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Newsletter 23rd February 2026

From the Principal

A warm welcome to all our new students and their whānau. It has been a very smooth start to the year as the students settle into their new classes. Swimming lessons at Lloyd Ellesmere Pool have started and our softball team has taken part in a big interschool field day. Our student road patrollers have been trained by the Police and are underway keeping all students and adults safe.

SCHOOL PICNIC REMINDER

This Thursday 26th February. Starting at 4 pm and finishing by 7 pm.

The weather is looking great and we will have four bouncy castles, Mr Whippy and the PTA will have food and soft drinks you can buy or bring along your own food and refreshments.

KEEPING OURSELVES SAFE PROGRAMME - NZ POLICE

What are the children learning?

They are learning:

- to work out when their safety is at risk
- how to keep safe when they meet and mix with other people
- who and how to ask for help if they, or someone they know, is being abused
- to go on asking for help until someone does something to stop the abuse
- that it is important to make and follow personal, family and school safety rules.

They will know:

- that abuse is never okay
- that abuse is never their fault.

BIG WALK - THURSDAY 26 MARCH

Our "Big Walks" is designed to promote physical health, safety, and sustainable travel by encouraging students and parents to walk to school. The whole school will walk around the block supervised by staff and the Police.

Benefits

Health - Walking helps protect the body from many serious illnesses later on in life. On average around half of all children do not do the minimum one hour a day of physical activity recommended. A brisk walk to school can help them get their daily exercise and arrive at school or home, refreshed and energised.

Social - Walking can have a positive effect on a child's emotional wellbeing. It can encourage independence, road sense and also be an opportunity to chat with friends.

Environmental - The average drive to school and back releases 800g of CO_2 into the air – enough to inflate over 60 balloons.

Economical - Encouraging children to walk to school will save money on transport fares or petrol money.

STUDENT LEADERS TRIP TO WELLINGTON

Our House Captains will be attending a trip to Wellington on Wednesday 4 March, to visit Parliament.

ATTENDANCE SPOTLIGHT: SHINING BRIGHT

We are thrilled to share that student attendance

has improved! A huge thank you to our families for your dedication to ensuring students are here, on time, and ready to learn. Every day matters, and seeing more smiling faces in the classroom each morning boosts the energy for everyone. Let's keep up the great work and make every day count!

PARENT-TEACHER PARTNERSHIP INTERVIEWS

We invite you to meet your child's new teacher on Thursday 12th March for a ten minute interview. The purpose of this interview is to get to know more about your child and how they have settled in, and talk about ways of making this a successful year of learning for them. Academic achievement will be shared in Term 2 at the three-way conference when teachers will have current assessment data.

Please log in to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz to book a time using the code **jfkqg** or book through the office.

This is an important time to meet your child's teacher and share any information that will help your child have a great year of learning. Your child is not required to attend as this is a time for parents and teachers. They are more than welcome to play outside while waiting for you.

School will close as usual at 3pm but if you want to pick your child up at 2.00pm you are welcome to do so.

As always we are striving for all parents to attend this interview. Your child's teacher is likely to contact you over the next week if you have not made an appointment. We look forward to 'reaching new heights together' to ensure your child has a great year of learning.

We also have a school Facebook page to share information. Please like our page to keep updated. https://www.facebook.com/PakurangaHeights

Events During The Next Fortnight

Swimming lessons continue for middle and senior school

Wednesday February 25th Board Meeting

Thursday February 26th Big Walk (children, Police and staff)

Thursday February 26th School Picnic 4 pm

Thursday February 26th Meeting for parents thinking of coming to our school

Wednesday March 4th Student Leaders Trip to Wellington

Celebrating Excellence - Room 2

Overall Art Focus: Line and mark making

Big Idea: Artists use tools to make different kinds of marks.

In room 2 we explored lines with a big colour impact! We used a range of art mediums including pastel, watercolour dye, metallic marker and also practised our cutting skills. Take a look at our super cute paint brushes!

This was how Miss Wyeth measured our success:

Success Criteria:

I can make different kinds of lines (straight, curved, wavy, zigzag).

I can fill a space using lines.

Family Picnic

Sports News

Interschool Softball 2026

On Wednesday the 18th February, Miss Su, Miss E, the Sport Leaders and the softball team went to Meadowlands for our competition. Our school started the year late, and some other schools started before us. We only had three days of practice while other schools had three weeks of practice. There were two teams for Pakūranga Heights School. There was team Pak A, and team Pak B. There were 21 students all together. We had a great day playing other schools (there were at least ten fields to play on!). We showed great teamwork and sportsmanship, it was lots of fun.

Written by Leti Savea & A.J. Fretton

From the Community

All Hands brings
All Hands Aotearoa
LEARN TO
SWIM
Empowering Women & Girls learn to Swim Safe & Confident
WHAT WE OFFER
10 Swimming lessons
3 months to complete
A pair of free swimming goggles for each participant
Gold coin ($2.00) Donation per lesson
LIMITED OFFER
For more details, visit our website & submit expression of Interest (EOI)
Follow us on
@allhandsaotearoa

LEARN
TAEKWONDO
AUCKLAND TAEKWONDO
MARTIAL ART
Discipline
Self Defence
Self Control
Perseverance
Integrity
One week free trial
Courtesy
Confidence
Fitness and wellbeing
Indomitable Spirit
Friendship & Family
ABOUT US
EST. IN 1997.
We are a family orientated and not for - profit - club. Location for training at Pakuranga Anchorage school hall.
Our Instructors freely give up their time to train students from all walks of life.
AGES 7 to ADULTS
TERM FEES
$100 for under 13yrs
$130 for 13yrs and over
Family Discounts of 20% if more than 1 family member.
One - off start up fee $50
Adults Train for free with paying child member. Conditions Apply
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