

Patoka School Newsletter

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Community Notices



Parents & Friends Notice

Just a reminder that there is a P&F AGM meeting followed by a General meeting about the next school fundraiser at the school staffroom on Monday 12th May @ 1:30pm. Anyone is welcome to come along to the meeting and if you have any fresh ideas for fundraising we are keen to listen.



Parenting Programmes

Term 2 2014

 Toolbox Parenting 0-6 years Parenting with confidence 6 x 2 hour sessions	Thursday 15 May – 19 June 9.30 – 11.45 am
Toolbox Parenting 6-12 years Parenting with confidence 6 x 2 hour sessions	Friday 23 May – 27 June 9:30 – 11:45 am
 Parenting Through Separation Information for parents 2 x 2 hour sessions	Tuesday Monthly 5:45 – 8 pm

Please note:
We do not have child care facilities

Courses are free of charge
Koha towards expenses is appreciated

For further information please contact
Family Works
Heretaunga House
cnr Lyndon Rd & Warren St
Hastings
PHONE 876 2156

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

If you can work out these puzzles, write it on a piece of paper or email it to me. I will put all of the correct answers in a hat and draw out a winner who will receive a prize.

principal@patoka.schoolzone.net.nz

Good luck!!

This week = There's a bungalow with a purple kitchen, a purple bathroom and two purple bedrooms. So what colour were the stairs?



Welcome Back

Welcome back to the start of Term 2.

I hope that you have all had an opportunity to take some time out with your family and that your children were able to look after you during the holidays.

It is always nice to see the smiling faces of the children as they step off the bus and to hear them sharing their holiday stories with each other as they make their way to their classrooms. I do believe I also saw a couple of smiles from the parents dropping off their children knowing that they can send them back to school.

This term is only nine weeks, and is again a term that will be packed with a number of events and some exciting learning opportunities for the children. There are a number of sporting events that we intend to enter as well as the beginning of the soccer season for those children who are playing for school.

I will continue teaching 2 days a week in Room 2 with Nicky Dawson teaching on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. While I am available to be contacted any time, the best days are those days when I am not teaching.

This term, if you have a moment to spare feel free to pop down to school and have a look around. I would be more than happy to take you around the rooms so that I can show you the great things that are going on at Patoka.

I hope to catch up with you at some stage during the term.



Patoka School

Issue: 7

Wednesday 7th May

Quote of the Week

It's not an easy journey, to get to a place where you forgive people. But it is such a powerful place, because it frees you.

Tyler Perry

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T.R.U.E - be true to yourself
Trustworthiness Respect Unity Excellence Enthusiasm

Saturday Soccer Begins

Soccer begins this Saturday 10th May at Park Island. Panthers and Pandas start at 9am and Pumas start at 10.15am. Can all teams please meet 15 min before the game each week by the changing room toilet area at Park Island. There are a few pairs of soccer boots that have been sent along to school for anyone looking for boots. The team managers are:

- Panthers—Keri Horton
- Pumas -Tania MaCauley
- Pandas—Kynan Thomsen

Practices will be on Thursday from 12:45 at school. Mr Ward will run these. Parents are welcome to help. Please ensure children have boots for practice.



Staff Professional Development

This term sees the beginning of an exciting opportunity for the staff at Patoka School. At the end of 2013 we were invited to participate in a Ministry of Education funded Project offering professional development to our staff in Te Reo Maori.

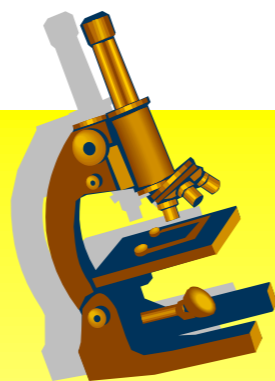
We have had a couple of planning meetings with our facilitator, Sharon Fabish and have set some goals for what we want to achieve as a school. This is a wonderful opportunity and we are very fortunate to have been offered a place on this contract.

Sharon will be working in classrooms with our teachers and children and will be modelling lessons for us. As well as this, she will also assist us with our planning for the future.

The other main professional development focus for this year is in science. This is a key focus area for the Ministry. This term all of the children will be participating in a science unit. The staff have spent time planning this and will be asking the students to assist with the direction this unit will take.

One of the key focus areas for this unit is for us to be able to develop students who understand how to work and think like scientists and who enjoy science. We will be asking the students—*how have you acted like a scientist today?* We would certainly encourage you to have the same conversation with your children at home.

The programmes listed above will assist us in achieving the strategic goals that we have set in our school charter. I look forward to being able to share the progress that the children are making in these areas with you in future newsletters.



School Assemblies

Each Friday we hold a school assembly in the community hall. These are run by our senior leaders and provide us with an opportunity to celebrate the learning that our students are doing in the classroom.

You are always welcome to attend these assemblies. We do endeavor to hold them every week but there are times when this is not possible. If you are intending to come along feel free to ring the school on the Friday and we can let you know what is happening.



Absences and Bus messages

Towards the end of last term we had a number of children who were unwell. Can I please remind you that it is very helpful for us if you can ring in and let us know if your child is going to be away. This allows us to complete our attendance requirements accurately. This practice applies to sickness and other reasons that children need to be away. If it is an extended absence it can also be useful sending an email to Theresa.

The bus runs can be a complex programme in the afternoons with many children having to change their travel plans for various reasons. Again, can I ask that you please contact the school and let us know what you child's travel plans are (if they are different to the normal routines). We have had a few occasions where we have had to ring parents to check up on what their children have told us in relation to changes on the buses. This is not a case of not believing the children, but rather a necessary practice to ensure the safety of all of our students.

Thank you for your assistance with this.



Tennis

Last lesson on Friday 9th May (due to the rain last term). Room 3 at 8.00am and Room 2 at 9.00am.

Lost Property

We were doing very well with our lost property up until the last couple of weeks of Term 1. Could you please ask your children to come and have a look through our collection or, if you are passing, pop in and have a look yourself. We do have some lovely clothes in our lost property that need a home. The box is at the front door outside the office.



Up and Coming Events

School Assembly	Friday 9th May (all welcome)
BOT meeting 7pm	Monday 12th May
Rural Teaching Principals Conference (I will be attending this)	Monday 19th to Wednesday 21st May
Technology	Monday 19th May
Barefoot 7s	Thursday 22nd May