



**PORT AHURIRI
SCHOOL**

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Dear Parents & Caregivers

Tēnā koutou te hunga pānui o tō tātou hāpori.

Ngā mihi mahana ki a koutou katoa

Welcome back to term two. We have quite a range of exciting things happening this term.

Firstly, lets address the continuing COVID pandemic. Thank you everyone who have been keeping us informed of cases in their households. The holidays came at a great time and caused a break in the cycle for us and case numbers beginning this term are significantly lower than they were at the end of last term.

Consequently, while we will keep updating you, we'll do it at the end of the week on a hub-by-hub basis. Under the orange settings, masks in schools continue to be encouraged and so a big thank you to everyone who are continuing to support our mahi by wearing them in classrooms. This will certainly help in our work towards keeping cases as low as we possibly can and eliminating some of the disruptions, we had last term. It also means we can, with more confidence, continue to plan this terms events.

Coming up this term, the entire school have a focus on connecting with the estuary. The focus is twofold. Firstly, on science and the estuary and secondly on Aotearoa New Zealand Histories and the stories surrounding how both Maori and Pakeha have engaged with the estuary, and it's changes over time. We have had a staff meeting at the estuary with Chad Tareha this week and learnt some previously unknown stories of early Maori use of this area. Hubs are going to be spending time there over the next three weeks so look out for more information in your child's hub newsletter.

During the break the staff spent a day learning about the application of a mindfulness programme for children called Pause Breath Smile. As we work through how this will be rolled out across the school you may start to hear from your children about some of the little exercises and activities that they are learning to help them manage their self-control, anxieties and their own mindfulness. We had a really great day and are very excited to be bringing this programme to our children.

Term two is always reporting time and week nine (27 June – 1 July) is parent interview week. There will be more information about parent interviews sent out closer to the time.

Week nine is also the week when we are going to have a display in the hall with art and other presentations from across the school showcasing the children's learning on the estuary. This will be something to call in and see when you are here for parent/teacher conferences.

We finish the term in week ten with a visit from author Donovan Bixley. Donovan is an author and illustrator from Taupō.

He has created or co-created over 100 books, published in numerous countries and languages.



Next week is school camp for Aoraki hub. Children are going to Camp Kaitawa at Lake Waikaremoana for two nights. Lucky children and here's hoping for a great week of settled weather.

Koina ngā kōrero mo tēnei wā

Kia pai ō koutou wiki

Nāku nā

Glenn

Important Dates This Term

6 June Queens Birthday Weekend

24 June Matariki Weekend

27 June Estuary display
Parent/Teacher Interviews this week

4 July Author Visit week.

Shining Star Assembly

We are very excited that we can have our shining star assembly with whanau again. Our first one for the term will be this Friday 6 May at 11.30am under the COLA.

If your child brought a slip of paper home with them yesterday, they will be getting a shining star and you are welcome to attend.

New Enrolments

A warm welcome to James Hartley-Eagles, Keion Te Nahu, Isabella Ericksen, Nixon Van Tongeren and Miles Hakkaart who have just started with us.

We hope you enjoy your school days at Port Ahuriri School 😊



Camp Fundraiser – Juicies

Juicies will be on sale this Wednesday and Friday to raise money for camp, \$2 each (cash only).

Sports Uniforms

Please return all sports uniforms from Term 1 if your child is not playing school sports this term.

Could Coaches please return sports bags to the office asap.

Code Club

Code Club will start up again this week. 3pm in Aoraki Hub.

Thanks, Robert, for continuing this for the students.