



PARNELL DISTRICT SCHOOL

*Newsletter 13
8th August 2018*

Kia Ora whanau

Term three is in full swing, and it's shaping up to be another busy term. PAT testing was a big focus for week two, with PAT's one of the tools we use to know how well your child is progressing in their learning. We continue to work to ensure our children have uninterrupted learning around our inquiry 4 days a week, 8 weeks a term. This term, our upcoming focus week is **Performing Arts Week!** Performing arts week is the 27th – 31st of August. It will be followed by our performances, taking place the week later.

Student performances

Students	Performance date	Show times
Year 0-3 students	Monday 3 rd September	2pm Matinee, 6pm show
Year 4-6 students	Tuesday 4 th September	2pm Matinee, 6pm show
Year 7-8 students	Wednesday 5 th September	2pm Matinee, 6pm show
Year 7-8 students	Thursday 6 th September	6pm Show

Tickets will be available from the office from Week 5. Tickets cost \$10 for an adult, \$5 for a child, or \$20 for a family (parents and children only)

Tickets are strictly limited, so we suggest you get in quickly when they go on sale.

Cross Country and Fun Run

Our cross country and fun run are scheduled for this Friday. You will have received an email on Monday with the times of each race. This is a great way to promote physical activity, and help our PTA with our fun run fundraiser. Thank you to all the families who have supported us in this event, and we are hopeful the weather will be on our side for a smooth event on Friday! Remember we encourage kids to dress to support their house!

Learning Conferences 22nd and 23rd of August

Have you booked your learning conferences yet for week 5?

On the 22nd, teachers will be available from 3:30 – 6pm. School is on as usual this day, and conferences follow after school.

On the 23rd of August, classes will not be operating as teachers will be meeting with parents for their goal setting conferences for students. Students attend only in the time of their conference. If you are unable to make alternative arrangements for care, students are able to attend school, and can be supervised in the hall.

To book your conference, go to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and use the code **pnvv9**.

Community consultation: Health and PE

A big thankyou to all the families who've taken the time so far to complete our health and PE survey. If you've not yet completed the survey, please complete [this six question survey](#) by Friday the 17th of August.

Teacher Strike Action

As you will be aware, teachers who are members of the NZEI union will be on strike on Wednesday the 15th of August. This strike stems from their current contract negotiations with the Government. On the day, our Board of Trustees have chosen to close the school for instruction. If you are unable to make alternative arrangements, you have been asked to let the school office know in writing so that we can be sure we are able to adequately supervise the students who will be attending.

Kind Regards

Richard George

Important dates coming up

10th August: Cross country and Fun Run! All welcome
15th August: Teacher strike – school closed for instruction
16th August: Mufti day and sausage sizzle
17th August: Room 12 assembly, Cross country save date
19th August: North Island Intermediate Ski Champs – Good luck team!
22nd August: Learning conferences 3:15 – 6:00pm (year 4-8 only)
23rd August: Learning conferences all day (year 0-8) – Classes not operating as teachers conference, supervision available as needed

Student Writing challenge!

Well done to our two best writers! We are preparing your writing for the newsletter, and it will be published in the next edition. For next newsletter the challenge is to write about someone who was involved in their own disaster! It can be either fiction or non-fiction.

The three things we're looking for this week are

- A description that lets us know why this person is worthy of being the star of the story
- Details that help us feel like we know the person
- Limit of 500 words

This week entries can be electronic, or hand written.

Room 11 Writing

These are some snapshots of our writing this week - we have not completed them YET.
Enjoy reading.

'See, think, wonder' . . . Mt Fuego Eruption

This is a disastrous situation. They have got to dial 111 so they can rescue us before we get killed and burnt by the molten rock. I felt the Earth being tickled by the volcano when suddenly it erupted in anger. I was shocked -what was happening?

By Tim

I can smell grey smoke, see yellow orange fire, I hear loud screaming. I felt the Earth's body shivering. I have never felt the two tectonic plates smash so never go near a volcano that's about to take a hot shower.

By Jason

The Volcano's Burp

Volcanic ash covered the town and I could hear sounds of weeping. Pumice lay around me -obsidian too. It was a gruesome sight. I felt worried and frightened. Many of my friends and family were buried under molten rock and I had no hope of getting them back. Some people tried to save them but nothing would loosen the Earth's grip. We all cried in agony. The survivors stood on wrecked roofs with the odd pet that emerged from the rubble. We looked up at the sky which had once been blue, but now a dark shade of grey . . .I felt like I was a Greek sacrifice. What if Mount Fuego gave another big burp!

By Natalie

Mt Fuego Eruption

The chaos of the eruption was deafening, and the hot molten rock flowed down from Mt Fuego. The loss of my family ripped my heart apart as I walked across the rooftops, which were once homes of my friends and family. I wonder if my hometown will turn into a refugee camp -the destruction was devastating.

By Leo

Volcanic ash, smoke dancing, bubbling mud, I'm scared, worried, frightened and sad. Where's my family I murmur to myself. Extremely dusty winds swirling like a swarm of bees hearing frightening screams of agony. What was green, turned to grey immediately. How would you feel if you lost your friends and family due to an eruption? Looking around, I see fallen buildings and crushed towns. I wonder if there is still life out there.

By Isabella

I was terrified -I had Goosebumps down my back. I saw trees and houses that had fallen down and now lay under a pile of smoke. I heard my sister say, "Is it going to be OK?, Is it going to be OK? she said again and again. I felt like I was almost there in an earthquake before the volcano erupted.

By Tali

As I was walking on the roof tops of the remaining houses and I saw smoke and ash everywhere. I heard people screaming. I felt very worried about my friends.

By Shaffa

The Strong Kapok Tree

Dear Senhor,

Please do not cut down the kapok tree because it gives oxygen to our world and if you keep on cutting down the trees and plants, everyone will die. Paper is NOT important! Where in the world would animals live -where would they camouflage themselves? It is certain that you will actually feel like your cutting down a part of yourself since the kapok tree provides oxygen. Please please look into the future -can you see lush green leaves or withering trees. Senhor, will you miss our beauty and elegance?

Please when you awake, look upon us with refreshed and new eyes.

By Anika

As lots of things got demolished in ash and mud, I felt terrified. I also heard screams of agony and crying of pain. Roads turned into rivers of ash and lava, flowing rapidly through the city. I wondered how many people had died and how many survived.

By Max

A major disaster -smoke, ash, broken houses and no people. As I run along the street there is a sudden rumbling. A speeding piece of hot volcanic rock comes toward me. Volcan (God of Fire) was angry again! Suddenly the air turned very hot -it was like being in a hot shower. Steam started to rise in Mt Fuego -then out spirted small pieces of pumice from the vent. A bullet sized piece of lava shot out the top and sped across the sky.

By Hugo

Fire on smashed houses, people losing their homes and families, lava running down the volcano into towns and cities. Lava runs into the water and turns into obsidian.

By Elsa

The Rena oil spill – *What a disaster!*

Article written by Cici

What happened?

On the fifth of October, back in 2011, a container ship, named “Rena” crashed and spilled off the coast of Tauranga. The disaster has been named as “New Zealand’s worst maritime environmental disaster.” This disaster has affected the New Zealand wildlife, the environment surrounded by it, and the fishing industry.



How did it happen?

The Rena ship sailed from Napier to Tauranga, in clear weather. The ship contained more than 1,300 containers.

Because of bad navigation and directions, the ship hit onto the Astrolabe Reef, losing about 900 containers, spilling and spreading along the coast, and the ocean. A few days later the ship broke in half, the remains sinking.



When did it happen?

On **Wednesday, the fifth of October, 2:20 am, in 2011.**

This was the date when disaster struck, losing many containers, and affecting New Zealand’s wildlife and environment. By Sunday, the oil reached the Astrolabe Reef. On the 14th, the ship had cracked in half.

Where did it happen?

It was sailing from Napier to Tauranga, but the actual disaster itself occurred in **Tauranga, in New Zealand.** It crashed into the Astrolabe Reef, making many containers spill.

What was the impact made/Aftermath?

When the oil spilled, it affected—not just the wildlife surrounding it, but all of New Zealand’s wildlife, killing about 2000 birds; including a variety of penguins, seagulls and a few others. It took a long time cleaning all of the 20000 birds affected by the oil. Some of the wildlife living in the ocean were; whales, dolphins, fish and seals, which is a very dangerous due to the



amount of oil being spilt. But luckily, none of the whales or dolphins were affected.

According to NBC News, it takes about 48 hours (2 days) to clean—just a few birds. The Astrolabe Reef

costed **\$235 million** to clean up. The disaster also holds a big impact towards the fishing industry. The coast near the oil spill are no longer available for fishing, and the fishing industry resulted into some money loss. There was also other negative aftermath, like pollution but those three were the main affects and damages it had done.

Who was involved?

After the ship broke up in half, the two men were rescued to safety, but then later left Tauranga because of “their safety” after a racist backlash. Later, the captain of the Rena ship appeared in the Tauranga District Court, getting charged with “operating a vessel (ship) causing unnecessary danger or risk to a person or property.” On **25th of May, 2012**, he was then charged with seven months in prison, the second officer following.



Production is coming!!

Yeah, its production soon, week 7. Can't wait! Planning's huge we've been with Ms Lyons everyday making and plaining props, set and costumes. Everyone has been working together and collaborating on different scenes. It is on September the 5th and September the 6th. Trust me you're going to be amazed and have a good laugh. It is year seven and year eight. Everyone has had an impute so that's what makes it such a great production. And don't worry younger kids have a production as well, I haven't seen it, but I'll bet it'll be amazing. It is year zero to three. It is on September the 3rd. And there's also the four to six production which is on September the 4th. But the four to six and zero to three productions are smaller, but they will still be good get ready to be amazed week 7 no stop action, make sure you come to all of them!!!!

By Josh Freer

Parnell school's Cross country

Cross country this year is going to be awesome! The year 7-8 students will be running 3.5 km. We have been practicing all term to build our stamina so that we are making gains! The key is being able to run at a pace for a long time. Mr. Kaho bragged that he could beat us any day of the week which I had highly doubted. True to form it didn't seem fair because we lapped him twice haha so what do you mean Mr. Kaho. Cross country is this Friday and only some people are happy that it is happening, (like me) but others not so much! My goal this year is to be as fast as speedy Gonzales, which does not mean that much because I love cross country.

By Blake Henricks

PAT Testing

First, I must admit that I'm not a big fan of tests so when I found out I was doing a P.A.T test I thought I was going to have to bring my dog roxy to school to PAT 🐕 and pass the test with flying colours! But nope! It was just the usual boring but very useful tests we do every 6 months. I was really looking forward to sitting the 5 PAT test which include Listening, Reading Vocabulary and Comprehension, Punctuation and Grammar and the Maths test. However after the first one I said my goodbyes and left the school for a week. I felt pretty bad for those people at school but now I must catch up on all the tests I missed out on... PLAN BACKFIRED!

By Oscar

IMPORTANT: Out Of Zone Enrolment - Siblings

We are at that time of year when we are looking at our numbers for next year. It is important for us to know if your family are living out-of-zone and you have a younger child who may be starting with us anytime next year, even if you are only contemplating this at present - we still need to know. This is urgent so we ask that you email our Enrolment Officer at enrolment@parnell.school.nz by this Monday, 13 August 2018.

From the PTA

Mufti Day & Sausage Sizzle

The next Mufti Day & Sausage Sizzle of this year will be held next **Thursday, 16 Sept**. This means your child is allowed to come to school on this day in clothing other than their school uniform. We have two mufti days each school term and this is a PTA fundraising activity. The children pay a gold coin donation for this privilege. Children can buy barbecued sausages (including vegetarian and halal), drinks and muffins. All items are for sale on mufti days for \$2 each.

Week of Engineering Expo – Come along and get inspired!

Interested in learning more about engineering or just want to learn more about how the world works? If you're looking for a fun family day, are considering engineering as a career pathway or wish to answer your child's tricky questions about how things work, head along to the Week of Engineering public open day. There'll be drones, robots and virtual reality to get involved with! Find out more at www.weekofengineering.co.nz/engineer-expos-2018

When and where:

*University of Auckland Science Centre, 23 Symonds St, Auckland
Saturday 18 August from 10am – 4pm.*



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13-18 August

AUCKLAND

Join us in inspiring
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Saturday 18 August
10am - 4pm.