

Thank You

Thank you to Don Chapman Builders who have kindly donated another outdoor picnic table for our students and to Vet Services for their donation as a result of our community purchasing products as part of the Virbac/Stockguard promotion. Your support and generosity is very much appreciated.

Parents & Friends Cookbook

These fantastic cookbooks are available from school at a cost of \$12 and would make fantastic Christmas presents. Get in quick as they are selling fast!

Patoka School Cookbook

\$12

Order form

Name _____

Ph. _____

Number required _____

Amount paid _____

(Cheques made out to Patoka School)

Up and Coming Events

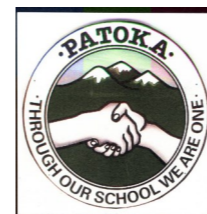
Patoka Prize Giving (PM) School concert / disco (evening)	18th December
P and F Burger sizzle	19th December
First day for Term 1 2014	3rd February

Are you up for a challenge! (Parents and children)

There is no puzzle for this week as this will be the last newsletter.

Well done to all those people that gave my puzzles a go. Watch this space for next year as I try and find even harder puzzles for you to solve.

Well done to you all.



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Patoka School Newsletter



Thank you!!!!

I would like to begin this newsletter by acknowledging the support that both Stacey and I have received since we arrived in July.

To all of my staff - you are a wonderful group to work with. Your commitment to providing a quality education for the students cannot be questioned. You deserve a break and I look forward to working alongside you in 2014. I would like to wish Kathleen all the very best in her new adventure, I am sure she will have many stories to share with us from her new school.

To Carla and Billie - You have continued to provide a clean, colourful and warm environment for us to work in. I am constantly blown away by the hours you put in.

To the P and F group - What can I say but -THANK YOU!! Your support for our school is tremendous and allows us to forge ahead with many new initiatives.

To my Board of Trustees -Thank you for giving up your time to attend meetings and for the extra work that you do to ensure our school is running smoothly.

To the parents -your support for the school and for the education your child is receiving is instrumental in making this an amazing place to work.

And finally.....

To the students—Thank you for the way you have accepted me as your Principal and for the way you have continued to strive to be the best you can. You deserve a relaxing holiday. To the year 8 group - good luck in 2014 as you head off to high school. Give it your very best.

A very Merry Christmas to you all and a Happy New Year!!

Year 7/8 Technology for 2014

I am happy to be able to inform you that from 10th February 2014 we will be starting at Tamatea Intermediate for our technology programme. This school has been chosen because of their purpose built facilities, and because of their willingness to work alongside us in providing more contact between our Year 7/8 students with other peers of this age.

We are excited about this new opportunity and are looking forward to what this new programme will provide us. The principal, Roy Sye has expressed an interest in developing closer links with schools such as ours.

The board had set a goal for this year of investigating and finding a new technology provider.



Patoka School

Issue: 17

Tuesday 10th December

Quote of the Week

"Do not judge me by my successes, judge me by how many times I fell down and got back up again."

— Nelson Mandela

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T.R.U.E - be true to yourself

Trustworthiness

Respect

Unity

Excellence

Enthusiasm

Class Organisation for 2014

Over the last couple of weeks the difficult task of putting together our classes for 2014 has been undertaken. This has involved a lot of discussion amongst the staff. 2014 sees another year where we will have two particular year groups needing to be split across the classes. This is our Year 3 group and our Year 6 group for next year.

The Year 3 and Year 6 groups have been split based on age. We have followed the current procedures as outlined in the school policy. Any issues that have arisen from organising these classes have been discussed with the parents of those children concerned.

One of the key factors that we were very mindful of was the fact that our Year 6 children will be seen as joining the senior school. We feel very strongly that even though some will need to remain in Room 2 as Year 6s that they will still be given opportunities to work together with their peers and to also be acknowledged as our senior group.

Outlined below are just some of the ways that we intend to ensure that Year 6 students do not feel isolated from each other:

- All Year 6 students will eat together with another table added to the senior lunch area
- Homework for this year group will be coordinated across both classes.
- The year 6 students will all work together when the Year 7/8 group go to technology
- Year 6 students across both classes will continue to be used as our milk monitors.

These are just some of our thoughts. We will continue to review the way we have these groups working together as the year progresses.



Reminders!!!!!!

Please read the list of reminders below as they are all important in ensuring that we end the year smoothly.

1. All **stationery accounts / lunch accounts** need to be paid up as soon as possible. It would be appreciated if these could not be left until the last week.
2. All sports shirts **must** be returned by the end of this week as these will be charged for if not returned.
3. All **library books** need to be returned. We have a number of books outstanding. We will be sending home accounts for any library books that have not been returned by next week.
4. If you have any **school reading** books at home, please send these along to school.
5. Accounts for the **swimming pool key** must also be paid. This is a great facility that is used by many in the community, however there are a number of key holders who have yet to pay their fees.



Pakowhai Top Town

I am not going to say too much except that it was an amazing day that was enjoyed by all of our students. Check out the website for more information and photos from this amazing day. Thank you to all the parents that turned up to support our school.

Juice at School

Keri would like to thank the following people who have helped out with the juice programme :
 Leah Norman (bag of lemons), Terry on Puketitiri Rd (Bag of Tangelos), Kahikatea Farms (Plant donation), Bron and family (Plant donation).
 The programme continues to be a highlight for our students each Monday.