



Kia Ora to our Purapura parents and whānau,

Highlights of our week include:

- **Collecting your children:** At the end of the day your children will come out to the gate to meet you with their bags, if possible please be at school by 3pm. The focus here is that children are learning the key competency 'managing self' which includes being responsible of looking after themselves and their belongings therefore, lots of encouragement to be independent. Also timely of a reminder that children are required to be at school by 8.55am ready for learning, again they are expected to carry their own belongings and put bags and bookbags in the appropriate places themselves.
- **Bookbags:** The children must bring their bookbags, Kluwell books, and poetry books to school everyday as we use them each day.
- **Homework:** Your child will bring home their book bag everyday. Children will have readers to read and please take time to read with your child and sign their Kluwell books, this should be a fun activity not a chore so keep it fun. Books to read could be either school readers, children's favourite book from home, or a library book. All notices will be in their book bags so please check for these everyday - reminders of events will be in these updates and also in the School Newsletter and on the school website.
- **Reading:** At the moment the children have been put into groups for reading from the data we had from last year. These may not be correct and we will be sorting this out within the next few weeks. Do not be concerned if your child is bringing home a book you may feel is too easy. Your child is getting reading mileage from books that they are confident reading and this will also assist them with their fluency.
- **Fitness/Sport:** We are currently swimming Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs in the last block of the day. This is a curriculum subject therefore compulsory so please ensure your child has their togs every day or a note from home if unable to participate.
- **Bible in Schools:** We have religious instruction every Wednesday morning for ½ an hour 9.00 to 9.30 this includes singing, a story and an activity sheet - teachers remain in the class during this time - you do have the option to opt out should you want to this is decided from the beginning of the year NOT half way through the year. This will start on Wednesday 22nd February.
- **Small School Swimming:** We will be heading to Paparimu School for our Junior swimming sports on Friday February 17th from 9.30am to 2.00pm and leaving school at 9.00am - the permission slip has been sent home and this needs to be returned by Monday at the latest as we need to sort out transport and contact those parents.
- **Hats:** It is compulsory for all children to wear hats outside in Term 1 and 4 - No hats then children are required to play under the eaves or oak tree and out of the sun.

- **Thank you's:** Purapura would like to thank Sarah Muckle for her kind donation of "Baby Basics" and other toys for our house area. We would also like to thank Emma Reid for her kind donation of Barbie dolls and Little Ponies, as well as other toys for our house area and Discovery Time. You two ladies are awesome!!!
- **Notices:** We have had a LOT of notices that parents have been required to fill in. This is routine at the beginning of each year. It is crucial that you put your child's name on every form as we have had a lot of unidentified forms come back.
- **Reading Dogs:** On Tuesday Mrs Shaw, Emma and Mouse will be starting up the programme of Reading Dogs. A selected few are invited to work with this wonderful team each Tuesday. These children will be reading with Emma and Mouse (a beautiful boarder collie who is a trained special needs dog).

You can contact us by email:

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Regards,

Merlyn Thompson and Helen Davenport, Purapura Teachers.