



PARNELL DISTRICT SCHOOL

Newsletter 15
5th September 2018

What a phenomenal (and busy) week it has been for Parnell District School. I want to congratulate every student who took part in our performances this week. It is quite a feat to stage three totally unique shows in a week, and our students have absolutely made us proud with their performances. Also, I know our community joins me in thanking our teachers for the long hours they put in to make our performances a success. Thanks also to our wonderful supportive community who attended each performance.

An evolving vision for Parnell District School.

In the two years since I was appointed principal of Parnell District School, we have been constantly working to improve the outcomes for every child in the school. Part of this process has involved consulting with parents and staff to identify the core values of Parnell District School and what makes our school unique and special. In 2017, we spoke with parents about their vision for their children over four consultation sessions. We also spoke to our teachers about what their vision for our learners. The message from both our parents and our teachers was strikingly similar. First, we want our children to be good people, kind, accepting, and good citizens. The second, is that we want our children to excel, both academically, and in their areas of skill and passion.

Taking the rich information from both sets of consultation, the Board and Senior Leadership team have worked with our re-visioning partners, Dow Goodfolk, to craft a new vision and values that will be much more meaningful to all members of our community. As a result, we are proud to share our new vision, values, and our promise to you, our community.

Our vision:

Growing great humans

Our values:

Kaitiakitanga, Innovation, Truth

Our Promise:

Growing great humans who are fit for the future

For us, being a “great human fit for the future” means three things:

- A critical thinker educated for life - our students learn how to become good at accessing, and critiquing, information; and making good decisions
- Protective of the world and everyone in it - they care for the planet and cherish diversity

- Responsible, resilient and self-reckoning - they are strong of character. They own up to their mistakes and recover from setbacks while always remaining curious, open-minded, impassioned and kind

We are excited to have developed a shared vision and values to take Parnell District School into the future and our teachers will be introducing these concepts to our students over the coming weeks and months.

Working to ensure a safe environment for all learners

Part of living our vision and values is about the learning environment we want for every child when they come to learn at Parnell District School. We are committed to ensuring that Parnell District School is a safe and positive learning environment for every member of our community. We have been working on this for the last two years with deliberate, focused effort to ensure every student enjoys a safe and happy learning environment.

Part of this process has included surveying our students using the 'Wellbeing at School' tool, and speaking with staff and students about how we can best address this. The most important thing we learnt was that we needed to ensure consistent expectations of behaviour were shared with students and enforced consistently – across the board. This year we introduced the services of a student counsellor, Christina, who is at school once a week to provide a safe, confidential environment for children to seek support for anything that is of concern to them where they don't feel comfortable to speak with another member of staff. Children are able to refer themselves straight to the counsellor when she is at school, or through a teacher or member of staff. I want to reiterate this is a confidential process between the counsellor and the child.

Bullying in any form is unacceptable.

During "Healthy Communities" week and "Anti-bullying" week, PDS has been working to support all children in understanding that any bullying behaviours are unacceptable in our school and provide them with a range of methods to mitigate such behaviour.

When we live our vision of growing great humans, no form of bullying is permitted.

When we show our value of Kaitiakitanga, we care for everyone and everything around us. When we demonstrate our value of truth, we acknowledge our wrong doings and work to fix them.

I wanted to take this opportunity to remind everyone of our process when bullying is reported and our policy on bullying (which includes our definition of what bullying is). Our process is focussed on supporting every child to feel safe.

- As soon as bullying is brought to our attention, our staff will investigate it fully. Either the Teacher or Deputy Principal involved will speak with every person involved to get a full and complete picture of what has happened. To ensure this process is fair, we must explore all points of view and every child must be heard.
- The staff member investigating will report back to all children involved with the findings of the investigation, ensuring that any victimised parties are supported and shielded from future difficulties.

- Consequences will be applied as appropriate for parties involved. This will be confidential between the school, the child, and their families.
- A plan will be made for how we work together positively, with clear expectations of behaviour for the future and clear consequences for any continued bullying.
- Parents will be informed of the outcomes of the process.

Parnell District School Policy: Bullying

Bullying is a form of harassment, and usually refers to intimidatory behaviour between school students, but may involve staff. If the bullying involves staff and students, the Harassment procedure is followed.

Bullying is deliberate, harmful behaviour that is often repeated, or continues over a period of time. It often involves a power imbalance and it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves. Bullying takes place in the digital world too, through cyberbullying. All members of the school, including students themselves, have a responsibility to recognise bullying and to take action when they are aware of it happening. Bullying behaviour can be overt (directly and easily observed) or covert (indirect and hidden or less easily observed). A great deal of bullying is covert with bullying behaviour rarely occurring in front of adults. If students are being bullied, they need to feel supported and know what to do.

Examples of bullying behaviours include:

- physical, for example, hitting, kicking, taking belongings, defacing a web page
- verbal, for example, name calling; insults; racist, sexist, homophobic, or transphobic remarks
- social/relational, for example, spreading nasty stories, excluding from groups, making threats, standover tactics
- cyberbullying, for example, posting negative comments on social media, publishing or sending inappropriate messages or images, sending mean or intimidating texts and emails.

To effectively prevent and respond to bullying behaviour at Parnell District School we:

- create a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment
- promote digital citizenship to our students
- provide guidelines for managing and dealing with bullying
- identify and acknowledge bullying/intimidating behaviour and do not tolerate it.

This includes cyberbullying, and transgender bullying.

- deal with incidents of bullying through the school's behaviour plan

If you are concerned about anything that is happening at school, we want to work together with you to find a solution. We implore our community to continue to let us know anything that is impeding their child's ability to best focus on their learning or enjoy all that Parnell District School has to offer. Remember, the starting point is talk to your class teacher straight away, or come in to chat to the Deputy Principal involved in your team.

Year 0-3 – Emma Williams Emmaw@parnell.school.nz

Year 4-6 – Wendy Franklin-Smith wendyf@parnell.school.nz

Year 7-8 – Dan George dang@parnell.school.nz

Kind Regards

Richard George
Principal

Important dates coming up

13th September: PTA Mufti day and sausage sizzle

14th Spetember: Assembly Room 20 – All welcome!

19th September: Vaccinations (senior students only)

21st September: Assembly Room 12 – All Welcome!

25th September: Parent Helpers Morning tea – Please come and help us celebrate those parents who do so much for our school! 11:00am in the hall, all welcome!

28th September: Te Arawa house assembly and **RED NOSE DAY!** Term three ends at 3pm

Notes from the Office.

REMEMBER. Please sign in at the office if you are coming to school during school hours for whatever reason. This is very important for health, safety and security. It's just a matter of stopping in reception and signing in via the tablet. Thank you!

LOST PROPERTY,

Hi People! Over the course of term 3 many of our wonderful students have managed to misplace their belongings (mostly uniform items). We are working to getting the lost property that is **CLEARLY LABELLED** to the appropriate classrooms. However, the non-labelled lost property will be donated to charity before the end of the term. If you have lost anything, please come to see us at the office, or feel free to look through the lost property bins that are placed around the school when you come to pick up or drop off your child(ren).

PTA News:

Mufti Day & Sausage Sizzle

The next Mufti Day & Sausage Sizzle of this year will be held next **Thursday, 13 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.

Next PTA meeting:

The next PTA meeting will be held at **7pm on Tuesday, September 11** in the staffroom. Everyone is more than welcome to attend.

Bake Sale

This term's Bake Sale will be held on **Wednesday September 19** with the Year 4-6 syndicate kindly providing the baking! Please bring along \$2 for the children to buy a yummy goodie at morning tea. Any leftover cupcakes will be sold after school. Year 4-6 parents - please keep an eye out for a notice about the Bake Sale that will be coming home in school bags next week.

A Message from our gardening crew:

WANTED: SEAWEED AND ASH

We have collected fallen leaves from our oak trees, sticks from the pruning of our cherry trees, egg shells to dry out and crush into a powder and coffee grounds. We are hoping that if you have a fireplace you could contribute a bag of ash or if visiting a beach with seaweed you would be able to collect a bag and bring it to school by Friday the 14th September. If you have any spare worm castings this would be great too. Please drop it off outside the office foyer on the courtyard side.

This term the Friday Fizz Gardening Club is going to make a compost sandwich in one of our garden beds to boost our nutrient content and soil life to grow naturally strong healthy plants. When a compost is working well it is full of soil life which help to make good earthy dark nutrient rich soil. Did you know one teaspoon of healthy soil contains over a billion micro-organisms?



Junior School Production



2018



Production Recounts

by Room 4

Flash went the lights as I walked on stage. There were lots of people watching me. As soon as I realised what I was doing I was performing on stage in front of hundreds of people. After it was finished I was sad because it was so much fun!

Ava

The show was starting. I put my costume on quickly because the show was starting. I ran as fast as I could to the rug. Then I was ready for the show. I was a turtle and I ate Phoebe's plastic bag. Then the show was done. Everyone went home. I had to go to bed but first I played music then my mum gave me sweets and I made a puzzle. Then I went to bed.

Bardia

Flash went the lights as they turned on so people could see. At last it was my turn and I quickly jumped onto the stage. I danced all the way home.

Phoebe

"Line Up," said Miss Clancy. I was excited to use my leaf blower. Mrs Williams told me to go so I went, but it wasn't the right music so I had to go 2 times. After I was very very tired.

Joah

Lights, camera, action! It was the day I had been waiting for! It was the Junior Performance! My favourite things was dancing. At the end of the show I felt...proud!

Amelia

I was so excited for the show. I like the costume because it is fun. I like the audience because they are clapping. I was so nervous because I am shy. The show is over, I went home and watched YouTube.

Farrel

Lights, camera, action! It was the day I was dreaming of. Junior Production. I was nervous and anxious. I like the acting, lights and the costume. After the show I was impressed, happy.

Shanelle

I was a little bit nervous before the show. I was a turtle and I lined up. When it was my turn I swam like a turtle and I ate a jellyfish and when it was over I was a little bit sad because it was over.

Ewan

The light came up. They shone down on me. Finally, it was the day we were practising for. I was anxious. When it was my turn to go I looked just like a plastic bag floating in the ocean. When the diver came, she rescued one plastic bag who was Phoebe. After that she pulled me because the turtles will eat me and die. At the end, I was angry. I didn't have any surprises.

Mario

"Line up," said Miss Clancy. "We are ready." Before the show I was nervous. It was finally my part. I am a doctor. The audience was watching. After I was super proud.

Poppy

Room 28

*As most of you know, we have been Performing Arts all of Week 6.
Here are some accounts from Room 28 students about their week.*

Drama –

<p>James – In Performing Arts week we have been acting, dancing and playing instruments. This is a rare opportunity that not all schools have. We have also improved our arts skills by making props such as; palm trees, submarines, boats and medical gear.</p>	<p>Andrew – In Performing Arts week, we have had 6 groups. Rap, Drama, Interpretive Dance, Drumming, Haka and Carwash. It has been all over the place, but we all got there in the end.</p>	<p>Nidal – We had a lot to prepare, to get all the jobs done like props, costumes, the script written and practising the scenes. For me, my line was easy even though it was Maori! We needed a big group for this because there were lots of things to get accomplished.</p>
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Interpretive Dance –

<p>Spencer - I think Performing Arts week was really fun because we didn't know what we were going to get. At the start, I thought I don't want to do this but then I realised that I actually did want to. I think that anyone can learn Interpretive Dance and it's something for everybody, even boys. I had lots of fun and I'm looking forward to perform on Tuesday.</p>	<p>Jade – We started off thinking about the moves and one we got everyone a position, the fun started. It was really tiring because we had to move a lot. It was fun. We got to have breaks and draw and do gymnastics but every three 'start from the tops' we had two minute breaks. It has all come together at the end.</p>	<p>Eugene – First, we started to watch videos to think of some ideas then we started to practise then they put us into 4 groups so we could think our own ideas. We had to show a part of the Motiti story, my part was I was being the black oil and some waves. I enjoyed it a lot!</p>
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Carwash	Haka
<p>Rebecca-</p> <p>We practised our dance moves to the song, Carwash! I am a penguin and so I get washed.</p>	<p>Benjamin –</p> <p>We learned Te Iwi e and the Haka, it was good because we got to dance. If you want to join it you have to have a loud voice and be confident because in the haka you have to shout and show facial expressions to show people how you feel.</p>



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FOR MORE INFO OR DROP OFFS
plunketpnc@gmail.com

Gymnastics Holiday Program October 2018

Eastern Suburbs Gymnastic Club
89 Apirana Avenue, Glen Innes, 528 0941

If you have done gymnastics before or if you haven't, we will have a class to suit you. In this programme you will be taught cartwheels, handstands, rolls, walk the beam, have a go on the parallel and uneven bars, vault, rings, tumble track. You will do basic mat work and have games, challenges and fun. Anything for anyone at any level will be covered. You are sure to have a great time. Plus we run after school gymnastics (ages 5+) for all levels and Playgym for the pre-schoolers. For more info and to enrol, please visit our web site: www.esqc.co.nz