



AWAHOU SCHOOL

POHANGINA VALLEY.

518 Pohangina Valley East Road,
RD 14, Ashhurst.

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(06) 3294 844



"To meet the educational needs of the Pohangina Valley community by fostering individual excellence in a dynamic and caring environment."

EXCELLENT LEARNING FOR A GLOBAL FUTURE

Week 3, Term 1, 2018

14 February, 2018

Respect Whakaute - Honesty Matatika - Effort Ngaki

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Kia Ora Awahou Community,
Week 3 already?! And I thought last year went fast.....
There continues to be a really positive, vibrant buzz in the school at the moment and now we're all settled in for the year the children are hungry to start learning! This week we have started our beginning of year assessments to ensure children are all being taught to their individual learning needs, and help us group our children for learning. In 2018, as well as our normal high standard focus on all curriculum areas, we are having an extra focus on writing across the school. In line with this, we have some professional development for staff already lined up and I will also be teaching a group of 'middle school' learners in writing daily. Our teaching staff also have personal professional development journeys they are embarking on, with Miss Barr focusing on junior school teaching and Mrs Young enrolled to complete a post-graduate diploma in ICT through MindLab. We are super fortunate to have such staff who are committed to lifelong learning themselves – great role models for our kids! Thanks to those who came along to our 'Meet the Teacher' evening last week. It was great to share our plans for the year with you. Whilst the numbers were lower than we were used to, which was a little disappointing, we appreciate it is a busy time of year. Perhaps a change in title to highlight it's more than just meeting the teacher is required, as we know you've met us all many times! If you weren't there, and have feedback to give please remember to complete the Community Consultation form that came home last week. We value your input and feedback to help us shape the direction of our school and our practice. Education is continuing to go through huge change at present (please see message below about upcoming union meetings) and I'm proud how ahead of the pack we are in some respects!

Arohanui - Matt Schmidt, Principal



Awahou School - 2017



THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:



"Take care of our children. Take care of what they hear, take care of what they see, take care of what they feel. For how the children grow, so will be the shape of Aotearoa."

Dame Whina Cooper
Photographer: John Stone

SCHOOL NOTICES

NZEI Paid Union Meetings

On Monday, March 19th school will be closing at 12.30pm as all staff will be attending NZEI paid union meetings. This year is an important year for us as new terms are being negotiated for the new collective agreement for the next three years. There are a number of issues on the table, and pleasingly, some that are **very specific** to small schools such as ours. There is also a strong feeling that we currently have a Minister and government that value education and teachers highly, so it is important we make our voices heard.

Contact Information Updates

Please remember to notify the school if you have had any changes of details regarding your contact information, such as change of address, change of mobile phone number, change of email etc. It is very important our details are up to date for when we need to contact parents. Just drop us an email or send a note in with child with any updates.

Bus Conveyance Allowances

Just an update for the families of 'new' students who are waiting to hear about bus conveyance allowances. Our paperwork was submitted in October last year and we are still waiting for conformation. Victoria spoke with the MoE today and was informed that they are *'on the backburner at the moment and there's quite a pile to get through once they get some breathing space as they have another project they are prioritising.'* They have confirmed these will be back paid when processed so hopefully it will be sorted soon!

Working Bee

Thanks to those who have returned their forms or sent in tools to help with our working bee this Saturday. If you haven't sent one in and are available to help, just rock up on Saturday morning. We will be here from 8am to midday (ish). All help is much appreciated, whether all morning or just a couple of hours. If the weather is terrible we will make a call early Saturday morning and post it on the Facebook page.

Community Consultation

Thanks to those who have returned your feedback forms. If you haven't yet, please send it in by Friday. Your feedback, thoughts and opinions are valued and we appreciate the open and honest responses we have received so far. We **do** take note of your feedback!

Head Lice

A friendly reminder that it may be a good time of year to check your child's hair for head lice. In these hot, humid weather conditions we have noticed all sorts of bugs, creepy crawlies and nasties have been having a breeding field day. We have also noticed a lot of mosquitoes and sandflies down the bank at the moment, so a spray of insect repellent in the morning may be a good idea too!

LOOKING AHEAD



Thursday February 15th – BOT meeting @ school. 7pm

Wednesday March 1st – HPV vaccinations (Year 8 students)

Friday Feb 16th / March 9th / March 23rd / Bush School

Thursday March 3rd – Awahou Swimming Sports

Wednesday March 7th – Junior Tabloids (Mt Biggs)

Friday March 16th – Kainui Senior Swimming Sports (Lido)

Thursday March 22nd – BOT meeting @ school. 7pm

Monday March 19th – School closing at 12.30pm for Paid Union Meetings

Tuesday March 20th – Weetbix Tryathlon

Friday March 30th – Good Friday

Monday April 2nd – Easter Monday

Tuesday April 3rd – Easter Tuesday

Friday April 13th – Last day of term

THIS WEEK'S STUDENT ACHIEVERS



Madison Cameron & Vienna Dykman
– for show great commitment and just
'getting on with it' in class.

Jake Stuart – for a positive, happy and
energetic approach to school.

Hamish White – for a confident and
determined start to life in Maharahara.

Carter Madge – for great work ethic,
determination and focus on class work.



- * School hats, sunblock and water bottles!
- * Bring your togs every day
- * Community consultation forms
- * School closing at 12.30pm on Monday, March 19th

2018 EMAIL CONTACTS

Below is the list of email contacts for the school so you can email the necessary person / people directly:

PRINCIPAL – Mr Schmidt awahoupricipal@awahou.school.nz

WHARITE – Years 1-3. Teacher: Miss Barr tonibarr@awahou.school.nz

MAHARAHARA – Years 4-8. Teachers: Mrs Young naomiyoung@awahou.school.nz

OFFICE ADMINISTRATION –Victoria Sage awahouoffice@awahou.school.nz

CLEANER / GROUNDSPERSON – Louise Bowe louisebowe@awahou.school.nz

AFTER SCHOOL DISCOVERY LEARNING –Louise Bowe & Caroline Hawkins – [Principal](#) or [Louise](#)

SCHOOL LIBRARY / TEACHER AIDE –Peta Spackman petasp@awahou.school.nz

BOARD OF TRUSTEES – Alistair Beveridge (Chair) alistair@thecatalystgroup.co.nz

FRIENDS OF AWAHOU – awahoufoa@gmail.com

SPORTS / COMMUNITY NOTICES

Weetbix Tryathlon

This year's Palmerston North Weetbix Tryathlon is being held on Tuesday, March 20th. We will again be taking a school team to this event and the children are super excited already. Below is the link for registering online, don't forget to select our school from the drop down menu! There are only 6 days left for early bird prices, so get in fast! There are even cheaper options for family registrations this year.

<https://registration.tryathlon.co.nz/Home/Event/30>

If I can a down paper registration forms (there doesn't seem to be any on the website this year), I will send these home.

School Based Music Lessons

Exciting news! This year we will be providing some introductory ukulele lessons for all students, to utilise the instruments we were given last year! These lessons will be taken by qualified muscc teacher, Craig Buttar from MusiqHub. Each student will receive a one hour lesson per week for one term of the school year, so every student has had 8 (ish) lessons at some stage during the year. The school will cover costs for these lessons. If you want extra tuition or lessons in other instruments, please see the following information from Craig:

Want to learn: guitar, ukulele, drums or how to sing ? Develop new skills, confidence, have fun with friends. We will have you belting out the songs you love in no time, all ready for an end of year concert that rocks ! Performance and recording opportunities provided. Nervous beginners welcome! Call/Text (027) 7722877. Find us on FaceBook under Musiqhub Manawatu or go to www.musiqhub.co.nz

Drum / percussion lessons for small groups also available – contact Craig for details!

Craig's school based lessons (individual and group) will start next Wednesday, February 21.



Join Manawatu & TRC Toyota's Nature Hunt!

Let's celebrate Summer with a new scavenger hunt, with Manawatu & TRC Toyota and the Department of Conservation. BBQ Sausage Sizzle!

When: **SATURDAY 17th FEBRUARY 2018 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.**

Where: **The Esplanade, Palmerston North**

What: **Nature Hunt!**

Sausage sizzle!
DOC Rangers to answer all your questions!
Goodie bags!
Toyota Kiwi Guardians Certificate on completion!

RSVP: TO MARGARET@MANAWATU.TOYOTA.CO.NZ TO REGISTER. LIMITED NUMBERS SO BE IN Q

Learn more about Toyota Kiwi Guardians and medal redemption at: <http://www.toyota.co.nz/about-toyota/partnerships/kiwiguardians/>

Department of Conservation Te Papa Ataturu TOYOTA MANAWATU & TRC TOYOTA

PN Marist Junior Football Club

Calling all prospective players.

Registration Day

Sunday 4th March at the Marist Clubrooms from 1pm to 3pm.

Trials

Sunday 11th March and Sunday 18th at Marist Clubrooms

9yrs – 11yrs from 11.00pm till 12.00pm

12yrs – 13yrs from 12.30pm till 1.30pm

New Website not far away....watch this space!



Awahou School

Welcome to Awahou School!

Thank you for visiting our website. Here you will find plenty of information about Awahou School. We are very proud of our awesome school and the achievements our students make. Please don't hesitate to make contact if you would like to come and visit.