



PARNELL DISTRICT SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER NO. 11

27th July 2017

Kia Ora All

Welcome back for Term Three. As the year progresses, we are continuing to focus on our one priority; ensuring every child has an exceptional learning experience at Parnell District School. Of course this term we begin our new inquiry topic "Are we alone in the universe?". These inquiry topics have come from our students, and reflect their areas of interest. As the students learn inquiry skills through the year, they are encouraged and enabled to investigate our inquiries around the questions they are most interested in. I look forward to seeing all the amazing inquiries our students undertake as the term progresses.

There have been a number of building projects taking place over the holidays, and improvements to the school. If you have visited the Leonard block since the end of last term, you will see the improvements we have made to the classes. We also have tiger turf on site constructing our new sports turf in the junior school, as well as Vea contractors working to fix our crumbling wall to restore it to its former glory. All of this work exemplifies our commitment to ensuring our students have a safe, inspiring environment that meets the needs of a well-rounded modern curriculum. In the coming months, we will begin planning for the refurbishment of the junior block (room 5, 6, 8, and 9). We will work to ensure that the disruption to any classes is minimal, as we create learning environments that cherish the history and character of the block, while providing the best environment possible for our students.

Room 10 (the former ESOL room) has been renovated, and is now our **community room**. We wanted to create a space for our community to use if and when they want to meet together at school. It may be that a group of parents want to meet to talk about what is happening at school or how they can help at home, but equally if our parents want to meet for other reasons, this space is for you! If you would like to book the room regularly or for a meeting please email richardg@parnell.school.nz



It was great to see Mrs Stichbury back on the first day of term so we could farewell her as a staff and for her to have a chance to say goodbye to the students she has been working with over the year. She asked us to pass on her thanks to the community for their support, and to re-iterate how much she enjoyed working with our community over her three and a half years. There are a couple of changes to how we operate as we recruit for a new Deputy Principal, but most keenly for parents if you have an issue around student learning that you'd like to talk to the SENCo about, then Gretchen Werder is the best person to talk to. If you have any pastoral care concerns that you'd like to share with the school, Emma Williams is the best person to talk to. As always, you are welcome to see Wendy Franklin-Smith or myself if there is anything you'd like to discuss.

Kind regards

Richard George

SPORTS NEWS

Sports blog

All sports notices in full and photographs of PDS week of sport are now found on the school sports blog <http://parnellsport.blogspot.co.nz/>

Bay Suburbs and Eastern Zones Term 3 Sports calendar

NIPS Ski training at Snow Planet-	Friday 4th, 11th and 25th August
EZ Boys and Girls Netball	Tuesday 8th August
Gymnastics Training	Wednesday 2 and 9th August 1-2:30pm
Remuera Zones Gymnastics Competition	Thursday 10th August
PDS Adidas Cross Country	Friday 11th August
Bay Suburbs Netball Tournament	Wednesday 16th August
Intermediate Ski Champs	21-24 August
NIPs Ski Champs	28-31 August
Bay Suburbs/Eastern Zones Cross Country	Tuesday 29th August
Bay Suburbs Basketball	Tuesday 12th September- Boys Friday 15th September- Girls
Eastern Zones Basketball	Monday 18th September- Boys Thursday 21st September
Bay Suburbs Hockey	Thursday 28th September

PDS After school netball

Competition starts next week for all teams.

PDS Adidas Cross Country

20 course marshalls required to support our students during their run. Please contact Valerie Marra valeriem@parnell.school.nz

PTA NEWS

Adidas School Cross Country Reminder:

- School Cross Country Event Friday 11th August, Shore Road Reserve
- If there are any parents/older siblings/caregivers that can help as a Course Marshall on the day please can you email Val Marra [<ValerieM@parnell.school.nz>](mailto:ValerieM@parnell.school.nz) as 20 course marshals are required for the day.

Fundraising - 3 1/2 weeks left

This is an important fundraising event for the year that the kids can really feel like they can get involved in. The PTA run the fundraising in conjunction with the School X-Country event organised by **Val Marra** in August. Students can choose to sign up to get sponsored for the run and can chose a prize for themselves or the school based on how much they raise - just \$10 raised will get them/the school a prize. We've got our posters up around the school, students have their sponsorship forms and we're officially fundraising!

The funds raised will us fund the new ASTROTURF FOR THE APEX AND NEW SENIOR PLAY EQUIPMENT

Students can either use the paper form they received last term OR they can sign up for a Student Profile Page at schoolfunrun.co.nz where they can fund-raise online and track their progress....Plus there is a Family Holiday to win just for signing up!

IMPORTANT DATES:

1. Fundraising: Fri 7th July to Sun 20th August
2. School X-Country: Friday 11th August at Bloodworth Park (Please come along and support the kids running on the day if you can!)
 - Val Marra organises this event so please contact her if you are able to help Marshall on the day and have any questions regarding the X- Country event itself (valeriem@school.parnell.nz)
3. Return your Fundraising forms clearly labelled with your child's [NAME, Class Number, Selected Fundraising Prize]: Monday 21st August
 - There will be boxes in the Office to drop your forms and money off and there will be Members of the PTA with collection containers at the gates on Friday 18th and Monday 21st August - **Please don't give these to class teachers.**

If your child has not received a form there are spare forms in at the office. Any questions please email parnellschoolpta@gmail.com or Piriab@icloud.com

Rain date of Friday 18th August.

QUIZ & AUCTION NIGHT

The PTA is organising the 2017 Quiz & Auction Night on Friday, September 15th. It is our major fundraiser for the year. We need your help to make this a success! We are looking for a wide range of prizes to be donated for our auction website. No matter how big or small, all items are gratefully received!

Here are some suggestions of fun prizes: Clothing, kid's stationery, toys, sports gear, food and wine, beauty treatments, babysitting vouchers, jewellery, gift vouchers and movie tickets...

Suggestions for big ticket items: baches or holiday accommodation, restaurant meals, fishing trips, trampoline, artwork, outdoor furniture, bicycles, skateboards or scooters, boogie boards, SUP, hotel accommodation...

Money can't buy experiences:

In previous years, we have had a parent offer a behind-the-scenes tour at the museum, or, another parent offered art lessons, and two families donated fishing trips around Auckland Harbour. Tennis lessons? Get creative - think of things that you can offer!

The PTA are happy to contact any supplier on your behalf. If you know someone who might be helpful with this event, please email: parnellschoolpta@gmail.com

NEXT PTA MEETING:

The next PTA Meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 9th, at 7pm in the staffroom. Everyone is welcome to attend - we would love to see any new faces! Best entrance is to come up the stairs from the courtyard.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Please be aware that the school's acceptance of advertising in the school newsletter does not constitute approval and/ or endorsement for any product or activity

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