



PARNELL
DISTRICT SCHOOL

Newsletter 2: 20 February 2024

Kia ora e te whānau,

Thank you to everyone who attended our meet the teacher picnic! The greatest resource we have as a school is our people. The meet the teacher picnic is an important start to our year as we come together for our shared aim of making this and every year the best it can be for every member of our community. The relationship between parents and classroom teachers is an important one. I encourage our community to keep in close contact with their teachers through the year to ensure we make the most of every learning opportunity.

The Library is open!

Many of you got to meet our new Librarian, Kath Twomey, at our meet the teacher picnic. Kath has been busy working to ensure our library is ready for every student to enjoy our fabulous collection. On Monday the 19th of February, our library re-opened. It is open Monday through Thursday for classes to visit, and at lunch time. All classes have a weekly visit to browse and issue books, and 4 days a week the library is open at lunchtime for browsing, quiet games and for those students looking for a break from the hustle and bustle of the playground. Talk with your children about when their library time is and look out for some new issues coming home in bags.

Friday Fizz is back!

Friday Fizz returns for 2024, and children will be given their options on Monday the 19th to choose their Friday Fizz for term one and 2. Friday Fizz is predominantly about children trying something new and getting to enjoy the breadth of the curriculum. Talk with your children about what they'd like to try or what new opportunity they would like to take up. If any parents would like to help us out and run their own Friday Fizz option in the future, please email principal@parnell.school.nz to let us know what you can offer!

Skiing will return for Friday Fizz for 2024. For 2024 we are trialing longer 90 minute lessons for our students. We have been amazed at the progress our students make with the Snowplanet instructors but have found, it's a long way to go for just 60 minutes on the snow. This Ski series is ten 90-minute lessons. If you'd like to sign your child up for Skiing, use [this link](#) or follow the QR code to sign up. Skiing costs \$680 and is limited to 50 children. It will be first in first served for the 50 spots.

Sailing and kayaking is back for 2024, and our children will get to make the most of our long relationship with waterwise at Okahu Bay. For children to take part in this opportunity, we do need parent volunteers to keep our children safe. If your child wants to sign up for this, you will need to attend as a volunteer.

Crochet has an additional cost of \$15 for materials. If your child signs up for this, you will receive an invoice for materials.

Indoor adventures 2024



Non-Uniform Day Wednesday 21 February

For those families new to PDS, Non-Uniform Day is a day where students can wear their own clothes from home instead of their school uniform. Please bring a \$1 or \$2 coin as a donation for our Whānau & Friends'

group. The theme of this is 'whacky hair'. Waka points are up for grabs for the most innovative, and whackiest hair in each team!

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 Athletics Contribution (\$23).

Mobile Phones at School

You will be aware that children at Parnell District School are not to use mobile phones during the day. As we notice more children bringing phones to use before and after school, we want to help you keep them safe. We know leaving phones in our bags during the day is a risky thing to do, so we want to make sure your phone is safe and meets our new Government direction about mobile phones in school. If you have a mobile phone, your teacher will collect it in the morning and send it to the office for safe storage. Mobile phones will be locked away during the day and returned at home time. Any students using their mobile phone during the day (including break times), the phone will be safely stored at the office until collected by a parent or caregiver.

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.

Important Dates: Term One 2024

Term One: 30th January - 12th April

'No School' dates: 29th March - 2nd April (Easter public holidays)

21/2	<i>Non-uniform day - Wacky Hair Day! bring \$1 or \$2</i>
23/2	<i>Assembly: Room 16</i>
26/2	Week 5
1/3	<i>Assembly: Room 23, Friday Fizz begins</i>
4/3	Week 6
8/3	<i>Assembly: Room 27</i>
11/3	Week 7
13/3	<i>Whānau & Friends Fundraising Team Meeting 6pm Staff Room</i> <i>Eastern Zones Swimming</i>
15/3	<i>New Parent Breakfast, Assembly: Room 26</i> <i>Bay Suburbs Swimming,</i>
18/3	Week 8
20/3	<i>Aotea Bake Sale - bring \$2</i>
22/3	<i>Assembly: Room 11 to host</i>
25/3	Week 9
29/3	<i>Good Friday - No School</i>
1/4	<i>Easter Monday - No School</i>
2/4	<i>No School</i>
3/4	Week 10
5/4	<i>Assembly: Room 4 to host; reports to go home</i>
8/4	Week 11
10/4	<i>Burger Day with Burgerfuel - Order via myKindo app by Monday 8th April 4pm</i>
12/4	<i>Assembly: Aotea Waka to Host, Term 1 Ends</i>

Weetbix Kids TRYathlon - 24 March

The Weetbix Tryathlon is open for registration. You can register your children online [here](#) and select Parnell School. Then, on the day of the TRYathlon, look out for our gazebo where we can be together and support our children.





PDS Whānau & Friends

A big thank you to all our volunteers, Class Reps and everyone who contributed to our fundraising efforts during 2023. We had an amazing year, made even more special with the start of our 150th PDS Anniversary celebrations. The 150th Fete in May was well attended by our whānau and the wider community, with live music and great fun for everyone. The PDS 150th Celebrations

Cookbook was launched in December, showcasing the amazing diversity and culinary delights of our families. We also continued with our regular fundraising events throughout the year: Bake Sales, Non-Uniform & Pizza Days, Spooky Disco, and the weekly Friday Cafe.

The success of our fundraising efforts during the past year has ensured that funds are available for this year's Reading Recovery teacher and the external painting of the school buildings which took place over the summer break.

Whānau & Friends Meeting - Wednesday 13 March 6pm, Staff Room

Everyone is welcome at the first Whānau & Friends meeting of the year (previously known as the Parent Teacher Association - PTA). To make our fundraising a success this year we need parents and caregivers who are willing to give their time to coordinating, organising, or helping at any of our events. Come along to share your ideas, sign-up to volunteer your time, and meet with our other amazing PDS whānau.

Friday Cafe

Every Friday on the courts from 3pm. Bring a few gold coins for an ice block and enjoy the sunshine making new friends. Prices from \$1-4.



The Great PDS Bake Off 2023 - Results

Well done to all our bakers who whipped up some amazing creations and delicious delicacies for the Waka bake sales last year. Here are the final results:

- 1st place - Tokomaru
- 2nd place - Te Arawa
- 3rd place - Aotea
- 4th place - Tainui

Bake Sale - Wednesday 20 March

Aotea will be the first waka to start off our baking challenge for this year. More details to follow.





PDS Whānau & Friends

Parent Reps

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to be a Parent Rep. If you want to know who your Rep is you are welcome to ask your teacher but also expect an email introduction from your Parent Rep within the next week or so. If you are a Parent Rep, please join us for our first meeting **Wednesday 13 March 6pm in the staff room**.

Cookbooks still available for purchase!

We still have our amazing cookbook for sale celebrating 150 years! You can purchase one (or more) from the office for \$35.



Sign-up to volunteer 2024

If you would like to volunteer in any way, please complete our new online volunteer form at <https://bit.ly/pds-waf> or use this QR code for a direct link. You can also email us directly at pta@parnell.school.nz or speak to Amy in the office. We look forward to welcoming new volunteers at our Whānau & Friends Meeting on Wednesday 13 March.



Community Notices



Baradene College OPEN DAYS 2024



Tuesday 27, Wednesday 28 and Thursday 29 February 2024

Book online at: www.baradene.school.nz

Tour Bookings will open at 9am Tuesday 20 February

Baradene College of the Sacred Heart is a Catholic Girls School providing an outstanding, holistic education for Year 7-13 students, enabling them to reach their potential, and make a positive contribution to society. Baradene is part of a global network of over 140 colleges of the Sacred Heart.

Applications for Year 7 2025 are being accepted now and will close 3pm Friday, 15 March 2024.

Academic and Special Character Scholarships available.
For enrolment information visit www.baradene.school.nz/enrol

For an enrolment pack please contact Felicity Lister.
E: flister@baradene.school.nz T: 524 6019 ext 713



THURS
7 MARCH
5 – 8PM

Variety
of food
& drinks

LIVE
MUSIC

余家功夫
YEE GA MARTIAL ARTS
MODERNIZING TRADITION

COMING SOON!

First Class: Tuesday 13th February!

- Build Confidence
- Get Fit
- Learn Discipline & Respect
- Meet new people & become part of the family
- Learn a variety of techniques
 - Punching & Kicking
 - Takedowns
 - Self Defense

Parnell District School
48 Saint Stephens Avenue
Classes in the School Hall

Tuesdays & Thursdays
Children: 6:15pm - 7:15pm
Teenagers & Adults 6:15pm - 7:45pm

Minimum age: 7 years old

COME AND TRY A CLASS!

Contact:
Ryan
027 323 1097
yeegamartialarts@gmail.com

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**SINGING
UKULELE
GUITARS
DRUMS**

Private lesson - \$47
Group of 2 - \$26
Group of 3 to 4 - \$19.50

**LESSONS ON SITE AT
PARNELL DISTRICT
SCHOOL**

0212296767

grafon@eliettesmusicacademy.com
www.eliettesmusicacademy.com/pds-enrol

**Celebrating
150 years**

**Open
day**

OF FIREFIGHTING IN TĀMAKI MAKAURAU AUCKLAND



**SUNDAY
17TH MARCH**

10am - 3pm

**THE CLOUD
QUEENS WHARF**

- Help celebrate the evolution of firefighting in Tāmaki Makaurau
- Meet the firefighters who keep our communities safe
- Learn about fire risk and safety to keep you and your whānau safe
- Meet our partner agencies
- Free admission

