



# PARNELL DISTRICT SCHOOL EST. 1873

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## NEWSLETTER NO. 1

15th February 2017

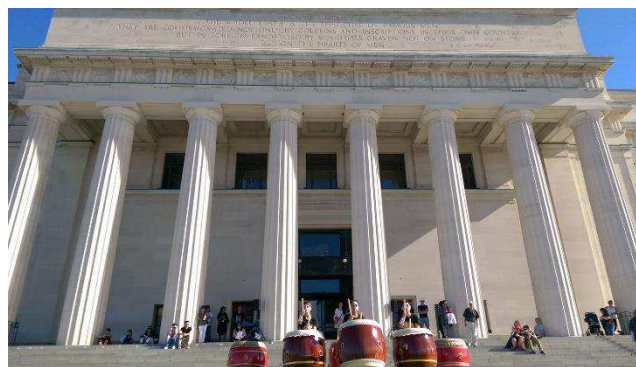
### Dates:

**Meet the Teacher & School Picnic**

**17th February 5 :00 onwards**

## Kia Ora Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to our first full newsletter for 2017. Hopefully you have caught up on what's been going on at school over the break through our first newsletter, and our 'Waipapa Streaming' broadcasts. It has been a massive start to the year, with all classes jumping straight into creating a powerful learning environment. If you have had students come home to tell you about showing Kaitiakitanga, being globally aware, or enabled learners, do talk to them about what that means and what it might look like. Our students have been very busy already with students performing as part of the Chinese New Year, and competing in the Weetbix Kiwi Kids Tryathlon. Well done to all those students who represented our school with such pride!



**Waipapa Streaming** takes its name from our local Waipapa Stream that we have been connected with for years. While providing a clever name for our studio where we produce media to stream to our parents, it also reminds our students of our role as Kaitiaki of the stream. Our studio is now 100% operational with the final piece of equipment arriving on Monday this week. You will receive an alert every Monday and Friday to let you know there is a new broadcast, either letting you know what's happening that week, or celebrating the learning that has happened. Please keep an eye out over the next week for a permission form being sent to you via google forms. That will be for you to give permission for your child to be featured on Waipapa streaming. Although our videos are unlisted, meaning that you can only find them if you have the link, it is still important you approve of us including your child. While it may be unavoidable that children appear in the background at school events, no child without permission will be able to feature as a host or interviewee.

One note that has been heavily featured on Waipapa Streaming is our '**meet the teacher picnic**'. We are looking forward to welcoming all our parents into our classrooms, and another opportunity for us to talk about how our classrooms run. If there are questions you have for your teachers, this is a great opportunity for us to clear those up too. Important things to know

**5:00 pm – meet teachers in the classroom**

**5:30 pm – meet together on the field for the picnic**

**5:45 pm – organised games begin**

Our amazing PTA will be offering a sausage sizzle, ice creams, and drinks.

You may have heard discussion about school **donations** in the media. While it is likely that the current 'decile' system is going to change in the future, the current structure provides for additional funding for lower socio-economic areas, and less funding for areas such as Parnell. For this reason, we do rely on donations from our parents to offer the broad range of learning experiences that we offer to our students. For 2017 there are two donations that we are seeking, on per child, and the other for curricular activities.

*Donation per child:*

1 child \$480

2 or more children \$960

Curricular activity donation: \$40 per child.

For 2017 the community donations are being invested in learning support teachers for our students, including reading recovery and literacy support and extension for year 0-2, math support and extension for year 3-8. Without the support of our community, we cannot continue to invest in such resourcing for our students. If you would like to talk about the donation further, I'm always happy to discuss this. If you are unable to pay the donation, there are many other ways that our parents support our school through donating their time either through supporting students in class, attending Parnell readers in the morning, helping with our garden project with the Auckland City Mission, helping as part of the PTA, , and many other avenues. All donations, both financial and of time, help us to offer the students of Parnell District School a high quality learning programme that is both rich and varied.

## What's happening in classrooms?

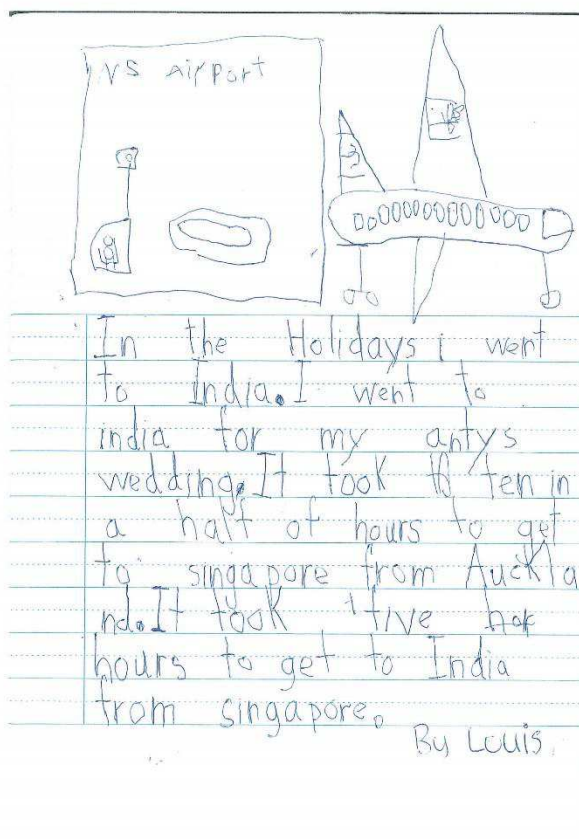
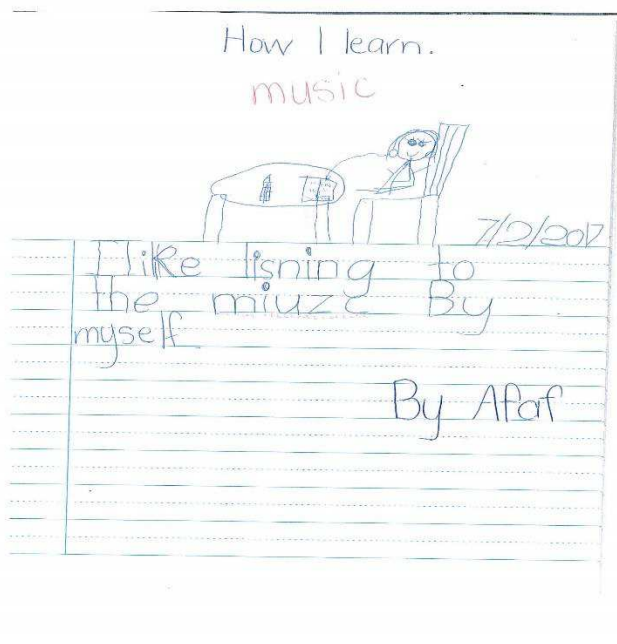
## Room 29

In Room 29 we have been working together to get to know our classmates so we can all work together to support each other in doing our best learning. We have been creating artworks entitled “what’s in my mind” where we share what things are important to us, as well as developing our artistic skills. We have also worked together to create the wall display “I AM...”, where we demonstrate our individual strengths, and then we are able to see how our individual strengths work together to make our whole class successful.



## Celebrating our children's work Room 4 Students

We are finding out many interesting things about each other and how we like to learn.



## **Library News**

By now your child/children have probably had their first visit to our school library.

You may not be aware that this year I am in the library fulltime as the school's Teacher Librarian.

I am very excited about having the opportunity to affect reading engagement right across the whole school. I have studied and am passionate about children's literature. I have been managing the school library for many years alongside our wonderful librarians Jo and Kat. Sadly, Kat has had to leave us and Jo plans to retire at the end of term one.

Once every week your child will visit the library. In these sessions, I will teach them about how to use the wide range of resources available. I will encourage them to extend the range of genre they are reading and to share their responses to what they have read. Your child is allowed to take out the number of books that corresponds with their year level. They can return and re-issue during lunchtimes, starting from next week.

This year we will open the library on Monday and Thursday afternoons from 3pm till 4pm especially for parents who would like to accompany their child to choose books. Only children from year 5 up may visit without a parent. I will be available to give advice and some very capable Intermediate students will help me out.

We would welcome some help in the library in the following ways:-

We need more helpers for the morning Readers' Club. This meets every morning at 8.30 and is for those children who need to build up "reading mileage." Even if you could only come one morning a week, it would be appreciated.

We will be needing help with processing new books. This will be on a Monday afternoon. If you are in the habit of collecting your child, maybe you could consider coming an hour or so early and helping with this important job. Pop in and see us in the library if you're interested.

Linda Gray Brett

## **Parnell Readers club**

Parnell Readers are in the School library at 8:30am each day

Please contact [Lindab@parnell.school.nz](mailto:Lindab@parnell.school.nz) if you'd like to help on a regular basis

## **Sports update**

All sports notices in full and photographs of PDS week of sport are now found on the school sports blog <http://parnellsport.blogspot.co.nz/>

### **PDS Swimming Trials for Year 5-8 students**

Friday March 3rd at Auckland University Epsom Campus- 9-12pm. Newsletters available from your classroom teachers. Volunteers are needed for the running of this Swimming event (time keepers, marshalls, drivers, setup) please contact [valeriem@parnell.school.nz](mailto:valeriem@parnell.school.nz) if you can help with any of these duties.

### **Year 1-6 PE days**

Please ensure that your child wears their school sports uniform, sports shoes and hat on their PE day and Syndicate Sports days.

### **Bay Suburbs and Eastern Zones Term 1 sports days**



Bay Suburbs - Swimming Monday 20th March    BS Softball [Tuesday 28th March](#)

Eastern Zones- Softball - Boys 7th March                      Girls 9th March                      EZ Swimming Friday 24th March

**Cricket Blitz** *This starts next Thursday 2nd March at Auckland Domain - team will be emailed with game details*

**Rotary Funday** Thank you to all the students who have returned their notices. Parents you will need select a time to manage the team. An email will follow with further details of the day.

**Weetbix TRYathlon 2017** Congratulations to all the PDS students and supporters. What a great new venue Pt England Reserve was and everyone looked happy and relaxed. There will be a photo for the team at sports assembly on 11th April. Please can you send your child to school with their medal and tee.

**Parnell Cricket Club**- enrol your child to play a season of cricket. The coaches are currently at PDS sharing their skills and drills with the Year 1 and 2 classes for the next two Fridays. We thank you for your time.

**Tennis Roadshow**- the coaches will be at PDS taking skills and drills for the Year 5-6 syndicate over the next two Fridays, thank you for your time. The students need to wear their sports uniform and sports shoes. Rackets not required as they will be provided.

**Year 3-8 Sports Assembly** – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April 12.15-1.00pm in the school hall- all parents and caregivers are welcome to attend.

## **PTA News**

The first PTA (Parent Teacher Association) meeting of the year will be held at 7pm in the Staffroom on **Wednesday, Feb 22nd**. The PTA's aim is to provide resources, events and activities that sit outside of the school budget and help build closer relationships between the school, parents and our wider community. Last year we organised some super-fun events, like the Gala, the Fun Run and the Disco, that brought lots of smiles to the children's faces. Thanks to PTA fundraising last year, the school was able to install the fantastic new Junior Playground and new modern classroom furniture, as well as put aside funds towards improving the Apex Area.

Next week we will be planning some fun events for the year and are always on the lookout for new ideas/suggestions. Everyone is welcome to attend our monthly meetings - they are very relaxed and friendly. The easiest way to get to the staffroom is to come up the stairs from the courtyard.

### **Mufti Day & Sausage Sizzle**

On **Thursday, Feb 23rd**, there will be a mufti day and sausage sizzle at school. This means your child is allowed to come to school on this day in clothing other than their school uniform. We have two mufti days each school term and this is a PTA fund-raising activity. The children pay a gold coin donation for this privilege. Barbecued sausages (including halal), drinks and muffins are for sale on mufti days for \$2 each. Mufti Day & Sausage Sizzles are held on the Thursday of the fourth and eighth week of each term.

## **Community Notices**

### **Nanny Available**

Parnell Nanny available 9am – 3pm weekdays for ongoing care or short term care. 2 days nanny can be shared until 6pm if needed. Pick up and drop off Parnell School or close by. Great for a break for mum or to fill in daycare days whilst waiting for Kindy. If interested, please contact Kate on 021 433343.

### **Grammar Junior Rugby**

**Register Online: [www.grammarjuniors.co.nz](http://www.grammarjuniors.co.nz) Or for more information email: [grammarjuniorsrugby@gmail.com](mailto:grammarjuniorsrugby@gmail.com)**

**Karate Remuera** – accepting enrolments now for 2017. Located at 6 Papahia Street, Parnell with mid week kids classes, every week day 3.30 to 4:30 pm and Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 6:00 to 7.00 pm and Saturday mornings 10:00 - 11:00 am, as well as Adult classes. Go to [www.karateremuera.com](http://www.karateremuera.com) for more information or call Murray Simpson 021 680 107.

Karate is fantastic for building confidence, self control, coordination, flexibility, strength and fitness in kids. It is also a great sport. Give our 2 week free trial a go and find out if Karate is for you.

**Rudd School Of Rock now accepting limited new enrolments for Term 1 2017 music lessons!**

[info@ruddschoolorock.co.nz](mailto:info@ruddschoolorock.co.nz) / [www.ruddschoolorock.co.nz](http://www.ruddschoolorock.co.nz)

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