

NEWSLETTER NO 8 - Pānui Tuatoru – 13 June 2017
SCHOOL VISION STATEMENT - 'Confident, Capable and Connected Students with a You Can Do It! Attitude'

Kia ora koutou. Nau mai haere mai



Dear Parents / Caregivers

It has been amazing to reflect on all the tremendous activities that our students are able to participate in. The breadth is such that we have so many students involved in the arts, sports, academia and citizenship based programmes. In this newsletter we will be doing

things a little different as we will now put photos of the various events that occur at PNINS. These will be in black and white and a reminder that all these photos and many others are posted on our school facebook page. It is our intention that by the end of the year newsletters will be online and sent out by email, accessible through the soon to be released new school website and school app.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank all the staff, parents and community organisations that support PNINS and thank you all for your time and commitment.

CONGRATULATIONS

Badminton team once again took out the SUPER SPORT interschool competition winning both the boys and girls grades. Players involved were: David Wu, Joonoh Rhee, Aravind Chandran, Finis Zhang, Amy Su, Joanne Nie, Isabella Chen and Sashimi Punchihewa.



Inter School Cross Country - Fantastic effort by our strong Cross country team that participated at Ashhurst domain last week. We were placed highly in each year level for both boys and girls which saw us once again bring home the SUPER SPORT interschool banners.

Rotary speech competition P.N Rotary held their Intermediate Speech Festival on the 29th May, and PNINS was very well represented by Jessica from Room 6. She entertained the adult audience with her speech on Digital Differences. It was an interesting perspective from the younger generation for the Rotarians!



Kahukura Team Assembly - Last Friday we were treated to an amazing assembly by the Kahukura team based around the theme "turangawaewae" our special place in the world. With a high number of parents and family members in attendance they were entertained by the musical, acting, singing and dancing talents of our students.

Every two years each team will perform an assembly with Tangaroa, Kahukura and Arataki planned for 2017 and Manawanui, Rangitane and Ikatere in 2018. Emphasis is placed on allowing as many students as possible to share their skills, talents and knowledge with a large audience.



ROTARY YOUTH AMBASSADORS - Congratulations to Josephine Myers, Aadesh Ganugapati and Luke Cherrington, who have been selected as Rotary Youth Ambassadors, after an application and interview process.

They will be mentored by Rotary Club members throughout their time as Rotary Youth Ambassadors to assist in their personal development and to allow the Rotary Club of Palmerston North to better understand the challenges faced by today's youth.

Singing - Congratulations to Ben McQueen-Davies who was placed first equal in his age group at the MPACS singing competitions, covering three categories - folk, sacred and character. Well done Ben - a fantastic achievement!

CROSS COUNTRY UPDATE

Due to the weather we have had to postpone our annual Cross Country this year to Friday 23rd June . It is our intention to run this event this year postponing it until we get a good day. In 2016 this event was cancelled and therefore we really want students to experience a PNINS Cross country before moving on to secondary school. We will endeavour to keep you well informed of any changes and postponement dates. Our school Facebook page is a great way to find out the latest news.

NON PARTICIPATION - It is essential that every student participates in the school's cross country and we urge that parents encourage their participation. Over the past few years a number of students have opted out of this event and not attended school that day. Students who do not attend the Cross country this year and don't have a medical note from their parents, will run with Mr Ruawai at an alternative date.

AIMS GAMES - Every year there is a National sporting event held in September based in Tauranga called the AIMS games. There are 21 sports available for students of year 7 & 8 to participate in and PNINS has attended since its inception. This year we have selected our AIMS team early so they can participate in a three month programme designed to better prepare them for this event. Criteria to be considered for selection has involved those who can compete at regional and national levels. This year we had 92 applications and have selected a team consisting of 48 athletes. Each week these students will be doing strength and conditioning training at a local fitness centre and be involved with guest speakers around nutrition, flexibility and mental approaches to well-being. This is a new and exciting initiative for PNINS. The 2017 AIMS team will consist of the following sports

- Soccer Team
- Basketball Team
- Squash
- Tennis
- Swimming
- Table Tennis
- Cross country
- Multi Sport



SECONDARY SCHOOL ROADSHOW VISITS

Each year the local Secondary schools visit with year 8 students regarding possible options for 2018 as year 9 students. They are a great way to help students make a well informed decision of which Secondary School they may wish to attend. Recently PN Boys High School came and spoke to students and staff bringing with them some past PNINS students to answer questions from our Year 8 boys.

ICAS EXAMINATIONS

At PNINS we offer an opportunity to participate in the ICAS assessments. These assessments are from the university of New South Wales of Australia and allow our students to measure themselves against students globally with 20 other countries.

ICAS is an independent, skills-based assessment program which recognises and rewards student achievement. ICAS is unique, being the most comprehensive generally available suite of academic assessments for primary and secondary school students. The assessments comprise eight Digital Technologies tests, eleven English tests, eleven Maths tests, eleven Science tests, six Spelling tests and ten Writing tests.

All ICAS tests are reviewed by experienced teachers to ensure that they accurately assess students' skills and are relevant to what they are learning at school. Administration Guidelines are provided to the schools with the ICAS papers to ensure that the same conditions are afforded to all students sitting ICAS.

Over one million student entries are accepted from over 6,300 schools in Australia and New Zealand annually. In addition, students from over 20 countries including Hong Kong, India, Malaysia, Singapore, South Africa and the USA participate in ICAS each year.

**If you would like further information about ICAS please refer to the following website.
<https://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/about>**

The next round of ICAS assessments are as follows.

13 June	ICAS - Writing
14 June	ICAS - Spelling

SCIENCE FAIR & SCIENCE FESTIVAL WEEK

This will be the third time we have run information in our newsletters around the changes to Science Fair this year as we aim to well inform you of them. If there is any doubt please contact your child's class teacher for more information.

We are really excited about the changes as it is our aim to encourage science in a fun and meaningful manner. PNINS has run a science and technology fair in which every student completed a science board following an investigation or development of an invention of their choice.

We are introducing a festival of science, held over a week in **Week 3, Term 3 (7-11 August)**.

Students will be involved in the following ways:

1. Any student wishing to be selected for Manawatu Science and Technology Fair will still need to complete a full investigation in either science or technology (by solving a need or a problem). **It is no longer compulsory for all students.** These projects must still be on a cardboard 'science fair' board. These boards are on sale at the office, for \$15 in five colour choices.

These projects will be judged in the gym on the Thursday of Scifest 17 week.

These students will need to follow the MSTF approval poster process, and obtain approval forms and help from Mr Grady (Science specialist). This year the school has authority to issue approval for most projects.

These projects will be judged during Scifest week, plus the students will be required to attend an 'open night' one hour session in which they will discuss their work with other parents, scientists and peers.

2. All remaining students who do not enter for the Science & Technology Fair, must still be actively involved in a science or technology investigation, but there is no requirement to use a board.

Teams will decide how they will develop students' science skills in the leadup to Scifest 17.

No approval is required for these students, but they are expected to act in a safe manner, and ask an adult if they are unsure.

Presentation options available for these students will be set by their team, but may include digital, paper, photographic or other options.

3. During Scifest 17 week, there will be free lunchtime science presentations in the school, an inter-class challenge, the opportunity to view the MSTF entries, and the MSTF entrants will be recognised at a special assembly (open to parents)

and all students will present their work to their class or to a judge.

All students who complete any investigation will receive a printed certificate in one of three levels- gold, silver or bronze based on criteria that they will receive in term 2.

We look forward to your support in the leadup to Scifest 17. Any questions may be emailed to wgrady@pnins.school.nz or sent via a note to Mr Grady.



5 KEYS TO SUCCESS

At PNINS we believe that the 5 Keys to Success are critical if students are to be successful at PNINS.

- **RESILIENCE** - Staying calm and keeping perspective to bounce back in a positive way
- **PERSISTENCE** - Optimism while working hard and through obstacles
- **GETTING ALONG** - Being tolerant of others while playing by the rules and thinking first.
- **ORGANISED** - Setting goals and planning time to meet them
- **CONFIDENCE** - Self acceptance along with risk taking and independence

Over the next few newsletters we will be sharing explicitly what each one of the five keys looks like.

The aim of this programme is to reinforce the five keys to success and to encourage students to develop positive ways of thinking ('Habits of the Mind'). The last newsletter we talked about **CONFIDENCE** and this week we would like to unpack.. **CITIZENSHIP** What is Citizenship at PNINS?

There are four dimensions to learning at PNINS – Academia, Citizenship, Performing Arts and Sports.

Citizenship education is embedded in the principles, values, the expectations and the key competencies of 'participating and contributing' and 'community and participation', all part of 'The New Zealand Curriculum.'

Citizenship is not taught as a separate subject, but is integrated into several curriculum areas, with social sciences being the key learning area. The focus here is how people can participate in the world as critical, active, informed and responsible citizens.

Young people also develop understandings about their roles as citizens through a number of activities and experiences that take place in and outside the classroom or school.

At PNINS, citizenship is more than this. It's about the 'Intermediate Normal Way' namely pride in -self and school; doing what is right; looking out for each other; not bowing to peer pressure; mastery of the 5 Keys to School Success, wearing the school uniform correctly and with pride; school and community service, being a responsible and caring citizen of the school and local community.

The Citizenship Blue Badge / Star Incentive Awards recognise student achievement in the citizenship dimension at PNINS.

COMING EVENTS

13 June	ICAS - Writing
14 June	ICAS - Spelling
21 June	Supersport Basketball
22 June	School Council Mufti Day - gold coin donation supporting Arohanui Hospice
23 June	School Cross Country
28 June	Super Arts Drama
29 June	PNINS Mathex
3 July	PNGHS Transition meeting Y8s
5 July	Supersport Netball
6 July	PNBHS Music Roadshow 2-2:45pm School Disco

Nāku noa

nā HAMISH RUAWAI
Principal

