

Friday 5th February, 2021

Living Rural, Learning Locally, Thinking Global

To be the best we can be: Kind, Brave, Respectful and Honest



Welcome back to Term 1, 2021.

So great to be back and to see everyone, we all hope that everyone has had a safe and fun holiday. We have five new tamariki start with us this week. Joining Tui are Thomas Shaw (Y4) and Bella (Y6), her sister Bonnie (Y3), Phoebe Turner (Y1) and Kaya-Jade (Y2) are joining Pīwakawaka. Great to have these tamariki join our big extended family here at Ngutunui.

Classes:

This year due to funding we have been allocated from the Ministry of Education two permanent teachers, the principal is including in that ratio. So Lisa Leather and myself are permanent. The BOT are funding part of Bayley McConie's position. The Board and myself value learning for every child, so this is why we have paid partly for a junior teacher. If the Board didn't fund the teacher then I would be in the class three days a week, then a reliever for two of the other days. This is something as a school that we didn't want for your children, we believe that a child learns better with consistency. Our magic number is 51. When we reach 51 children on our roll the Ministry will completely fund Bayley's position. This is the reason that we had to move from three classes down to two. We have been very privileged to have three over the past two years. If we get more children on our roll we will open up the third class, the Ministry are also very wary of our school having farming children, the numbers on the July 1st audit are very important as they are the numbers that give us our staffing entitlement for the following year. Last June we lost three families due to moving farms, three families = 9 children we lost, and we only gained one. For a small school that is a huge loss.

So last year all the teachers and myself spent quite a few meetings working out the two classes, we looked at confidence, siblings, academics and maturity. Every decision that we have made, we have made for the best interest for all of our children, they are the reason we are here. So as it stands we believe we have made the best decision, however nothing is set in stone. There maybe a few changes, we have to see how it all pans out. We have two very large cohorts of children, Year 6's (11) and Year 3's (10). The Year 3's we have had to split as we couldn't have all of them together in either class, the numbers would have been too high. I will be working with the Year 3's if required, possibly three times a week. I will help support their teachers by running the same programme and teaching reading, writing and math. My position is full on as I also provide release for the other two teachers as well as cover all the sick leave. I will also be covering the office as Lesley has been made redundant and today is her last day. It is all about the funding, again as a Board we believe that your child's learning and education are the main priority. We believe that it is important to have a teaching angel in the school to help our teachers and tamariki to strive to be the best they can be. If you have any queries or concerns please come and have a chat, my door is always open.

Lesley Clayton-Greene

Today is the last day for our office lady Lesley, she has been with Ngutunui for quite a few years now and we have appreciated her knowledge and support she has provided the school. Lesley will continue to drive the school bus and we will still get to see her everyday. We wish her all the best and she has told us that she will have time to catch up with friends and work in her garden.

Bus:

If your child is on the bus Lesley has asked if all children could be at their stop in the morning 5mins before she arrives. This helps the running of the bus route. If your child is not on the bus in the mornings can you please let Lesley know as soon as possible, however it has to be before 7.30am as she has no coverage while she is driving. Her cell phone number 021 203 7766. Her land line is 07 871 0634. If you know the night before that your child is away then you can call her in the evening.

Enviro:

This year our main focus is our environment, where we live. We had professional development in the holidays with our Enviro Schools facilitator. We have got some amazing ideas and we are wanting our children to come up with a few of their own as well. So as part of this new outlook we will not be printing newsletters out, this will be the last one that will be handed out, I will email you all the weekly newsletter. There are two families who don't have an email address so I will print them a copy. If you would like a paper copy there will be a few available in the office. The weekly newsletter will also be uploaded to our webpage.

Breakfast Club:

Our Breakfast Club will be back up and running next week. This will be set up in the hall every morning. There will be Weetbix and toast available. We decided to run this as we found that most of the tamariki were eating the food in their lunchboxes as soon as they got to school. Then come lunchtime they would have hardly any food left to eat. The Breakfast Club is open to all tamariki and they can come every day or once a week, whenever they feel they would like a top up. Some of our tamariki have breakfast at home when they get up, then by the time they come to school they can be hungry again. This is normal, our tamariki are healthy growing children who are very active. We will also offer fruit on our Weetbix, this will come from our orchard. Breakfast Club will run from 8.30am – 9am every day.

Healthy Snack Break:

Just a reminder that we will continue with a Healthy Snack break every morning at 10am. As our first block runs from 9am to 11am we will stop at 10am for a ten minute snack, drink and run around. We will be monitoring this to ensure our tamariki are eating a healthy snack. They can still have a treat in their lunchboxes which they can have at morning tea time or lunchtime. Some examples of a healthy snack are: Crackers, Crackers and Cheese, Cheese, Fruit, Vegetables etc. We would really appreciate your support with this. We are aiming to set up all of our tamariki to succeed in everything that they do. We are feeding the brain so that it will be alert and their concentration skills improve. A win win situation.

Assembly:

We will begin our assemblies in Week 5 of this term, they will possibly be on a Monday, however I will let you know in the next few weeks.

Swimming Term One:

From this week we will be swimming every day. As part of the New Zealand Curriculum it is a part of our Physical Education plan. Can you please ensure that your child/ren bring their togs, towel and goggles (if required) every day. As a small country school we are so privileged to have a beautiful pool, we will be using it to its full potential over the summer period.

Pool Keys:

We still have pool keys available to all our school families, as we are half way through the season they are for sale now at the office for \$40.

Children Absent:

If your child is absent from school due to illness, family or anything else please let the office know. We will try and get hold of you if she does not hear from you. It is all about keeping our tamariki safe. We appreciate your support with this.

Ngā mihi

Cleonie Whyte

Principal

Term One Dates to Remember:

Thurs 4 th Feb	BOT hui @ 6.30pm
Fri 19 th Feb	Lucky Book Club due back
Wed 4 th March	Family Picnic 5pm
Fri 12 th March	Whole school swimming Display 1.45pm
Fri 19 th March	Lower Waipa Swimming
Fri 29 th March	Good Friday
Mon 5 th April	Easter Monday
Tues 6 th April	Easter Tuesday
Wed 7 th April	School returns
Fri 16 th April	Last day of Term 1



The poster features a netball icon at the top, followed by the club name and 'JUNIOR TRIALS 2021'. It is divided into sections for registration, trial dates, and trial times. At the bottom, there is contact information and a silhouette of players.

Pirongia Netball Club
JUNIOR TRIALS 2021

Check Pirongia Netball Club's Facebook page for online registration

Registration & Payment of Fees
Thursday 11th March
5:30pm to 7pm
\$85 (yr 3 to 8)

Trial Dates
Monday 15th
Wednesday 17th
March
Pirongia Netball Courts

Trial Times
Year 3 & 4
Monday Only
5:30PM
Year 5 & 6
6:00PM
Year 7 & 8
6:30PM

Ella Muckle
021 160 5584
pirongiaclubcaptain@gmail.com

Pirongia Netball Club Junior Trials 2021

Head onto Pirongia Netball Club's Facebook page for online registration or come to our registration and payment of fees night on Thursday 11th March between 5:30pm and 7pm at the Pirongia Netball Club (next to the courts and rugby grounds). We welcome all players from year 3 to year 8.