

# Ss Peter and Paul School

Tuesday, 22 February 2022



## Kia ora Parents and Caregivers,

Everything here at school continues well with lots of smiles and great learning happening too. I think both students and staff are enjoying the regular breaks throughout the day to be outside and enjoying this lovely warm weather. A special welcome to our new students and their families who started with us since our last newsletter. We have Gus, Skylar and Mia-Jean who have joined Kowhai and Royden who has joined Pohutukawa. We hope you quickly settle into school life and make many new friends.

Although we were not able to hold our face-to-face Parent Information Evenings, we hope you found the alternative method of sharing interesting and informative. We will be holding our first Learning Conferences over the last two weeks of the term and will be offering phone, face-to-face or on-line options for you.

### Preparedness Planning

Our students and staff are very mindful of the many ways we can help reduce the spread of Omicron, continue to operate safely and remain open for as many students as possible. They are all doing an amazing job!

We continue to receive step by step guidance about what we need to do should we have a confirmed COVID-19 case within our school community. Some summary points:

An email communication would go out to all our school community (parents and staff) of the news that we have a confirmed case.

This email would outline what steps will be put in place while we work to identify any Close Contacts of the confirmed case. We may need to put in

interim measures to mitigate risk and if advised by the Director of Education to do so, such as asking a class or classes to stay away while we work through this process and until public health guidance has been received. There is no testing requirement at this point for those students or staff unless they are feeling unwell and are advised by Healthline or their GP to get tested.

Once the process of categorising contacts is complete, and should it identify your child as a Close Contact, you will be emailed directly with information about what to do.

This would be the same for any staff (or parents who have worked as volunteers) and have been identified as a Close Contact.

Others not identified as Close Contacts will be advised on their ability to return to school

Students and staff only need to self-isolate if they live with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 (not if they live with someone who has been identified as a Close Contact of a case).

### Parents & caregivers coming on-site

A friendly reminder to parents and caregivers that should it be important for you to come on to the school site at any time during the school day, it is essential you scan in at one of the many signs around the school and wear a mask at all times. We are only expecting that parents of our brand new children starting school would be entering the classrooms at the moment.

Thank you for your support with this.

*Kay Tester*

OUR WEBSITE



PARISH WEBSITE



From our Principal  
The Office  
Kowhai  
Nikau  
Pohutukawa  
Rata  
School Sports

## Events

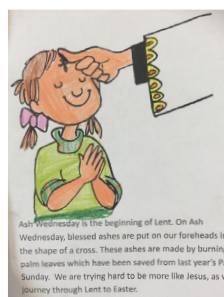
**Wednesday 23 February**  
7pm PTA Meeting

**Wednesday 2 March**  
7pm BOT Meeting

## SPECIAL CHARACTER

Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent and takes place 40 days before Easter.

Traditionally the ashes are created from burning the palms used in the church on Palm Sunday the previous year. Palm Sunday marked the arrival of Jesus into Jerusalem after his 40 days and nights in the desert.



Lent – remembering to live life graciously, that is, with grace.”

- Sr. Marcelline Koch



# THE OFFICE

## Reporting Absences

Report absences *before* 9am via the [school website](#) or calling the absence line 569-5759 opt 1. Please ensure you leave a reason for your child's absence. Alternatively you can also report an absence via email to [absences@stpeterpaul.school.nz](mailto:absences@stpeterpaul.school.nz)

## School Policy & Procedures

Review our school policy and procedures through the [Parent Portal](#)

Login details are on the Parent Portal (under Contacts)

[etap@school.parent.portal](mailto:etap@school.parent.portal)

(contact Lisa in the office if you forget your password)

## LIBRARY

### Help wanted

The library has recently purchased a range of beautiful new books that require covering. If you are able to help one Tuesday morning (or more!) any time between 9.00 and 11.30 we would be delighted to see you. It's fun and easy, and we will show you what to do.

Please email [anna@stpeterpaul.school.nz](mailto:anna@stpeterpaul.school.nz) or call the office.

As with all volunteers, proof of vaccination is required

## board NEWS

### Ngā mihi mahana from your school board.

It has been lovely seeing our school community regroup over the last 3 weeks and to see how well both students and staff are rising to the challenges of mask wearing and minimising close contacts. Not to mention engaging in important learning too!

I am thankful we have a committed team, in our Principal and area leaders, making assessments and enabling strategies to keep our school community as safe as possible, whilst also keeping up with the large amounts of information and advice being put out by the Ministry of Education. It has really added a huge amount of complexity to the start of the school year for all of our staff. I am sure you will join me in thanking each and every one of our staff, for their positivity despite the added degree of difficulty.

To be sure, there will be further challenges ahead, as Aotearoa grapples with our first experience of widespread COVID in our communities. You can be confident all at our school will be doing their best to ensure our children are able

to continue their learning over the next few months, in whatever form that takes. We will all need to show empathy and appreciate the challenges that all of us will face in the coming days. It's hard to predict exactly how things will pan out, but there will be difficult days ahead, especially as we learn how to deal with this pandemic situation in the most effective way possible.

Let's pray for our tamariki, our whānau, our staff and all in Aotearoa in this time.

Finally, a snippet of information to tuck in the back of your brain and consider. School board elections are scheduled to be held in September. Trustees are elected for a three-year term. Please feel free to make contact with any of the board members to discuss what is involved, if you are wishing to contribute to our school community in this way. The NZ School Trustees Association also have some good material about being a trustee on a school board. [Check out this link.](#)

Wishing you all blessings over the coming weeks,

On behalf of the Board,

Tanya Wilton



# KOWHAI

Our Learning Term 1, Weeks 2 & 3



Cricket Wellington came to work with Kowhai last week. We were super excited to take part in their First Hits programme. It was such fun getting out in the sunshine and being active while learning some fundamental skills of movement through cricket.

I like the batting. I hit the ball and it knocked one of the wickets. My team got it three times! - *Honor*

I as loving the cricket and I was good with the bat. We hit the ball and tried to get it to the yellow things (wickets). I did it! - *Alex*

We were giving a ball to our partners then we were throwing the ball to the wickets. - *Quinn*

We went outside onto the field and we learnt how to play cricket. My favourite part was throwing the ball to my partner. My partner was the coach! - *Isabel*

We did some throwing, catching and batting. I had to hit the ball at the cricket set. - *Jack*

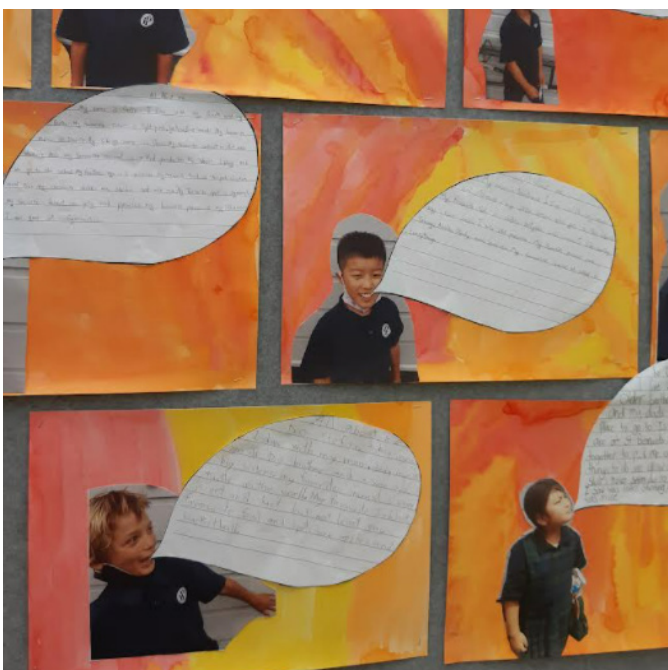






Now that the first term is well underway, our routines have been successfully established. As we get to know our classmates our focus has been on building healthy relationships with one another. We have been looking at the qualities of a good friend, how to resolve conflict and

how we can live out our school values everyday. In Art, we have been exploring pencil and paintbrush techniques. Using these techniques we have created artwork to describe ourselves. We are making links with our descriptive character writing.





# POHUTUKAWA

Our Learning Term 1, Weeks 2 & 3

The school apple trees were bursting with fruit so last Friday students from Pohutukawa area decided to pick them. The apples are being sent to the Compassion Soup Kitchen in Wellington where they will be used in the

meals they make for those in need. It is a great opportunity for the students to see how they can put into action our school values and connect to our Catholic community.



## Compassion Soup Kitchen

From the Suzanne Aubert Compassion Centre – or the ‘Soup Kitchen’ as it is best known – in central Wellington, we support people who are marginalised in our community to live with dignity.

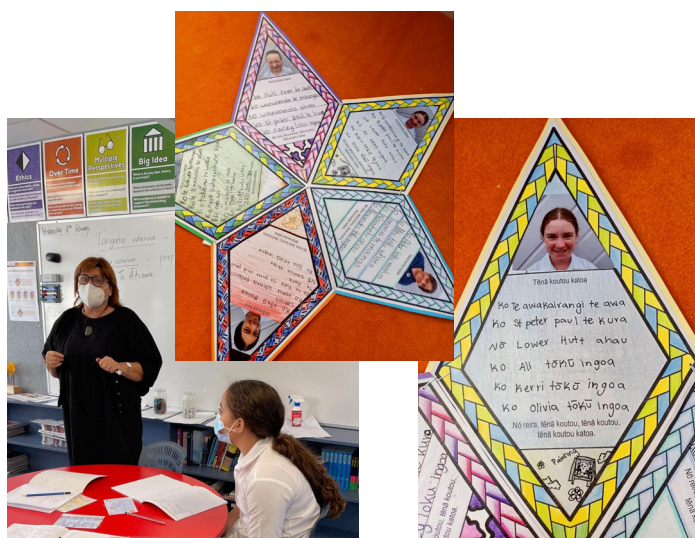
The Soup Kitchen is a safe place where people can find community, enjoy nutritious meals and participate in meaningful activities, such as learning computer skills and gardening. [Learn more.](#)



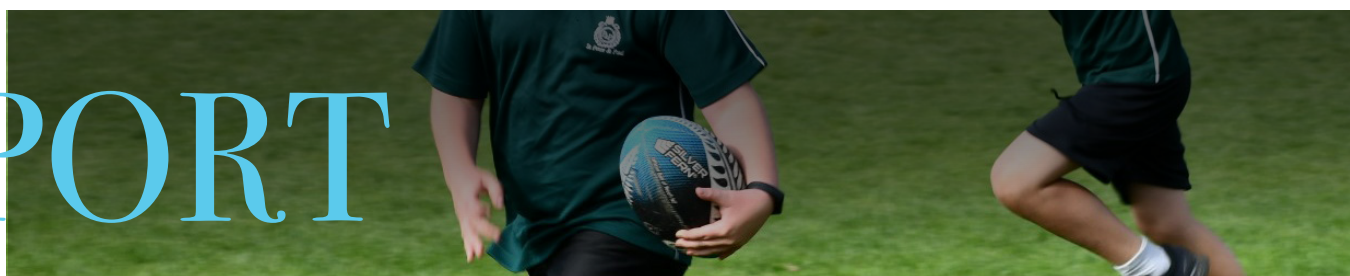


## Our Learning Term 1, Weeks 2 & 3

Tēnā koutou katoa. In Rata we have been working on our te reo Māori vocabulary and pronunciation. We have reviewed greetings and farewells along with our Pepeha. The connections and relationships that are so important to our lives and our identities are special. It was great to see and hear students celebrating who they are and where they come from. Ngā mihi maioha Mrs Spink for helping us with this learning!



# SPORT



We are well underway with our Touch and Netball for Term 1 albeit with some restrictions around number and spectators.

Thanks to all parents who have understood and followed the guidelines given by Total Touch and Netball Hutt Valley.

We are also very appreciative of the parents who have volunteered to take these teams. Without them we would not be entering in these sports.

### Netball

Year 5 to 8 registrations close on Wednesday 23 at 3pm.

It is important all fees are paid at this time.

Please ensure you also complete the online registration form.

### Other Sport

We are yet to hear anything about Basketball or Water Polo but once we do the registration info will be sent out.

# School Lunches



0800 565 565

info@lunchonline.co.nz

## Sushi and Subway

delivered to school weekly

It's simple; all you need to do is register at

[www.lunchonline.co.nz](http://www.lunchonline.co.nz)

and follow four easy steps to get started

- 1 Register an account
- 2 Add member/s including your child's name, school and classroom
- 3 Make a payment so you have funds in your account before you order
- 4 Select your lunch and place an order

Have you joined the PTA Facebook group yet?  
Stay up-to-date with school community events  
by joining our page!

