

**Tuesday, 16 May 2017**

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK**

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

*A chilly start to this week as winter is looming fast. It is important to keep positive with wonderful attitudes to students' learning and lots of encouragement to stay focused and well. With viruses on their way we are emphasising healthy eating, washing hands well and if students are sick, then stay put at home with lots of fluids and rest until they you are well enough to come back to school. A good time to stock up on uniform to ensure your children are warm and stay dry in rainy weather. Please ensure you name uniforms well and encourage students to be responsible for their clothing—I do understand how hard this is at times with the cost of clothing a child, so its important that our children do look after their gear.*

*The school welcomes Dianne Hayman, a new teacher to the school in CS01, and thank Joanna Petrie for teaching this class last term. Congratulations to all of our students who have been very visibly demonstrating our school values and practising empathy and tolerance to others. Showing empathy and tolerance of others needs lots of encouragement and role modelling from adults to be accepting of others no matter what their background and who they are.*

*We have huge concerns in regard to constant lateness to school to start the day. Please parents, this must be addressed and students need to be here on time, to start their learning. Some children in our school are missing up to two hours learning every week through being late for the start of the day. Many classes start the day with Maths and/or Literacy (the two key learning areas in education) so therefore, your child may be failing in one of these areas by missing up to two hours of this subject every week. So can we please, have an all out effort to get students to school by 8:45 every day. Thank you! This will improve your child's learning, confidence and future in a big way.*

*Learning Conferences coming up at the end of the term— please see details on the next page of this Newsletter. *

*Have a great week everybody, enjoy winter sports, games and have a fun family weekend!*

**Ngā mihi, Jan Robertson, Principal**

**“Slow Down Around Schools”...RAISING AWARENESS**



This week we are raising awareness of the need to S-I-O-W down and take extra care around schools. It is important to be hypervigilant of ALL of our children coming to and from school and not just our own. The speed to which we travel can make all the difference in preventing unnecessary injury or worse.



**TOMORROW — 17 MAY**

The Student Council are holding a fun day tomorrow during lunch time. There will be games to raise funds for a Leadership Conference they will be attending. So bring your pocket money and get involved. They will have an obstacle course, sack race, soccer kick, guess the lollies, face painting and more. Ice blocks will be on sale - no other kinds of food, so bring your lunch. **Note: in case of rain, no games will occur but ice blocks will be sold still).**



**We are seeking the donation of Bean Bags, in Good Condition, for use in some of our classrooms. Please let the office know or drop them off during school hours. Many thanks!**

**PTA NEWS**

**PTA MEETING—TONIGHT**

**Tuesday 16th of May**

**7pm in the School Staff room**

**ALL WELCOME!!**



Have you seen the sample copy of the new Entertainment Book, in the School's Office? It is **LOADED** with discounts - Come have a look and prepare to be impressed with its contents. You can choose between the book or downloaded version on your phone— \$70, to begin your savings!

**"Be Helpful. When you see a person without a smile, give them yours".**  
- Zig Ziglar

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## LEARNING CONFERENCES

**When:** Monday 3rd July and Wednesday 5th July—starting at 1PM

**Where:** Year 4-8 - in the School Hall

Year 1-3 - only for students who are at their progress or anniversary reporting time will have learning conferences in their classrooms on these allocated afternoons.

We ask that parents collect their children at 12.30pm on both these days so teachers can begin conferences at 1pm through to 6.30pm.

All students are required to attend learning conferences as this is a valuable learning tool for your child.

All students are required to attend in school uniform. There can only be one learning conference for each child with time slots of 15 minutes each.

Your children will share their learning with you—please be encouraging, supportive and positive. Teachers will have coached students ready for these conferences. Students know where they are achieving at and where to next.

Any behaviour or other incidental questions in regard to day to day should be pre-addressed prior to learning conferences and via Teachers school emails.

The higher the year level the more of the learning conference will be student led. Years 1-4 are just at the early stages of learning to talk about their learning so will have less of a role in these conferences and need lots of encouragement.

Teaching children to be responsible for their learning, their progress, achievements and next steps is a great quality to have.

Parents who struggle to find care for their children for these afternoon could approach Great Times After School who may have some temporary slots available.

A great website to look at regarding student led conferences is:

[www.assessment.tki.org.nz](http://www.assessment.tki.org.nz)

**Why do we have learning conferences??**

Student led conferences and three way conferences take the form of a conversation between the student, their parents and their teacher. Both approaches give students an opportunity to share with their parents their growth as a learner. They accept accountability and responsibility for their progress and achievement, and demonstrate a growing understanding of their development as independent learners. In student led conferences, the student takes the central role during discussions.

- To help students demonstrate evidence of learning
- To teach students the process of reflection and self-evaluation
- To facilitate the development of students' organisational and oral communication skills and to increase their self-confidence
- To encourage students, parents, and teachers to engage in open and honest dialogue
- To encourage students to accept personal responsibility for their learning
- To increase parent understanding of their child's learning through improving attendance at and satisfaction with the reporting process.

## TERM DIARY 2017

16 May	Year 7 & 8 Orienteering Auckland Champs PTA MEETING—7PM— STAFF ROOM
17 May	New Entrants Visit 2 School Council Games Day at lunch time
22 May	BOT Meeting 6:30 New Entrant Intake
23 May	ICAS Digital Tech exam Years 4-8 Year 7/8 Girls Zone Soccer
25 May	National Young Leaders Conference
30 May	ICAS Science Exam Years 4-8
05 June	Queen's Birthday—NO SCHOOL 
08 June	Student Leaders Mud Run – Hamilton
12 June	ICAS Writing Exam Yrs 4-8
14 June	NE Visit ICAS Spelling Exam Yrs 4-8
16 June	Yr 7/8 Netball
19 June	NE Intake
22 June	Yr 3 & 4 Stardome Trip
23 June	Yr 5 & 6 Stardome Trip
03 July	Yr 0 & 1 to Papakura Marae <b>**SCHOOL FINISHES AT 12:30 TODAY:</b> 1pm—Yrs 4-8 Learning Conferences 
04 July	Year 7/8 Zone Hockey Boys New Entrant Visit 1:30 pm
05 July	<b>SCHOOL FINISHES AT 12:30 TODAY:</b> 1pm—Years 4-8 Learning Conferences 
06 July	Yr 2 to Papakura Marae
07 July	TERM 2 Ends



**Bully-Free Week is 22-26 May 2017**  
visit - [www.bullyingfree.nz](http://www.bullyingfree.nz) for helpful information and resources!

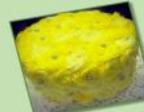




**Sustainable Papakura Market**  
**Conifer Grove School**  
**Food Tech Bake Sale**

Come and support our CGS Food Technology Bake Sale Fundraiser

**Sunday 18th June 2017**  
10am – 1pm  
294 Great South Road, Papakura







**Open Streets Manukau Event – 10am–3pm on 20 May 2017, Osterley Way, Manukau;**.....Auckland Transport with the support of Auckland Council, Panuku Development Auckland and Healthy Families Manukau, Manurewa -Papakura bring you Open Streets 2017—Just a 3 minute walk from the Manukau train or bus stop. Further details can also be found at: [AT.govt.nz/openstreets](http://AT.govt.nz/openstreets). Bring your family and friends for this FREE event full of activities and fun for all ages.