

Community Notices

ROOM 3 CAMP FUNDRAISER

This year Room 3 is off to camp at Tutira! To help offset costs the kids of Room 3 are going to be selling first aid kits. The kits cost \$40.00 and \$13.00 of this will be profit for the children. These comprehensive first aid kits are ideal for in the home, on the farm or in a vehicle. If you would like to purchase one please contact one of the Room 3 kids.

There is an example of the first aid kit at Mrs Hartree's desk for those who would like to have a look!

Wanted

Calf rearer required 2-3 hours per day to start ASAP. Please phone Steve and Lisa on 8397766.

Puketitiri Golf Club

August Programme

Sunday 2nd August—Fairfield Stab (Note Sunday - not Saturday)

Saturday 8th August—Club Day

Saturday 15th August—Carswell / Cockburn 18 hole medal

Saturday 22nd August—W&K Putting Round 5

Saturday 29th August—Club Day

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.school.nz

Good luck!!

This week =

There are 16 differences.



Patoka School Newsletter

Phone 06 839 8821

Fax 06 839 8933

E-mail theresa@patoka.school.nz, principal@patoka.school.nz

Modern Learning here at Patoka

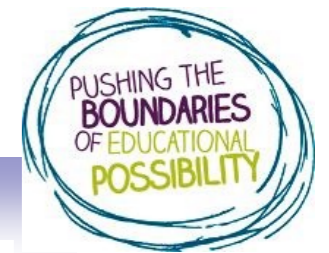
From time to time you may see or hear on the news the Ministry of Education talking about Modern Learning Environments and Modern Learning Pedagogy. It is a directive from the Ministry of Education that all schools be fully MLE by 2020.

The start of our journey towards Modern Learning begun when the staff started to look at and explore the concept of developing self-directed learners. This was work that had begun before I started here. We have continued this focus across all of the classrooms. Emphasis has also been placed on developing Patoka as a knowledge building community. We believe that it is vital for all of our students to be able to seek knowledge and to want to learn.

Within the classrooms teachers are actively involving their students in the planning of the units—in essence they are co-constructing the learning. This is quite a shift from what has been happening in years gone by where units of work were only ever written by the teacher. In asking our students to co-construct the learning we are able to better meet the needs of our children as individuals. We also find that our students have a greater level of engagement as they have played a part in the planning.

Collaboration within classes, across classes and across schools is another key ingredient within the Modern Learning theory. The idea of children collaborating together is not new but the fact that devices such as Chromebooks allow several children to work on one document at the same time in different places within the school—that is something new for us and exciting. Collaboration is also made more possible with the way new furniture is designed. The new desks within our rooms have certainly proved popular with the children and have begun to show their worth as they create space and an ability for children to gather and work together. It provides greater flexibility in the way our students can work within the rooms.

The journey into Modern Learning is one that we should be excited about. I would like to thank the staff for the way they continue to embrace change and maintain an open mind. We still have a lot to learn and there are still changes to come (i.e ultra fast broadband, upgrades to our Wireless to name a couple). But what we do know is that we must continue to learn and to grow our ability to develop life long learners. We have a wonderful environment to work in, and with the support of the Ministry, the staff and our community, a great opportunity to make our school even more dynamic than it already is.



Patoka School

Issue: 12

Wednesday 29th July

Quote of the Week

Too often we give children answers to remember rather than problems to solve.

Roger Lewin

Inside this issue:

Modern Learning	1
Winter Ills	2
Only in the country	2
Website	2
First aid	2
Pet Day	3
Lost Property	3
School Cross Country	3
Band	3
Upcoming events	3
Community Notices	4

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

Winter Ills



One of the inevitable consequences of winter is an increase in illness. We have had a large number of children away over the last few weeks with tummy bugs and colds. I would like to remind parents that if your child is away from school for any illness that we require you to make contact with us so that we can complete our attendance requirements.

From time to time we will contact parents during the day to inform them of any accidents that their child may have been involved in or if their child is feeling unwell. In order to do this we require up to date contact details or emergency contact details. If you know that your details have changed and you have not informed the school, please make contact with Theresa in the office.

Finally, I would like to remind parents that all absence from school must be coded on our electronic register. If you know your child is going to be away or is away, no matter what the reason is please let us know. We are required by law to track attendance at school. If we are unaware of why a child is away we are required to code them as truant. Your help in providing us with a reason means we can provide the right code for any children who are away.

Only in the country

You know you are working in a rural school when within 5 minutes of moving the children off the field one of our local families arrive with their helicopter for the children to have a look at. On Thursday last week John and Lisa Chittick arrived at school and landed on the field. For many of our younger children (and some of our city bred staff) this was an exciting occasion.

Impromptu events such as this are wonderful for getting the children talking and are just another fine example of the support we receive from our community. I believe that Raine had mentioned to her parents that it would be great for them to pop on down in the helicopter. To Raine, John and Lisa—a very big thank you.



Website Update

We are currently experiencing some difficulties with the school website Gallery page. This is the area where we look to place the photos that we take of school events. At present the pages will not load the photos. I would like to acknowledge the work of Robyn Brady who is currently looking into this for us. As soon as this is back up and running I will let you know. In the meantime, the calendar and other notes on the website are working. I will be updating the calendar within the next couple of days so please check to see what events are coming up.



Red Cross—Room 2 and 3



Following on from the very successful First Aid sessions that were held here last term for staff, kindy staff and some community members, we have decided to ask Red Cross to come out and work with our 2 older classrooms for first aid training.

Room 2 will be having a days training on Monday 3rd August and Room 3 will have theirs on Tuesday 4th August. This programme is provided free to schools. We are looking forward to what the children will be able to learn from this and we have no doubt that it will be of benefit to them. Please contact me at school if you have any questions regarding this training.

Pet Day is coming



This is another reminder that we are planning a PET Day on Thursday 15th October. This is the first week of Term 4. We have decided to run with the Thursday as this will allow the Kindergarten to be involved.

The staff have already met and have started to put together some plans. We are planning for a fun and very much student directed day out. We are still keen to hear from any parents or community members (past and present) who would like to help out or who have some great or even weird ideas for us to have on the day. If you are keen to get involved please let us know.

Lost Property

While we have mentioned several times that the lost property continues to have a large number of items, we have not had a lot of luck in finding owners. It may well be that some of the items belong to children who have moved on.

Please remind your children to have a look or come and have a look yourself when you are coming past. The rack can be found on the deck. We are planning to remove many of the items that are not claimed or have not been claimed for several months.



School Cross Country

The cross country is fast approaching with the date that we have set being the 21st August. Details for the day will be coming out in the next newsletter.

Our children are currently practicing 2 to 3 times a week. We have decided to try and mix the way we practice up with a mixture of large runs, sprints, interval training and relays.

This year we will have Pakowhai and Meeanee joining us again. We certainly hope for some fine weather.



School Band

Our school rock band continue to go from strength to strength. We have a large number of eager musicians involved again this year. They are currently practising on a Wednesday under the guidance of Lisa Chittick and Tim Dinneen. I was fortunate enough to hear one of their songs last week and they are sounding very good. I am already looking forward to our end of year concert. A very big thank you to Lisa and Tim for giving up their time.



Up and Coming Events -please put these in your diary

Year 7/8 Technology	Monday 3rd August
Room 2 First Aid Training	Monday 3rd August
Room 3 First Aid Training	Tuesday 4th August
BOT meeting	Monday 10th August
NSW Maths test	Tuesday 11th August
School Cross Country	Friday 21st August