

Newsletter No: **1**

Welcome Back
to Arohanui for 2017



Newsletter 1

In brief ...

School Phone Numbers

Base School	838 6696
Bruce McLaren	836 3175 ext 215 or 226
Hobsonville	975 7400 x 547
Edmonton	837 5360
Flanshaw	834 7294
Freyberg	836 7664
Glendene	837 4391
Holy Cross	838 5380
Massey	8337232
Rutherford	834 5449
Te Atatu Int	834 7899
Pakeke	837 2395



Next BOT Meeting...

...is on Wednesday 15 March
at 10.00 am—venue yet to be
decided.

Students' Taxis

If you have any problems or concerns with your taxi run please phone Dinah, Teresa or Gill at school on 838 6696. For cancellations, etc, either call the driver directly on his mobile, or phone Moi or Sandy of Auckland Coop on 302 6033.

We need two weeks' notice for all changes to addresses for your child's taxi run.

Thank you for your help with this.



Farewells and Welcomes

We warmly **welcome** to Arohanui ...

- Jerem Chapman, TA in Pakeke
- Amber Soleimani, teacher in Freyberg 1
- Ben Crosby, teacher in Hobsonville
- Chloe Stannage, teacher in Pakeke
- Shona Woods, outreach teacher
- Alice McPherson, OT
- Angela Lidgard, TA in Rutherford 3
- Ayra Baes, TA in Rutherford 1
- Sudha Packirisamy, SLT
- Juileen Davies, TA in Flanshaw 1
- Ingrid Aschmann, TA in Glendene 1
- Mareah Mata, TA in Rutherford 3
- Abi Kirby-Neill, relief teacher
- Allyson Taffard-Mallon, relief TA
- And welcome back to Eva Muselaers who has rejoined the Outreach team after a year overseas with her family.

We sadly **farewell** the following staff who have resigned so far this year:

- Chrissie Kellie, TA in Rutherford 3. Chrissie has been at Arohanui for 10 years and will be sadly missed. She has moved with her family to Pukekohe.
- Linda Glasswell, TA: moved to Tauranga
- Butul Iqbal, relieving TA: has another job
- Chantelle Toetoe, TA: moved overseas
- Leanne Rumney, SLT, has moved to another position at Oaklynn.

We wish all these wonderful staff people all the best for the future.

And **congratulations** to Rebecca and Sean Heanaghan on the birth of their baby girl, Grace, who was born in January.

Taxi issues

Taxi issues are hopefully in the process of being ironed out. We are aware of runs that are still not working properly and are not consistent. We are working hard to advocate for families with these. I also have written a formal complaint to the Ministry of Education and Cognition Services in regard to how the start-up has rolled out this year. If you have issues we ask that you please keep us informed as we can help support you in most cases.

Kay's New Role

Kay Graham, for many years one of our occupational therapists, has had a change of position this year and is now the Family Liaison Coordinator. This is a 'social work' position and our focus will be on supporting families and ensuring you are getting access to the help you need. Referrals will be made through teachers and school leaders.



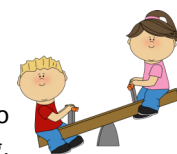
Board Changes

At our last board meeting in December, Nick Taylor (Jethro's dad) was elected Chairperson to replace Darryl Cockroft. Also two new trustees were 'appointed by selection' to fill the vacancies left by Darryl and Ella Schaumkell who both resigned in November. They are Tui Pomare, O'Shae's mother, and Sara Romans who was recommended by a school parent and who has valuable expertise and a willingness to contribute her time to help our school.

Our board members for 2017 are: Nick Taylor (Chair), Tama Healing, Tui Pomare and Sara Romans (parent trustees), Tash Carter-Bing (staff trustee) and James Le Marquand.

Seesaw

It is fantastic to see so many of you connecting, engaging and sharing Seesaw with your children. If you have any questions talk to your child's teacher or Trudi.



Family Survey

Thank you for your overwhelmingly positive feedback about how we are reporting to families about your child's learning and progress. We are still collating the data but will have this to share shortly. We had a huge number of parents keen to be contacted to talk further about how we can improve and develop our reporting systems. We will select a range of parents to represent the different ages and needs of our students, and host a focus group later this term.

KiwiChat Sibling Camp

This camp is especially for the brothers and sisters, aged between 5 and 11 years, of our special needs students and will be held over two days in the April holidays. Details are:

Venue: Sunnydene School, 48 Smallfield Ave, Mt Roskill

On: Wednesday 26 and Thursday 27 April, 9am to 3pm

Who: Special needs children who use communication systems with their siblings

Day 1: Siblings only

Day 2: Siblings plus their special needs brother or sister who uses a communication system (plus a caregiver)

Cost: \$60 for the whole family for both days

The theme is 'circus'. If you are interested please email kiwichat@talklink.org.nz or phone Jessamy Amm on 021 044 4681 or 557 1214. Places are limited so you will need to be quick.



Work and Income Support Seminar

For families raising a child with a disability, this seminar is hosted by Disability Connect and will be presented by Work and Income Disability Advisors.

Tuesday 21 March 7 to 9 pm
Hubwest, 27 Corban Ave, Henderson

This seminar is **free to family members** and will clearly explain the types of Work and Income supports which individuals *may* be eligible for if living with a disability or raising a child with a disability. Eligibility criteria will be explained – also whether particular supports are means tested or not, and income thresholds if they are.

The main supports being discussed are:

- Supported Living Payment
- Accommodation Supplement
- Child Disability Allowance
- Disability Allowance
- Supported Living Payment – Care of Sick and Infirm

As Work and Income Disability Advisors these presenters cannot participate in personal discussions regarding individual's circumstances. Their presentation will be broad and informational. Any questions or individual issues can be addressed to Disability Connect staff and we will endeavour to have your questions answered.

Tea/coffee and biscuits will be available from 30 minutes prior to the start of the seminar.

RSVP is essential: 09 636 0351

Reminder: Family Donation and Stationery Payments

Family donation is \$100 for the year, and stationery costs, which vary from class to class, should have been sent home by your child's teacher. Please pay the stationery for your child urgently as these materials have already been purchased by the school. We would also appreciate payment of your family donation as soon as possible.

You can pay for both at the Base School office—we have Eftpos available (cashflow cards only, not credit—sorry).

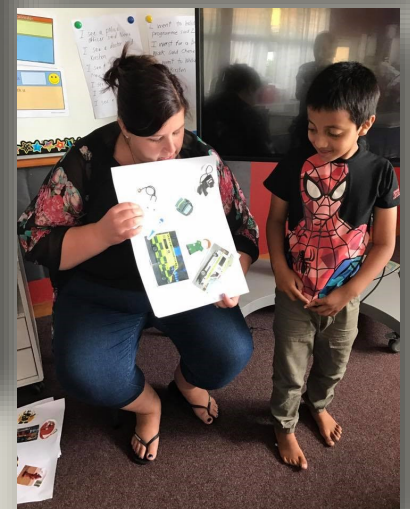
Our thanks to those families who have already paid both stationery costs and donation.

EFTPOS available at Base

Sorry, no credit cards—
cashflow cards only.

People Who Help Us

Our students in our new Massey satellite unit have been learning about "People who help us". They have been making posters about different people who help us in our community.





2017 Term Dates:

Term 1 102 half days	<i>Staff only day</i> First day of school <i>Waitangi Day</i> Last day	<i>Tuesday 31 January</i> Wednesday 1 Feb <i>Monday 6 February</i> Thursday 13 April
Term 2 98 half days	First day <i>Queen's Birthday</i> Last day	Monday 1 May <i>Monday 5 June</i> Friday 7 July
Term 3 100 half days	First day Last day	Monday 24 July Friday 29 September
Term 4 88 half days	First day <i>Labour Day</i> Last day of term	Monday 16 October <i>Monday 23 October</i> Friday 15 December