



Whānau Newsletter Term 1, Week 6

Week 7:

- Tuesday 17 March - Bake Sale

Week 8:

- Tuesday 24 March - Softball Cluster
- Thursday 26 March - Colour Run

Week 9:

- Monday 30 March - On line Whanau information evening Year 1-4 Confident Kiwi
- Wednesday 1 April On line Whanau information evening Year 5&6 Positive Puberty

Principal Pānui

Term 1, Week 6

Safety continues to be a top priority for us at school, and there are a few important reminders for whānau.

If your child is going to be absent, please let us know by 9.00am. Our absence texts are sent out at 9.30am for any child who is not at school and whose absence has not been explained. You can let us know by completing the form on Hero, using the form on our school website, or by texting the school phone.

If your child needs to leave school early, please come to the office first before collecting them so they can be signed out. If someone else is collecting your child and their name is not recorded on our system, we will need to contact you to confirm before your child can leave.

Our bike and scooter licence system is going really well, thank you for your support. Next Tuesday and Thursday morning, from 8.30–8.55am, our student leaders will be at the bike and scooter racks by Room 17 and Room 7 attaching yellow tags to bikes, scooters, or helmets.

If you have not yet completed a bike/scooter licence for your child, please do so as soon as possible, the form is available on Hero. From next week, children who do not have a bike/scooter licence will be asked not to bring their bike, scooter, skateboard, or other ride to school.

On Thursday 19 March, we will also be practising our annual lockdown drill as part of our school safety procedures. Each year our lockdown process is reviewed by Harrison Tew, and this practice helps ensure staff and students know what to do in an emergency.

Before the drill, each year group will have a short briefing with their teacher and Harrison Tew staff so students understand what will happen. The lockdown drill will take place mid-morning and, as part of the procedure, it will finish with an evacuation drill.

You will receive a Hero notification before the drill begins to confirm that it is a practice, and a follow-up message once the drill is complete.

Thank you for your support as we continue to prioritise the safety of all students and staff.

Ngā manaakitanga

Brenda

Welcome

to our new PPS tamariki and whānau!



Welcome to PPS

Debbie Ratumaitavuki — March 8th, 2026

Axel, Kahurangi, Daniel & James

Hologa festival 2026

On Saturday 28th February Niue Hologa Festival 2026 took place at the Trust Stadium with so many Niueans from all over NZ, Australia and Niue. Thirteen villages have been practising for the last 8 weeks to showcase through dancing and singing. What an amazing experience seeing our elders and young generations come together.

We had our very own Kawhina Mele who got to experience this for the second time round with her daughter Rhinessa (ex PPS), son Liam and nephews Denzell(ex PPS) and Theo. We also had Leilani and her sisters perform for Aolfa (Red). They are all very proud of their culture, where they come from Avatele (Purple) Alofa (Red) and cannot wait to go again in 2028.

Gallery





PPS Market Day

Lisa Cochrane — March 12th, 2026

Please see the attached flyer for the Market Day everyone has been working towards in their Inquiry learning time.

Attachments

[Market Day](#)

Nest Confident Kiwi Year 1-4 parent information.

Lisa Cochrane — March 12th, 2026

We are very excited to be working Nest Consulting who will be providing the Confident Kiwis programme to our Year 0-4 team at the start of next term.

Attached to this message you will find a blurb about what this programme will be about. The programmes will be delivered at your child's year level (21st April) and will be approx 30 minutes, if you do not wish your child to participate in this, please let me know so we can make alternative arrangements.

You are invited to attend to find out more about the programme, Whānau/Parents Info Evening (60 mins): Monday 30 March at 6.00pm via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86221670933?pwd=vGXpxHfaZZzobw9RYHA19DjF0EaCkD.1>

Attachments

[CK Info](#)

We need your help!

A team of staff and parents have been working closely with Auckland Transport to investigate the installation of a raised pedestrian crossing and additional safety measures on Wharf Road.

We need your feet on the street! To make this happen, AT needs to see the proof. The higher our pedestrian numbers, the stronger our case. If you can, please walk to school this week and next and cross Wharf Road during these peak windows:

- **Morning:** 8:30 AM – 8:55 AM
- **Afternoon:** 3:00 PM – 3:20 PM

More pedestrians = a stronger case for a safer road.

Thank you for your support!

Cluster Athletics Day

On Tuesday 10th March, 29 Year 5 and 6 students travelled to Rutherford College to compete in the Te Atatū Athletics Cluster. It was a successful day of running, throwing, and jumping, with dark clouds threatening rain midway through the event. Fortunately, the rain held off and the students were able to enjoy the full day of competition.

Events like this would not be possible without the support of our parents and caregivers. Thank you to those who helped by driving students to and from the event and for supporting and encouraging our competitors throughout the day.

As a school, we managed to place 1st Overall!

Here are the individual placements of the day:

<p>Year 5 Girls</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pearl Mae - 3rd in Long Jump• Mila - 2nd Shot Put• 3rd in the 4x100m Relay (Pearl Mae, Mila, Rosa, Pearl)
<p>Year 6 Girls</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aramia - 1st 60m, 1st 100m• Augustina - 2nd 60m, 3rd Long Jump• Layna - 1st Long Jump• Aria - 1st Discus• Xaria - 2nd Discus• 1st in the 4x100m Relay (Aramia, Layna, Aria, Augustina)
<p>Year 5 Boys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Henry - 1st High Jump, 1st Long Jump, 2nd 60m, 2nd 100m• Elliot - 2nd High Jump, 3rd 100m• Mason - 3rd Discus• 1st in the 4x100m Relay (Elliot, Louis, Noah, Henry)
<p>Year 6 Boys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chosen - 1st Shot Put• William - 2nd Shot Put• 3rd in the 4x100m Relay (Milosh, Kahlyjuz, Daniel, Riley)

We now look forward to the Softball and TBall Cluster in Week 8!

Gallery



Hero Permissions for Trips

For any external trips or sports events, we will now be using Hero to collect permission and important information. This will make organising trips much easier for everyone — and means no paper permission slips to return.

If your child is attending a trip or sports cluster outside of school, you will receive a Hero notification asking you to complete the online permission form.

Please ensure your HERO account is up to date so you don't miss any notifications about trips, events, or student learning. Ensure your notifications are on so you don't miss anything.

Thank you for your support in helping us streamline this process.



Netball 2026

Kia ora parents/caregivers,

If you are wanting your child to represent Peninsula Primary for Winter Netball 2026, please search netball on the HERO and fill out the form linked there for all information and registration.

This needs to be completed before the 27th March (End of Week 8)!

If you have any questions, please email: jesseh@ppsteatatu.school.nz

'Giraffes Can't Dance'

Room 22 used the book 'Giraffes Can't Dance' as inspiration for their beautiful giraffe art.

Here are some of our giraffes.

Gallery



The Student Press

Interview with our amazing Whaea Lakaya

We sat down with Whaea Lakaya who is a Teacher Aide and a Kapa Haka teacher at Peninsula Primary School.

Let's find out more about what she does at our school!

Where did you grow up?

"I grew up in Auckland and my home town is Panguru."

Do you have any siblings?

"I have a younger brother and sister."

What is your favourite subject to teach?

"I love teaching Te Reo Maori."

What's your favourite colour?

"Brown."

What's your favourite hobby?

"Kapa Haka."

What made you want to be a teacher in the first place?

"I love helping students and watching children succeed.

Was it your dream as a kid to be a teacher?

"Yes and no. At some points I wanted to be a hairdresser."

What is your favourite way to help a student who is feeling stuck?

"Helping them reread through their work and find different ways and strategies to help them."

What is your birthday date?

"28th of December."

What is a hidden talent that not many people know about?

"I am a really good cook and a really good baker."

If you had a superpower what would it be?

"To read minds"

A Kapa Haka teacher teaches a traditional Maori dance for boys and girls. A teacher aide helps students that need professional help with their work. Whaea Lakaya teaches Tikanga and Te reo Maori. She also is a student teacher currently completing her final year of teachers training. That is why Whaea Lakaya is perfect

A report by Sloane, Sienna, Kasey, Rosa, Alba, and Holly, the Year 5 Media group

Gallery



The Student Press

Sarah Mackay — March 13th, 2026

An interview with our Kaumātua, Matua Rota

A kaumātua is like a grandfather for the school to help the tamariki. Our kaumātua is the person who gives a speech at each powhiri. Our school's kaumātua is named Rota.

"What are some of your favourite memories as principal of PPS?"

At the end of each year the teachers used to do a funny play at assembly. One of the teachers would write a play that they would do. They were all different characters in it. It was their presentation for the students, the teacher did this play all dressed up in crazy costumes. Another favourite was when I came here, and was a teacher before I became principal. That was 50 years ago, about 1976. Then I went overseas for a bit then came back as principal in 1996.

Another favourite memory was when the swimming pool was built, because when I first arrived it was a little pool and there was no cover over it. Then I managed to scrape enough money together to make it bigger. It wasn't as long as it is now. One of my favourite memories was when the pool opened. Another favourite was the building of the library. Those were some of my favourite memories.

"How has the school changed over the years?"

In 1976 PPS was a huge kura with about 500-600 tamariki. The school used to be a very old school and it used to be called Te Atatu North Primary school. It's amazing how the school has changed over the years including its name.

"How is this role different from being principal?"

The role is different to being Principal because being a principal is a lot of hard work, but being a kaumātua is an easy job. Being principal is tough, having calls and meetings very often, while the kaumātua only has to give a speech in the powhiri.

"Why is having a kaumātua important to a school?"

Having a kaumātua is important to our school because it is like having a shared grandfather for the whole school. There used to be a reading program where some kids got pulled out of class by a grandparent (who volunteered) and they read a story to the kids. Many of the children didn't have grandparents of their own so it was the loveliest thing to have a grandparent read to you.

"What values do you hope our tamariki grow up with?"

Sharing, caring and inclusivity. It is very important to include everyone around you. We're all whanau in the same waka no one should be discluded.

"What makes you proudest when you think about Peninsula Primary School?"

The things that had been done to our school such as: the swimming pool building, library, the hall, shelters outside the classrooms and office block were built while I was principal. Each principle has added something so they would all be proud of all their bits and pieces and they all get put together to make a wonderful school for you students

"Is there a message you'd like to share with our students?"

You should always be inclusive, not leaving anyone out. Everyone in our school is whanau, and deserves to be treated well. Be curious, ask questions, be inquisitive. You should always be inclusive and it doesn't matter what culture you are from, you are welcome here.

"Is there anything else you would like to share with us?"

Mrs Dobbie came here from England and I gave Mrs Dobbie her first job in NZ. My wife taught in Rm 8. I've worked with Mrs Ratumaitavuki (the office lady) and worked with Rota at a different school. I love coming to PPS to welcome people to school at the pōwhiri.

Gallery



Pizza Fundraiser

Friday 27th February & Friday 27th March

Order on Kindo. Orders close 6pm the Thursday before.

Each slice purchased will go towards our fundraising initiatives including the upgrade of our outdoor free play areas.

TERM 1, 2026

ICE BLOCK FUNDRAISER

EVERY THURSDAY IN TERM 1 FROM FEB 19TH

All dates available to order on Kindo. Orders close 6pm the Wednesday before.

Ice blocks delivered to classrooms during second break.

\$2



Peninsula
Primary School
Leeds, Greys, Selwyn

Ice Block Fundraiser

Every Thursday in Term 1 from 19 Feb

Order on Kindo. Orders close 6pm the Wednesday before



******* Yummy Apple Stickers Start Collecting (Now Until end of Term 3)*******

Lisa Cochrane — February 18th, 2026

Thank you so much for all your efforts with yummy sticker collection. It is really helping keep the school supplied with sports equipment. Last year we did so well we collected nearly \$2000 worth of sports gear obtained for our tamariki!!

So we are once again asking the families of the school to collect and send in Yummy stickers, barcodes and labels.

Each classroom will be collecting and counting the stickers. So please start collecting and sending them in to school with your tamariki. Please note that we have to count and tally up the total number of points the school collects, so please try and make this easy for us. Each classroom will have a Yummy sticker monitor to help with this.

What to collect & how the points work

- Regular yummy stickers: these can be found on apples, nectarines and peaches = 1 point
- Special variety stickers: Lemonade, Ambrosia and Sweet Tango = 2 points
- Labels (or bar codes) from Yummy apples bags = 10 points!!!

How to collect

- Download an official collection sheet from the Yummy Apple Website <https://www.yummyfruit.co.nz/schools/>
- Use a plain piece of paper on the fridge
- Send them to school on their lunch box/brain food

Don't forget to ask your friends and whanau to help with our collection- the more stickers we get the more sports equipment

Good luck whanau, hopefully we can earn some more fantastic sports equipment for our school!!!

Gallery



Thanks to our Sponsors

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