

Pekerau Primary School

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Te Awamutu

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PEKERAU PRIMARY SCHOOL



• 9 February 2017 • TERM 1 • WEEK 2 •

Nga mihi nui ki a koutou,
Greetings to you all

Welcome to all our new students and their families.

It has been a great start to the year for all our staff and students. It has been a delight to see the smiling faces on the children as they enter the school gates, showing that they are eager to learn and happy to come to school.

Congratulations

to all of our certificate winners at Assembly last week.



This term we have begun to unpack “**The Pekerau Way Inspiring Actions**”. These actions and statements have come from our community consultation in Term 4 last year and are linked to our school values. These have been discussed in classes with our boys and girls to ensure they know what actions we expect them to display whilst at school and what actions will help them to be successful in the future. These will begin to be displayed around the school in various forms and it would be great if parents and whanau could discuss these with their children at home.

THE PEKERAU WAY INSPIRING ACTIONS



Turangawaewae / Belonging

I belong to Pekerau and I have the right to feel safe at school.

Hiranga / Excellence

I do my best at all times.

Kotahitanga / Unity

I work positively with others to make Pekerau a safe and fun place to learn and play.

Mana / Pride

I am proud of my action and the way I treat others.

Ngakau / Integrity

I do what is right even when it is difficult.

Manaaki / Respect

I show I respect others through my actions and my words.

Wairua / Spirit

I display the Pekerau spirit through my attitudes and actions.



School Bus fees

\$30 per student/per term.



Fees due by Monday 13th February

If your child has not paid by this date - they will not be allowed on the bus and alternative arrangements must be made.

Please contact the office if your child is not going on the bus and we will take their name off the bus roll.



The only way to have a friend is to be one.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Aspiring Attitudes, Inspiring Actions

Belonging – Turangawaewae, Excellence – Hiranga, Unity – Kotahitanga, Pride – Mana, Integrity – Ngakau, Respect – Manaaki, Spirit – Wairua

Meet the Teacher Evening

Thank you to all of our wonderful Pekerau community members for coming to the meet the teacher evening. It was a great success and it was fantastic to see you all there. We are hoping to have another community evening later in the term to discuss our emerging vision for the school. We will let you know the details of this meeting in the next newsletter.



We would like to thank Te Awamutu Mitre 10 Mega for lending our school the BBQ and the bouncy castle for our Meet the Teacher evening. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



Specialist Tikanga and Te Reo



This term we have employed a specialist Tikanga and Te Reo teacher and we are hopeful that this will continue for the remainder of the year. This is an integral role to our school, helping all of our children understand the bicultural nature of New Zealand. During these lessons the children will learn about Maori customs, protocols and language. This term there will be an emphasis on Ko au (I, me, myself) and looking at my whanau, hapu and iwi, including pepeha, whakapapa and places. It will also include delving into my marae, my friends and my community. We would love to involve our community in the learning taking place in these lessons and if any of our community members would like to meet with our specialist Te Reo and Tikanga teacher, Jo Flavell, to discuss their involvement in this, then please contact jof@pekerau.school.nz. Alternatively you can contact me personally by e mailing gavinc@pekerau.school.nz.

Deputy Principal position

We have recently advertised our second Deputy Principal position. This closes on Monday 20th February. Our newly appointed Deputy Principal will lead whole school assessment as well as coaching and mentoring staff members. This is an exciting opportunity for the school and we will keep you updated on the appointment process in the coming weeks.

School Donation

\$50 for a single child or \$70 per family

Paper Fee

\$20 per student

Bank Account details:

Senior Camp 2017

**Port Waikato – 27 February to 3 March
\$190.00 per student**

**ASB Te Awamutu
12 3134 0056652 00**

MAD COW DRUMS - Drum and Guitar Tuition

Drum lessons will be on Tuesday at 3.00pm. Guitar lessons are to be confirmed. The cost per student is \$11.75 + GST/week. The lesson dates will run in conjunction with the school term.

Please feel free contact Glenn on 021 2020269 or madcowdrums@ihug.co.nz.

We will be offering a drum kit hire service. **Please note there is no requirement for a drum kit to begin these lessons but you will need a guitar. Do email us if you need help with this!**

If a student misses a lesson there will be no refunds on that lesson as the fee covers his or her placement for the term.

Supported by: P.R Thompson Contracting Ltd



The expert in anything was once a beginner.

Helen Hayes



Aspiring Attitudes, Inspiring Actions

Belonging – Turangawaewae, Excellence – Hiranga, Unity – Kotahitanga, Pride – Mana, Integrity – Ngakau, Respect – Manaaki, Spirit – Wairua

School Pickup and Drop Off

We are no longer locking the gates before or after school. We have decided to keep the gates open at all times for vehicles to enter the school. However we ask parents and caregivers to be aware of boys and girls walking to, from and around the school when entering the grounds as this will help to keep everyone safe. After school we have put another staff member on duty to help students cross the driveway as another safety measure.

Message from the Board of Trustees

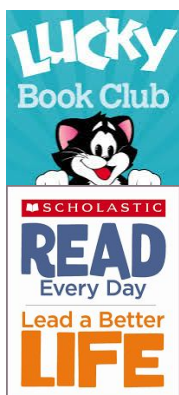
Ngā mihi o te Tau Hou ki a koutou.

Welcome to our new staff and students and your whānau. We are excited about having you join the Pekaure whānau and look forward to getting to know you all. 2017 is set to be a busy year for us all with lots of new initiatives being implemented by Gavin and the senior leadership team to enhance the learning of our children.

We hold our board meetings twice a term on a Monday evening at 5.30pm in the school staffroom. This year's meeting dates are, **Term 1** - 20th March, **Term 2** - 15th May & 19th June, **Term 3** - 7th Aug & 4 Sept, **Term 4** - 30th Oct & 4th Dec. Board meetings are open to parents and the community (apart from matters required to be dealt with in-committee) and we would love to have you attend meetings if you are interested. Please contact the office for more details.

Senior School Swimming

Our senior school students will start swimming next Thursday at TAPS. This is a great opportunity for our boys and girls to develop a skill that could save their lives. We are very fortunate to have this opportunity. *Can we please remind our senior school students to bring their togs, towels and anything else that they may require for swimming to school on these days.*



\$2 vouchers can ONLY be redeemed on offer 1 – those of you who may have received \$2 vouchers on offer 8 2016, please redeem on offer 1 2017.

A chance for children to win 20 books for themselves and 50 for their school by ordering online on LOOP - Be in to win.

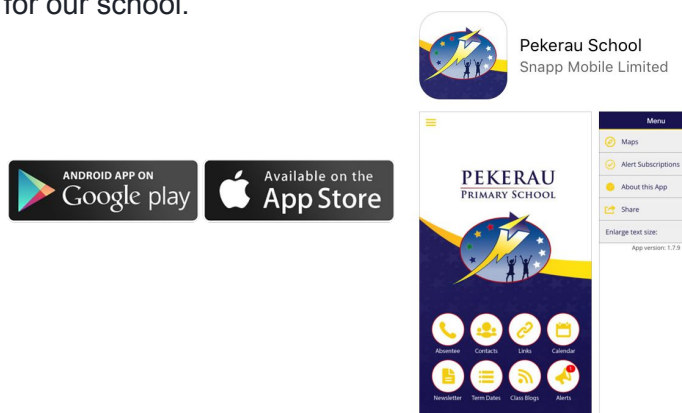
<http://www.scholastic.co.nz>

School Website

We have also begun updating our school website <http://www.pekaure.school.nz/> as a place where parents and whānau can go to get information on our school. This will be an ongoing process throughout the year.

Communication with Parents and Whānau

We have a number of different ways that parents and whānau can keep up to date with what is happening at our school. This year we have launched our **new school app which can be downloaded via the android and apple store** and this has been specifically designed for our school and our community. It allows us to send alerts straight to your mobile devices and it allows you to communicate absences to the school office from the app, as well as also providing a platform for you to contact your child's teacher directly from the app. This is a great resource for our school.



Facebook

We also have our school Facebook page which allows us to showcase some of the wonderful learning happening at our school. To keep up to date with all new posts please like and share our Facebook page.



Seesaw

This year we are using the Seesaw app to try and keep our parents and community involved in the teaching and learning taking place at Pekaure School. Parents will be given a unique code linked to their child that will give you a window into their classroom and their unique learning.



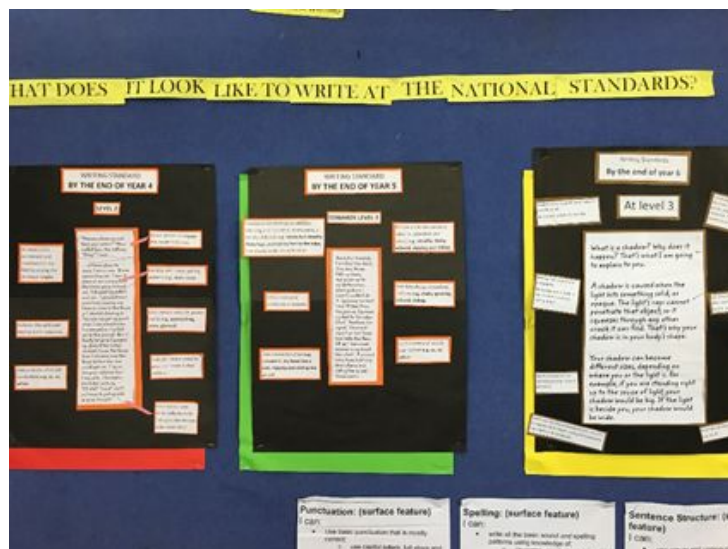
Kotahitanga / Unity We work together to make Pekaure a safe and fun place to learn and play.

THE ASSESSMENT LITERATE STUDENT

In room 3 we are building our assessment literacy. This means that students have a clear understanding of what and how they are learning and can self-assess and improve their learning. To achieve this the students in room 3 will receive teacher feedback to make improvements, have a teacher who is learning more about how they learn, and be provided with opportunities to take control of their own learning and assessment.

These ideas are based around latest research into how students learn best; which is building assessment literate students (students who know what they are learning, have clear success criteria, and who can self-assess).

An example of this is that the students will learn and understand what is required of them to reach the National Standards in Writing. Examples are on display in class, unpacked with students and a range of models are provided for students to refer to before, during and after writing. There will also be regular discussions between student and teacher and student and student around what is expected and required to reach the National Standard.



Room 3 will;

- Provide a learning culture where children and the teacher has a growth mindset, self-belief, meta-cognitive skills and the belief that all can succeed.
- Involve students at the planning stage as this enhances student motivation and ownership
- Setting goals based at their learning level
- Mixed ability grouping
- Clear learning objectives shared with the students; not necessarily at the beginning of a lesson, but at times after their interests have been identified.
- Co-constructed success criteria
- Questioning done in a way that establishes current understanding and prior knowledge
- Feedback from peers and the teacher
- Lessons are summarised and reflected upon.

