministry of Education reviews the school roll (based on the Roll Return information a school submits to the MoE in March and July) and allocates the staffing for the following year. Due to a drop in our roll in 2017, we were allocated one less teacher for 2018 (the Board resolved this by not replacing Lisa Wheeler's position when she resigned in December). During the last 11 years of my tenure at Te Uku School, we have always been on the cusp of 'losing' a teacher (we have always only just sustained a roll of at least 151 students to retain 7 fulltime teachers). The Board is confident in its prediction of not losing another teacher (your school roll has to be less than 100 students), in fact, it is predicting roll growth and the re-allocation of a 7th teacher in the near future. In the meantime the teachers can enjoy the benefits of low teacher: student ratios.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about staffing or the school roll. I am only too happy to provide you with information you require to answer any questions that you may be pondering over!



Downloaded by Sport Waikato 2017

Principal's Appointment

Applications for the principal's position has now closed. This evening the Board of Trustees and Education Consultant, Richard Clarke, are meeting to start their short-listing process. Richard is leading the Board through a thorough process in which referee checks are well sought and visitations are made to short-listed applicants' current school. This will be followed by each short-listed applicant being interviewed by the whole Board. The Board expects to make its decision on 17th February. The community will be notified soon after (after all of the required paper work is completed).

School Bus Contracts

We have issued new Bus Contracts to all bus users. Please read through the contract with your child/ren, sign and return to school by next week.

Family Contact Details

Please let the office know if you change any contact details for your child, for example, phone numbers and emergency contact people and phone numbers. We are very reliant on this information always being up-to-date. Please contact Rachel in the Office (office@teuku.school.nz) if you would like a copy of what we currently have for your child/ren on our system.

2018 Calendar of Events

Please check the school website calendar for **2018 Events**, including interschool events and school camps.

Nga mihi ki a koutou,

Rachel Allan

Social Worker in Schools

My name is Kiri Crombie and I am the Social Worker available at Te Uku on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. This year I am keen to run a programme called 'Seasons for Growth' that focuses on grief and loss. This loss may include death of a friend, family member or beloved pet, parental separation, moving to a new place and leaving friends/family behind, loss of a much loved possession, loss of position in the family due to a new baby or new step siblings, loss of health etc. If your child has experienced a significant loss that you feel is impacting negatively on them feel free to talk to either me or Rachel Allan so we can let you know if this programme is suited to their needs.

Additionally if you have concerns for your child that you feel may be best met by seeing me 'one on one' please speak to either Rachel or myself, thanks Kiri

Raglan Area School Bus Stop

A concern has been raised from staff at Raglan Area School that Te Uku pupils disembarking the bus at their school, along with their parents, had been inclined to linger on the footpath beside the bus last year. This creates a delay in Raglan Area loading their own bus pupils, which was particularly frustrating in unpleasant weather. As we really appreciate the Area School allowing Te Uku students to load/unload on their premises, could our Te Uku whanau please be conscious of causing any inconvenience to their bus procedures. Thank you in advance.

Weet-bix Kids Tryathlon – Hamilton Sunday 11th February 2018

We will not be entering a school team into the event this year, but as always, students are still eligible to enter as individuals. Registrations can be made online at: <https://registration.tryathlon.co.nz/Home/Event/21>
There are 3 days left to receive an online discount when you register!

Stationery Reminder

Please remember to return Stationery, Fees and Donations forms to the school office as soon as possible so that student's stationery can be distributed to their classrooms. Please indicate what stationery they will require and which method of payment you will be using.

Hamilton Roller Skating Club Melville Park

The following are all the Public Sessions we are running this term starting 4th February with the Sunday Morning Session.

Sunday Morning 10 a.m. to Noon Mums and Dads skate free with their own skates, kids \$2.00 each. Hire Skates available cost \$2.00

Monday 5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. Learn to Skate Class including skate hire \$25.00 per term, or \$3.00 per night starting 5.2.18.

Thursday 5.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. Speeds skating \$2.00 each

Thursday Night Twilight Skate 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. \$3.00 each \$1.00 skate hire.

A great way to get out there and get active with your kids
If you would like any further information please ring Kathy Moody on 8552523

