



Buckland School Newsletter



Buckland School is committed to providing quality education that engages all students fully in a wide range of learning experiences that will assist them in preparing for the challenges of the future.

www.buckland.school.nz

Thursday 1 February 2024

Dear Parents and Community Members

- ◆ Tena Koutou and Welcome back to school for the 2024 year. Staff hope you all had an enjoyable holiday break and enjoyed the wonderful weather with family. We hope that children are refreshed and enthusiastic about getting back to school for a busy Term 1.
- ◆ **Welcome** back to our staff who have been busy over the last few weeks preparing programmes, resources and classrooms for the term. A special welcome back to Mrs Paige Wichman who will teach in Piwakawaka and Titipounamu. We are fortunate that all other staff remain the same. Staff are all looking forward to getting to know your children and you, so that they can work in partnership with you to facilitate a wonderful and rewarding education for your children.
- ◆ **Welcome** to our new children and their families: Micaela, Charlotte, Lucy, Mac, Eva, Jaxson, Scarlett-Rose, Siu I Moana, Hamish, William, Primrose, Ethan, Dayna, and Cooper. We hope that you will settle into the school quickly and make friends.
- ◆ **School Values:** Respect, Responsibility and Resilience. We hope you all will support staff and children with encouraging and modelling these values.
- ◆ **Dates for 2024 Terms:** Please book holidays during holiday periods where ever possible as we want children's attendance to be high so that educational progress will be steady.
Term 1: Thursday 1 Feb—Friday 12 April. Waitangi Day—next Tuesday 6 Feb. Anzac Day falls in the holidays but Easter doesn't this year—Good Friday 29 March, Easter Monday—1st April, Easter Tuesday—2nd April.
Term 2: Monday 29 April – Friday 5 July. King's Birthday—3 June, TOD—4 June, Matariki—28 June
Term 3: Monday 22 July – Friday 27 September (Sat 28 Sept—Ag Day
Term 4: Monday 14 October – Tues 17 Dec Labour Day—28 Oct.
There will also be a further teacher only day through the year (as designated by the MOE for teacher professional development on the refreshed curriculum,) this date is yet to be confirmed.
- ◆ **Absences:** Please notify the school early each morning that children are going to be away, stating the reason for the absence. An answer phone operates for your convenience. You can also use the Skool App or administration email: admin@buckland.school.nz if these are easier for you. **Do not** send absence notices to teachers through ClassDojo or emails as they will not be picked up. It is costly for the school both in time and resources to have to ring you to check your children are safe. Please note the Ministry guidelines: Prior permission from the principal is to be obtained before a holiday during term time. Children will be marked as absent. Where-ever possible however please make trips out of school time so that your child's progress is not interrupted—**EVERY DAY COUNTS.**
- ◆ **Cell phones** are not permitted at school. If there is a valid reason for a child needing to bring a cell phone for afterschool activities, prior arrangements have to be made by parents with the Principal and these must be handed in to Mrs Glasgow for safe keeping for the day. Any cell phones confiscated will need to be collected by parents.
- ◆ **Dates for school events for the Term**—will be in next week's newsletter and placed on the website and Skool Loop App calendar once sports dates are confirmed.
- ◆ **School Times:** Children should be at school as close to 8.30 a.m. as possible. No child should be at school prior to 8 a.m. Those who arrive from 8—8.30 a.m. will be

required to sit out the front of the school and will need to be sensible. No Chrome books are to be used prior to school starting. School begins with a handbell at **8.50 a.m.** Children need to arrive **before this time** so that they can be prepared for a start at 8.55 a.m. and do not interrupt classes that have already started. If your child is late to school they will marked as such. To help with traffic congestion at the end of the day—School will finish **at 2.55pm for Year 0—4 students and 3 p.m. for everyone else. Piwakawaka and Titipounamu** students will line up at the gate for pickup while other students will sit in front of Piwakawaka and Kea rooms until parents arrive. Two teachers will be on duty.

- ◆ Interval is 10.10—10.30 with lunch break 12.40 —1.30. The first 15 minutes of lunch are assigned to sitting down and eating. Teachers will be on duty to check that children eat their lunch. If however, you notice your child is bringing home their lunch please let us know. A short brain break will be held at 11.35 a.m. Two teachers plus 5 teacher aides are on duty at interval while three teachers plus 5 teacher aides are on duty at lunchtime.
- ◆ **Swimming Lessons**—Each class will have daily swimming lessons with teachers. **All** children are expected to swim each day as part of the curriculum. Please ensure children have their togs daily. The wearing of rash shirts is compulsory while in the pool. Please name these as well as goggles, towels and togs. If you have any old rash shirts that don't fit your child/children any longer we would appreciate them.
- ◆ **Lunchtime swims**—Will be available. Classes have been rostered on each day and those classes will have priority. If there is sufficient safe numbers, other children will be invited in by the duty teacher.
- ◆ **Hats**—Children **must** wear a hat during all intervals throughout this term. Hats need to be clearly named (inside) so that they can be returned if lost. Children not wearing hats will be expected to sit under the front umbrellas.
- ◆ **Uniform Expectations** - These must be worn correctly. If there is a problem with an item of uniform, a uniform pass must be obtained from a teacher. The only jewellery to be worn are watches and stud earrings. Necklaces with cultural significance may be worn at the discretion of the principal. Fingernail polish should not be worn and we are expecting long hair to be tied up.
- ◆ **Water Only**—We are a water only school. Please do not send your child with cordial or soft drinks for intervals. Our drinking fountains have bottle fillers and we will be encouraging children to drink water frequently.
- ◆ **Breakfast Club**— Our Breakfast Club will be up and running from tomorrow on Tuesdays and Fridays in the hall 8.30a.m. If any parents would like to help with this or provide fruit your assistance will be appreciated.
- ◆ **Weekly Newsletters**— A weekly newsletter (that comes out on the first school day of each week) will be placed on our website, emailed to those who have given us email addresses and also placed on our Skool Loop App. If you do however require a paper copy please contact the office and one will be arranged for you. We will place a copy of this on the school noticeboard in front of the office each week as well. If we don't have your email address and you want the newsletter emailed please provide it.
- ◆ **Lollies and Birthday Cakes**—It is a lovely thought to want to share these with class members however we ask that **no lollies or birthday cakes** are sent to school. We have a number of children unable to eat certain foods and this practice also puts pressure on families who can not afford to do this. Any birthday treats brought to school will be returned home.

- ◆ **COVID**—we will continue to apply health and hygiene measures and remind children to wash hands, sanitize frequently and sneeze into their elbows. Children with Covid like symptoms should be tested and remain at home if positive.
- ◆ **Toys Needed**—If you have any toys that are in good condition and are no longer needed by your children we would love to have them for use in the sandpit and Discovery Time. Please hand in to Titipounamu.
- ◆ **Voluntary—Bring Your Own Chromebooks for Years 3–8**—As advertised last year children are welcome to bring their own chromebooks to school for use during class time. In order for them to do this their chromebooks must be set up on our system and a contract signed and procedures followed. Ms Tannion or Mrs Goldsack will be doing this. Contracts are able to be obtained from the office or downloaded from our website. These must be signed before children use chromebooks at school. Your children are responsible for the care of their chromebook so please ensure your home insurance covers any damage which may occur. This scheme is **voluntary** and all children will have access to school devices.
- ◆ **Information from Board regarding the Donation Scheme**—The Board has opted into the Ministry Donation Scheme again this year therefore there will be no request for a donation from parents. Curriculum expenses such as on-line programme costs, sports events, curriculum related trips also need to be covered by the school under this scheme.
- ◆ **EzLunch School Scheme**— This will begin again on 7 March.

Thank You to:

- ◆ Parents and community members for attending the prize-givings at the end of 2023.
- ◆ Mrs Miln for opening the uniform shop over the holidays and for all the work she did in getting our new students organised with uniforms. Our thanks to Mrs Thompson and Ms Ramos who have offered to take over the Uniform shop. This will now be opened on Monday mornings from 8.30am to 9.15am.
- ◆ Mrs Mills for organising the stationery packs. We hope this assisted you to avoid the hassle of shopping for these items. It is wonderful to have the majority of our students organised with their stationery. Many thanks to parents for doing this.
- ◆ **Staff** would like to thank families who gave them lovely gifts at the end of last year. These are not necessary as it is a privilege to teach your children, but please know they were appreciated.

Parent Meetings

We invite you to come along and meet with your child's teacher next Thursday 8 Feb, after school. Teachers will hold two sessions—3.10p.m. and 3.30p.m. to meet with parents to gain an insight into your aspirations for your children this year. They will outline their expectations of children and answer any of your questions.

Year 7 & 8 News

Our Year 7 & 8 students travel by bus to Pukekohe Intermediate each fortnight on a Wednesday for specialist technology lessons. Next Wednesday 7 Feb is the first lesson. Students **MUST** be at school by 8.45a.m. when the bus leaves or parents will be required to drop them off at Pukekohe Intermediate. Our uniform and closed in shoes must be worn.

Community Notices

Seasons For Growth is a grief, loss and change Programme for children dealing with challenges in their lives e.g. separation, divorce, death, other family changes. Our Afterschool Programme starts on 15th of February, held in Pukekohe and runs once a week over 8 weeks. An optional Parent Programme also runs at the same time. For enquiries or enrolments please phone/text Marisa Skilton 021 142 5812, office (09) 238 7228, or contact me at seasonsfranklin@xtra.co.nz. For more info please go to www.pukekohecommunityaction.co.nz/seasons

Staff List for 2024

- * Mrs Mavis Glasgow—Principal
- * DP—Mrs Angela Lindgreen
- * Piwakawaka—N.E./Year 1—Mrs Kathy Travers, & Mrs Paige Wichman
- * Room Titipounamu—Year 1/2—Mrs Sue Brady, Mrs Christina Reddish & Mrs Paige Wichman
- * Room Ruru—Year 1/2—Mrs Kerry Bartlett & Mrs Angela Lindgreen
- * Room Tui—Year 3/4—Miss Neena Hari
- * Room Takahe—Year 3/4—Mrs Julia Brachi
- * Room Kakapo—Year 4/5—Mrs Sonja King
- * Room Weka—Year 5/6—Mrs Sally Miles
- * Room Karearea—Year 5/6—Ms Simone Tannion
- * Room Kea Year 7/8—Mrs Lisa Goldsack
- * Reading Recovery/Specialist Groups—Mrs Lisa Robertson
- * Mrs Glenis Mills—Executive Officer
- * Mrs Megan Van Zyl—Learning Support Co-ordinator (Buckland & Pukekohe East Schools)
- * Mrs Lisa Murphy—Teacher Aide
- * Mrs Shona Miln—Teacher Aide
- * Mrs Karen Adams—Teacher Aide
- * Mr Tony O'Halloran—Teacher Aide
- * Mrs Tracey van Gessel—Teacher Aide
- * Miss Bailey Adams—Teacher Aide
- * Mrs Linda Hackett—Teacher Aide—Library
- * Mr William Lindgreen - Caretaker
- * Crest Clean—Cleaners

Events for This Week

- ⇒ Thurs 1 Feb—School Start and Welcome assembly
- ⇒ Fri 2 Feb—Breakfast Club—8.3-a.m.
- ⇒ Fri 2 Feb—Fire Drill
- ⇒ Fri 2 Feb—House Meetings

Events for Next Week

- ⇒ Mon 5 Feb—School Open
- ⇒ Tues 6 Feb—Waitangi Day—School Closed
- ⇒ Wed 7 & Thur 8 Feb—St John First Aid lessons for all classes.
- ⇒ Wed 7 Feb—First Yr 7 & 8—Technology lesson at Pukekohe Intermediate
- ⇒ Thurs 8 Feb—Parent Meetings (see info opposite)
- ⇒ Fri 9 Feb—Breakfast Club
- ⇒ Fri 9 Feb—School Assembly—2.30p.m. All Welcome

If you haven't already joined the Skool Loop App below are the instructions.

Sunshine is just around the corner!



Dry out your boots, hang up your coat and get your school app ready to read all the school events happening in term four

- ✓ Events
- ✓ Notices
- ✓ Instant school messages
- ✓ Book interviews
- ✓ Absentee
- ✓ Newsletters
- ✓ Permission Slips



Simple free download: In Google play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose our school once installed.