



Kia Ora to our Purapura parents and whānau,

Highlights of our week include:

- **Uniforms:** Parents, Mrs D and Ms Thompson desperately need your help! We are having issues with clothing at swimming time. The students have been asked every swimming time to take off their uniforms and put them into their swimming bags. This does not seem to be happening as we have uniforms going home with the the wrong students. Could all parents please check their child's uniform to see if it belongs to them and any that dont can they please be returned to school. Also can parents please name all your children's uniforms to assist us with this problem.
- **Small School Swimming Sports:** We would again like to thank those parents that travelled children to Papparimu School and assisted with all aspects of the day - it was a most successful and fun day had by all. The biggest thank you is to your children that had the most wonderful standout behaviour on the day.
- **Wheels Day:** A notice has come home in your child's bookbag about this for Friday 10th March in conjunction with Auckland Transport. Please keep an eye out for this.
- **Book Bags:** Although we want the children to be responsible for their bookbags, it is important that your child has their bookbag at school everyday. We can retrieve readers and write new ones in their Kluwell books. Their poetry books are in there daily too, on a Friday we give out a new poem for the week and want these glued in safely not floating around their bags or the cloakbay.
- **Spelling:** This is ongoing every week - children need to practice reading and writing these high frequency words so that in time they are recognised instantly.
- **Notices:** Reminder: Could you please check your child's bookbag daily for any notices that may have been handed out.
- **Wet Days:** To avoid the students standing in the rain getting wet when it is raining at the end of the day could you please come to Purapura to collect your child.
- **Arrival Times:** We would like it if students could please arrive to school before 8.55 am as we are finding it difficult to start our day with people arriving late. We also have a lot of unsettled children as they have not had time to settle in and have a play before school. Parents may find that children are easier to part with when happy and playing, establishing friendships and socialising with other children.
- **Donut News:** We have changed the way we do news and we are now having 'donut news'. This is where the students have news everyday and share their news with four other students in the class. The students are allowed to bring a small item to share for their news everyday if they wish.
- **Reading:** Readers that are sent home with your child are at an instructional level. Your child will have read these at school, so at home this is more of a revision of what they have done in the class. We appreciate all your help you are giving your child at home listening to them read. We are constantly testing children for reading ability to progress to the next level.

- **Professional Development:** Ms Thompson and Mrs D have visited two schools last week for ideas to implement within Purapura. These visits were most successful and reassuring that we are on the right track in establishing our Innovative Learning Environment and team teaching philosophy.
- **Handwriting:** Below we have included a sheet explaining the language that is used within the classroom to describe how to write a specific letter. When your child is practicing handwriting, spelling and writing at home please try to reinforce this language as much as possible.

You can contact us by email:

Mrs Davenport hdavenport@hunua.school.nz

Ms Thompson mthompson@hunua.school.nz

Regards,

Purapura Teachers.

Casey Caterpillar Handwriting Programme Sayings

Forming letters - letters are formed by combining shapes that children learn and practice as part of the Magic Caterpillar programme. Below are the letters and the way in which we describe the formation to the children.

In Year 0 and 1 at Hunua School, our handwriting programme is based on the Casey Caterpillar Handwriting Programme.

This programme is based around a shared story following the adventures of Casey the Caterpillar and the friends she meets along the way. Throughout the story, the children are introduced to different shapes that, when put together in different combinations, form the letters of the alphabet.

Children spend a lot of time practicing these shapes in isolation and then move on to combining them to form letters.

Below are the shapes that they learn, how they are described, and how they are combined together to form letters and numbers.

You may like to use this language when working with your child(ren) at home.

<i>Letter</i>	<i>Formation</i>	<i>Letter</i>	<i>Formation</i>
<i>a</i>	<i>Open hungry mouth, short stick up, Casey crawls down</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>Tall stick down, up half way, make a gate and close it</i>

<i>c</i>	<i>Open hungry mouth</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>Open hungry mouth, tall stick up, Casey crawls down</i>
<i>e</i>	<i>Twig, open hungry mouth</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>Feeler, twig</i>
<i>g</i>	<i>Open hungry mouth, short stick, possum tail</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>Tall stick down, up half way, make a tunnel</i>
<i>i</i>	<i>Short stick, ladybird spot</i>	<i>j</i>	<i>Short stick, possum tail, ladybird spot</i>
<i>k</i>	<i>Tall stick down, up half way, make a gate and close it, short stick out</i>	<i>l</i>	<i>Tall stick down</i>
<i>m</i>	<i>Short stick down, make a tunnel, make a tunnel</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>Short stick down, make a tunnel</i>
<i>o</i>	<i>Open hungry mouth join it up</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>Short stick, hanging down stick, Casey crawls up, make a gate and close it</i>
<i>q</i>	<i>Open hungry mouth, short stick, hanging down stick</i>	<i>r</i>	<i>Short stick down, start to make a tunnel and stop</i>
<i>s</i>	<i>Open hungry mouth, make Sammy the Snake</i>	<i>t</i>	<i>Tall stick down, twig</i>
<i>u</i>	<i>Open cup, short stick</i>	<i>v</i>	<i>Sloping stick down, sloping stick up</i>
<i>w</i>	<i>Sloping stick down, sloping stick up, sloping stick down, sloping stick up</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>Sloping stick, cross over sloping stick</i>
<i>y</i>	<i>Open cup, possum tail</i>	<i>z</i>	<i>Twig, sloping stick, twig</i>

Forming Numerals numbers have the same formations as letters, with the addition of a snail shape

<i>1</i>	<i>Tall stick</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Ear, tall stick, twig</i>
<i>3</i>	<i>Ear, ear</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>Tall stick, twig, short stick</i>
<i>5</i>	<i>Short stick, ear, twig</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>Tall stick, make a snail</i>
<i>7</i>	<i>Twig, tall stick</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>Make Sammy the Snake, put his tail in his mouth</i>
<i>9</i>	<i>Open hungry mouth, tall stick down</i>		