



EDITION #39 6 DECEMBER 2023 From our Principal

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at our School!

Kia ora family and friends of Prrongia School,

We have enjoyed having Twinkle visit us again! The excitement that some children have every morning as they try to find him is priceless! Thanks to Debbie and Mrs Mahon for making the office feel nice and festive!

A big congratulations to Gemma-Lee, who secured a place at the Waikato Full Primary Schools inter-school Athletics competition. Gemma-Lee achieved fourth place in the year 8 girls' high jump event, with an impressive jump measuring 1.26 metres high.

During our assembly last Friday, I recognised a group of students who demonstrated exceptional attendance this year, avoiding significant illnesses. Research indicates that regular attendance of 95% or higher positively impacts learning and personal growth, including confidence. These students achieved attendance rates, rounded to the nearest whole number, of either 99% or 98%, meaning they had only about 4 days off throughout the entire school year. Well done to...

99% attendance = Maia U-D and Indi M 98% attendance = Marni vdP, Amelia C, Abel C, Slater S, Paislee P, Mary T and Mason F

As the end of the year approaches, there are crucial events on the school calendar that enables us to celebrate our learners and the conclusion of the school year. If you are missing any information on a particular event, refer to this newsletter or contact your child's class teacher.

- Today: Kahikatea Big Day Out
- Tomorrow: Kawaka team camp returns to school.
- This Friday @ 2 pm: End of year Sports and Service assembly here at school.
- Tuesday, 12th December: Rata End of Year Big Day in Celebration, Kahikatea mountain biking and hike day, Year 7 and 8 formal dinner and dance.
- Wednesday, 13th December: Set up/rehearsal for formal prize-giving at the Event Center (Kapa haka students, student councillors, orchestra, and band will attend rehersal).
- Thursday, 14th December, starting at 10.30 am: End of Year Formal Prize Giving at the event center.
- Thursday, 14th December: After the formal prize giving Year 8 afternoon tea in the staff room at school.
- Friday, 15th December: Tidy up and lock up of school. School closes at 12 o'clock.

Once again, we are incredibly grateful to Ingham Mitsubishi Motors Te Awamutu Sports & Recreation Club for enabling Ollie and Ryley to visit our school every Monday, contributing to our Physical Education programme. Our students and teachers enjoy their visits and look forward to many more next year. Thank you Ollie and Ryley!

Speaking of sport, it has been another great year for Pirongia School on the sports fields and courts. Thank you to all of our fantastic coaches, managers and helpers! We couldn't do it without you all!



UPCOMING EVENTS



School learning Donations Why and how they help

I am sometimes asked about the importance of learning donations for our school, and I want to emphasise how crucial the voluntary learning donation is. A learning donation represents a valuable contribution from families, whether paid in full or spread throughout the year. While our annual operating grant from the Ministry of Education is essential, it falls short of covering all our wants and needs. (See below). Our learning donation payment slip will come home next week alongside other information such as 2024 class placement and stationery.

Consider the myriad of costs a school faces; from extra teachers over and above what we are funded for, power and lighting, playground maintenance, first aid supplies, learning resources, teacher aides, books, furniture, petrol, and plumbing expenses. Costs extend to tree trimming, photocopiers, turf grooming, art supplies, sports gear, painting of the school, learning programmes, signage, playground bark chip, administration staff wages, and even rubbish collection. Security cameras and surveillance, caretaker, pool costs, building repairs and maintenance, visiting performers, subscriptions, staff professional development, learning materials, music equipment, learning devices, text books and the list continues. We aim to uphold an extraordinary school environment that not only looks fantastic but also allows our students, staff, and families to thrive!

Despite our careful financial management, there always remains a notable shortfall. To address this gap, our dedicated staff actively pursue grants for projects, the PTA tirelessly fundraises, the school Board appeals for learning donations from families, we receive sponsorship from time to time and I personally explore every available funding opportunity. With these supplementary income sources, we can confidently ensure our school continues to thrive!

Thank you for paying your learning donation. Your support goes a long way in maintaining and enhancing the quality of education and experiences that we provide at Pirongia School.

Life
Education is
one of the
many things
achieved
through your
learning
donation.







CO*NFIDENT* Kia *mãi*a

Room 6: Arna - You consistently work hard and are determined to complete your work to a high standard. You will achieve amazing things with your dedication to learning.

Room 6: **Eddie** - For the amazing progress that you have made in your learning this term. You have gained a lot of independence and you should be very proud of all your hard work!

Room 7: Rocco - For the goal setting you do and the way you challenge yourself to improve. Your positive attitude and determination have helped you achieve your goals this year. Kai pai Rocco.

Room 7: Evie - You help make our classroom a great place to be. You have a positive attitude to your learning and to life in the

classroom. You put all your effort into anything you do.
Room 8: **Jacob** - For always being on TRACK in Room 8. You have such a positive attitude towards school and have made fantastic progress in all areas of your learning. Tipo poi Tacob!

progress in all areas of your learning. Tino pai Jacob!
Room 8: Mabel - For always being a responsible student in Room 8. You are a kind friend and include others in your play. You work hard

and are not afraid to give new things ago. What a fantastic role model you are. Ka pail
Room 9: Kelsey - for the wonderful progress you have made this year and for being a really kind friend in our class. Well done.

Room 9: **Colton** - for the wonderful progress you have made this year. You consistently work hard and always try your best. Well done. Room 10: **Sky** - For the fantastic progress you have made this year. You have worked incredibly hard and are such a wonderful role model for others!

Room 10: **Ava** - For the incredible resilience you have shown this year. You have such an amazing positive attitude and have worked so hard!

Room 11: **John** - For your amazing positive attitude towards school. You have made fantastic progress in all learning areas and you always work hard to stay on TRACK. Your positive attitude towards everything you do is amazing and you inspire others to be the positive too. Keep up the amazing work John!

Tawa Team

Room 12: **Cory** - You have really stepped up this term and shown great integrity. You have proven yourself as a great role model in our class. Your work ethic has been amazing and you have put lots of effort into your learning. Ka pai Cory.

Room 12: Reece - For the effort you have been showing to be on TRACK in our classroom. You have been working hard, showing integrity and you are always so willing to help out, which we love. Thank you Reece.

Room 13: **Noah** - For consistently demonstrating our school TRACK values each day. You are a fantastic leader and role model. You show such a positive attitude towards learning and always give things a go. Ka pail

Room 13: **Maia** - For showing respect and kindness towards others. You are always ready to lend a helping hand to those who need it. Keep it up!

Room 14: Madison - It has been a real pleasure to see you grow into a strong, capable individual. You are a role model of our TRACK values and now you have your Capability Backpack full of fantastic learning habits to support you in your journey into Kahikatea.

Room 14: Emi - Your confidence has grown this year. You have built strong connections with new learning and faced challenges full on. You embrace our TRACK values. Kia Kaha.

Room 15: **Thea** - For being a fantastic leader in our class. You are always focused and you work incredibly hard to achieve your goals. You have an amazing attitude for learning. Congratulations on a great year, Thea.

Kahikatea Team

Room 1: **Knighton** - You have continued to develop your learning confidence throughout 2023. You have outstanding courage Knighton and it is great when we see glimpses of your determined learning attitude.

Room 1: **Hope** - You are a responsible and reliable librarian. Your commitment to this role throughout the year has been a wonderful contribution. Thank you for your kind manner with the junior classes.

Room 1: Lucas - for always showing our TRACK values. You come to school each day with a smile on your face and a positive attitude. You are a kind friend who supports others. Your hardworking attitude is evident in everything you do.

Room 3: Eli - Thank you for always showing integrity in your actions. You are a responsible student who diligently tackles the tasks at hand. It was great to see you using your thinker capability by adding music to our end of year performance item.

Room 3: **Bentley** - Your positive attitude is infectious. Thank you for coming to school each day with a smile on your face and a can do attitude. It's awesome to witness your excitement toward your learning journey.

Room 4: **Grace** - You are a kind role model who is consistently showing our schools TRACK values. Always diligently working on tasks while also being there to support and help others.

Room 4: Rylan—What amazing personal growth you have made this year. You are always listening and engaged while enthusiastically participating in our classwork.

Room 5: **Bentley** - It has been exciting watching you develop friendships and make good connections with your peers in class and on the sports field. This confidence has allowed you to move forward through challenges this year.

Room 5: **Zoe** - You have a beautiful way of making others feel good about themselves and your manners are lovely. All responsibilities are taken seriously and you can be relied on to do a great job.

Kawaka Hub

Kate - You have shown great initiative in asking questions about your work, which demonstrates your willingness to understanding and improving. You consistently go above and beyond to help your fellow classmates, showing a strong sense of empathy and teamwork.

Elijah -- You have shown great communication skills during group discussions. You actively participates, share ideas, and listen attentively to your peers. Additionally, Elijah you have demonstrated a strong work ethic throughout the term. You constantly put in effort. Ka pai Elijah.

Stevie - You have shown awesome growth as a Year 8 student this term. You continue to build on your positive attitude and self awareness, particularly during core learning, asking questions and clarifying information when neede. It is great to see you developing your growth mindset. Keep up the excellent work Stevie!

Lowell - you consistently demonstrate a positive, vibrant attitude and a willingness to give everything a good go. You bring laughter and energy into our hub. Your confidence and determination to approach school with enthusiasm is much appreciated! Keep up the fantastic work, Lowell!

oming **Events**

04-07th Dec-Yr7/8 Graduation Survivor Camp

07th Dec-Kahikatea Bead Ceremony

08th Dec—Service Assembly 2pm—See change of time

11th Dec-BoT Meeting 10.30am-1.30pm

12th Dec-Kahikatea Mountain Biking and Hiking

12th Dec-Rātā Team Big Day in

12th Dec-Graduation Dance Yr7/8's

13th Dec-Rehearsal Assembly-TA Event Centre

14th Dec-Final Assembly/Prizegiving TA Event Centre 10.30am

15th Dec—We will be moving classes. School will close at noon

15th Dec-No buses

Important

- NO BUSES LAST DAY OF TERM (15th Dec)
- ALL LIBRARY BOOKS ARE TO BE RETURNED THIS WEEK
- LOST PROPERTY- This will be displayed this Friday at assembly. Remember unnamed and unclaimed items will be donated to charity at the end of term.
- SCHOOL READERS/JOURNALS—Can you please get these returned back to school this week.
- PERMISSION SLIP RETURNS- Please return Prizegiving bus permission slips to classroom teachers, Rehearsal permission to Bob the Box, Yr 8 Graduation afternoon tea rsvp to the school office. All due by this Friday please.

AFTER HOURS MUSIC TUTORS NEEDED

Are you interested in becoming a music tutor??

We have positions available for Trombone, Trumpet, Flute and Saxaphone lessons.

For information about this please contact Mr Gemmell jgemmell@pirongia.school.nz

FRIDAY LUNCH THIS WEEK ... Dominos Pizza 4 pizza 4 Moosie \$5.00 Ham & Cheese, Beef & Onion or Cheese + GF Cheese option

Remember to pay online to the PTA account Lunch order process is as follow....

03-1564-0008168-00 Name and order as reference Ie (Joe Smith—Pizza)

Remember to put your order with full name & room number with payment or note if online payment. No note, no lunch. Order to be into Bob the Box by 9am Friday.



KEYS ON SALE FROM Monday 4th Dec POOL OPENS TO THE COMMUNITY on the 9th December.

> Key Sales from 4-18th Dec only \$100.00 for a pool key.

Please come into the school office, agree to the rules, pay and collect the key.



Happy Swimming!

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Term 4 Miniball and Touch:

That's a wrap for Term 4 touch and miniball.

Thank you so much to the parents that have helped out the teams each week.

We had 80 miniball players and 96 touch players! What a great experience we can

offer our tamariki.

All school singlets need to be returned to Miss Muckle in Room 15 or to the office before the Christmas break please.

Both sports will be up and running again in Term 1 next

We always rely on parents to help out the kids, so please do so next year.

Thanks for your continued support.



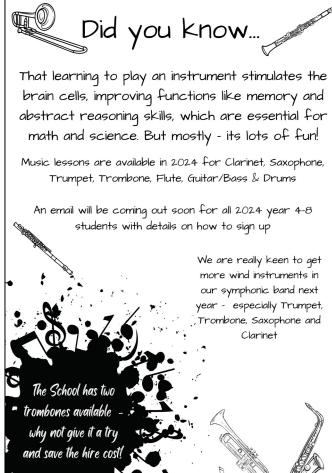
JUNIOR GOLF COACHING

Are you interested in Junior Golf Coaching Term 1 2024?

For students from Yr 3-Yr 8

We are seeking interest in running coaching sessions next term from Pirongia Golf Club so please contact Neil Florence 021967899 or email neil@nfbuilders.co.nz to express your interest or for more details







thank you to our P.T.A

I would like to thank our PTA for their amazing efforts during 2023! This team of parents is such a pleasure to work alongside. They have a 'can do attitude' and understand the importance of their presence and efforts in our school setting. Because of them we enjoy Friday lunches and all the things on the list below!!!!!...

IN 2023, OUR PTA GAVE US FUNDS TO PAY FOR...

NEW LIBRARY BOOKS - \$2500

LIFE EDUCATION CLASSES

KAPA HAKA MOKO STENCIL KIT

PLANTS FOR KAWAKA RONGO GARDEN

AG DAY PRIZES AND RIBBONS

2024 FRIDGE MAGNETS FOR FAMILIES

HALF OF THE MURAL ON THE SHIPPING CONTAINER

MUSIC EQUIPMENT TO THE VALUE OF \$1300 NEW TOUCH SINGLETS READY TO BE PURCHASED FOR NEXT YEAR! (TO MEET THE NEED OF A GROWING NUMBER OF PLAYERS).

Thank you from Kelly, and the team at Pirongia School





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Pick up a brochure at the library desks and enjoy a festival of fun, stories and reading, over the summer holidays!

- waipalibraries.org.nz/events
 waipalibraries@waipadc.govt.nz
 facebook.com/WaipaDistrictLibraries





TOTS TO TEENS

Summer is upon us, and our latest issue is jam-packed with content to help Kiwi parents https://issue2312.totstoteens.co.nz

What's in this issue for parents?

- » How to slow brain drain over the holidays? » Craft: Cutest ever Santa's beard cards and
- » What's on these holidays near you
- » Holiday recipes by foodie Michael Van
- » Why are our literacy levels waning?
- » Use declarative language to build a stronger connection
- » Free printables for familie » Puzzle fun for kids
- + EPIC GIVEAWAYS including a holiday activities package

Ask your tamariki to **find this issue's Te Reo Māori words** including āraī tīkākā, rīti, and

Thank you to everyone for supporting our digital magazine, it means we are able to share our magazine with more kiwi parents and whanau, in a format that is super visual and user friendly (75% of your parents will be reading on their phone!).

We are proud to be Aotearoa's favourite parenting magazine, with 275,000 free magazines distributed free each year nationwide.

Stay in touch!

Have we sent our digital version of Tots to Teens Magazine to the right person in your school/ECE? If not, please let us know by emailing digital@totstoteens.co.nz

We'd love to hear your feedback, so please keep in touch and let us know what you think.

Meri Kirihimete from all of us at Tots To Teens xx



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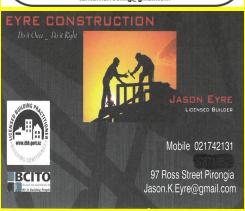
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