



PARNELL DISTRICT SCHOOL

Newsletter 1: 1 February 2024

Kia ora e te whānau,

Welcome back for 2024! It has been such a pleasure to see all our children returning ready to get stuck into their learning for 2024! You will have heard from your children that we start the year, as always, with our *creating our culture* mini inquiry. The focus of the first three weeks is on getting to know everyone in our class, form new friendships and decide how we will work together to make this year one where we can all do our best learning.

We welcome three new staff members: Miss King, who is teaching years 2-3 in Room 1, Miss Lester, teaching years 4-5 in Room 27, and Mrs. Twomey, our new Librarian! Our new team members bring a range of exciting skills and knowledge to Parnell District School, and all share in our commitment to making this the best learning environment for every learner.

Meet the Teacher Picnic is Coming!

Friday the 9th of February

5:30 - 6:30pm

Make sure you join us for our **Meet the Teacher Picnic**, Friday, 9th of February. It is always an important part of our year where we introduce our staff to the community, and all parents get to know their teachers and the other families at our school. We have staggered our teacher presentations to try and help all families make it to the classroom presentation applicable to your child. Remember to pack your picnic and a blanket and join us on the field for our community picnic.

5:30: Year 0-1 and year 4-6 families go to classrooms for teacher presentations

5:45: Year 2-3 and year 7-8 families go to classrooms for teacher presentations

6:00: all families join us on the field for our community picnic.

How will the School Communicate with families?

We understand how busy life can be for families! Knowing what is happening at school and what is coming up is important to our families, so I just wanted to remind you what and how we will keep you apprised of all that is happening.

Read Your Newsletter

The newsletter will keep you updated on what has been happening, share great accomplishments from our students, give you important dates for the term ahead, and let you know about opportunities to help the school.

Read Your Teacher's Emails

Look out for fortnightly emails from your teacher about what's been happening in class, specific learning you can support at home, and what's coming up for the class.

Use Your Planner

Your PDS planner has term dates and important things like teacher only days, non-uniform days and assembly hosts. Make sure it's somewhere you can easily refer to often.

Sign up for App Alerts

We use the School App to send time sensitive reminders and as another way to distribute letters to parents. From the App you can also find our newsletter and other important links. Download **SchoolAppsNZ** from your app store.

School Donations 2024

Parnell District School relies on donations from our community to provide a rich and engaging programme for all learners. This year, your donation will fund additional teachers to ensure our lower teacher-student ratio in all classes and supplements our resourcing to ensure all classrooms have the resources they need for learning. Your donation also supports the Friday Fizz and OE programmes, ensuring our students get opportunities for exploration and extension across the curriculum.

For 2024, the donation request remains at \$480 per child, which equates to \$120 per term. We understand the start of the year can be a tough time for families, so remember we are happy for you to make part payments throughout the year or contribute your donation later in the year. If you would like to arrange payments throughout the year, contact adrienneb@pannell.school.nz for options.

For 2024, additional contributions include the Curricular Activity Contribution (\$60) and Mathletics Contribution (\$23).

Your **Activity Contribution** is invested directly in activities and trips to support student learning. This includes external providers coming into school to enhance learning opportunities, visits to providers, and Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC) activities.

Your **Mathletics Contribution** pays a small percentage of the cost of the Mathletics or Mathseeds license for your child. Mathletics and Mathseeds are tools that are available for children in school and at home to support their mathematics learning.

C4 is Back!

If you are looking for care options for your children before or after school, remember C4 is always here for your children. C4, which stands for a **Community of Care, Creativity and Coaching**, operates before school, after school, during school holidays and teacher-only days.

In addition to the care programme, C4 also offers classes with a range of external groups. These include speech and drama, chess, soccer, skateboarding, coding and more. The classes do change from term to term, so keep an eye out each term for what is coming up.

**C4 is open on Monday the 5th Feb (Teacher Only Day)
Book under 'special days'**

Avoid getting a late booking surcharge by ensuring your booking is made by 9 am Friday for the week ahead pds.aimyplus.com.

Parking Around the School

Please remember it is illegal to park on the yellow lines around the school. The police and Auckland Transport are actively working with us to patrol this and ensure all members of the community follow the rules here. Yellow lines, particularly around the school pedestrian crossings, are there to ensure people can safely cross the road and ensure visibility of the crossing.

Parking or stopping on the yellow lines puts the safety of our students at risk. Keep every child safe by only parking in the designated parking areas.

Important Dates: Term One 2024

Term One: 30th January - 12th April

'No School' dates: 5th February (Teacher only day), 6th February (Waitangi Day), 29th March - 2nd April (Easter public holidays)

3/2	Assembly 9 am: Mr George to host
7/2	Week 2
5/2	Teacher Only Day - No School (C4 Open)
6/2	Waitangi Day - No School
9/2	Assembly 9 am: Student Leaders to Host Meet the Teacher Picnic -fun for the whole family - 5:30 pm
12/2	Week 3 , PAT testing this week, First inquiry: Legacy
14/2	Whānau & Friends Fundraising Team Meeting
16/2	Assembly: Room 29
19/2	Week 4: Enquiry One Begins
21/2	Non-uniform day
23/2	Assembly: Room 16, Friday Fizz Begins
26/2	Week 5
1/3	Assembly: Room 23
4/3	Week 6
8/3	Assembly: Room 27
11/3	Week 7
13/3	Whānau & Friends Fundraising Team Meeting, <i>Eastern Zones Swimming</i>
15/3	New Parent Breakfast, <i>Bay Suburbs Swimming</i> , Assembly: Room 26
18/3	Week 8
20/3	Aotea Bake Sale
22/3	Assembly: Room 11 to host
25/3	Week 9
29/3	Good Friday - No School
1/4	Easter Monday - No School
2/4	No School
3/4	Week 10
5/4	Assembly: Room 4 to host; reports to go home
8/4	Week 11
10/4	Burger Day with Burgerfuel - Order via myKindo app by Monday 8th
12/4	Assembly: Aotea Waka to Host, Term 1 Ends