

The header features a stylized landscape with a green mountain, a blue sky, and a blue body of water. On the left, there are yellow and green floral designs. On the right, there are red and blue floral designs. The title 'PYES PA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER' is written in large, bold, white letters with a black outline across the middle of the header.

# PYES PA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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facebook.com/pyespaschool

**21 May 2020**

## OFFICE HOURS – 8:30am to 3:30pm

Catherine Fitzpatrick: Mon-Tues-Wed

Deirdre Sadd: Tues-Thurs-Fri

View this newsletter on our website:

[www.pyespa.school.nz](http://www.pyespa.school.nz)

## Term Dates 2020

Mon 3 Feb – Thu 9 Apr

Tue 28 Apr – Fri 3 Jul

Mon 20 Jul – Fri 25 Sept

Mon 12 Oct – Tue 15 Dec

**Absentee Number, Texts Only** 027 641 2046

Tēnā Koutou, parents, families and whanau,

Nau mai, hoki mai. A warm welcome back to teaching and learning on our school site. Pyes Pā School has come alive again with the return of our students. On Monday we welcomed back 90% of our students and this number is continuing to grow each day. I am yet to have a conversation with a student who is not happy to be back. It has been heartening to visit classes and sense the 'buzz' of students and the settled culture, there have also been plenty of examples of students experiencing success. On behalf of our staff and Board we wanted to thank you for everything that you have done. We appreciate working and homeschooling will have been a juggling act for many of you and we appreciate your commitment and enthusiasm to our distance learning programme. We have included some statistics which you may find interesting.

With our recent Learning at Home programme we have appreciated the recent feedback from our survey. If you haven't completed this survey, there is still an opportunity to provide feedback using this [link](#). Through some analysis, we would like to highlight some incredible statistics of our achievements during lockdown:

- New terms for everyone: zemblies and zuis
- 5247 class seesaw posts
- 6 x School zemblies
- 2 x celebrity messages (Joe Parker, Damien McKenzie and Anton Lienert-Brown)
- 16 x eTAP email messages
- 23 x COVID related Facebook messages
- 4 x community google forms regarding information requests or surveys
- 1 x parent education webinar on MathsWhizz

- 1 x awesome website established with 16 staff contributing to this
- 1 x new entrant student who started her schooling in lockdown
- 1 x Y3 student who had one day of schooling prior to lockdown.
- 1 x staff member, Christelle High, who started her teaching in Rm 3 during lockdown.
- 95 x webinars/workshops completed by 7 Teacher Aides.

Last week our teachers worked hard to ensure that the transition back to school was a successful one. What I have observed and from the comments above this has been achieved with great success. Teachers have focused this week on responding to this transition, settling students back into their class, routines and providing classroom activities with a focus that allows students plenty of opportunity to reconnect with their peers and re-engage with learning on the school site.

Thank you for your support as we transition into the use of our new entrance way and also our new guidelines during Level 2. Today the contractors have their job completion and final walk over and hand back/over of the site. This is an opportunity to acknowledge the work of our Board of Trustees in particular James McNamee for his tireless campaigning and lobbying of local council and the New Zealand Transport Authority to see this project become a reality and to see the final product today it must be acknowledged it is fantastic. In acknowledging the work of the contractors, I would also like to thank our parent community for your patience and willingness to cope with the many changes to your morning and afternoon routine during the construction process. I have included the media release in relation to the project below with word from our Board Chair Matt Jackson:

### **MEDIA RELEASE: Safer return to school for Pyes Pa students**

School drop-offs and pick-ups for students at Pyes Pā School just got a whole lot safer.

As children return to the classroom this week, Pyes Pā School is celebrating the completion of its new parking facility.

The \$805,000 facility, co-funded by Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency and the Ministry of Education, includes a dedicated bus stop and drop-off/pick-up zone, a turn-around facility, visitor parking and time-restricted parking. It also includes a pedestrian crossing, safety barriers, new footpaths and widening of the road shoulder.

Pyes Pā School Board Chair Matt Jackson says the facility is a welcome improvement for the school and the wider Pyes Pā community.

“For quite some years the traffic on Pyes Pā Road between Rotorua and Tauranga has continued to increase, with this has come an increased safety risk for our pick-up and drop-off times.

“We’ve seen an increase in accidents in front of the school during the last two years, which has been very concerning.”

The school has been working with Waka Kotahi and the Ministry of Education to find a solution for the increasing safety risk, says Mr Jackson.

“It’s fantastic to see the project in action this week. Our students are now able to be picked up and dropped off safely within the school grounds.”

Waka Kotahi Acting Portfolio Delivery Manager Jo Wilton says improving safety outside schools is a priority.

“The new parking facility provides a much safer environment not only for the school community but for all road users who travel this road.

“Combined with the temporary speed limit signs outside the school in 2013, this upgrade will make a huge difference to the safety of Pyes Pā School students.”

Head of the Ministry's Education Infrastructure Service, Kim Shannon, says “I'm delighted we were able to deliver so successfully on the new parking facility working in partnership with Waka Kotahi and the Pyes Pā School Board.

“Well done to everyone involved.”

**A message from Roy Walmsley** - I spoke with Roy Walmsley earlier this week who after accompanying his daughter Gabby home following the passing of Sue has ended up having an extended stay in England. He now looks likely to remain there for the duration of the year. Roy wanted to acknowledge the tremendous outpouring of support to himself and his whānau earlier this year. He also asked that I convey to our school community that he had intended to write individually to those who had reached out or supported the family in some way on the passing of Sue. However, unfortunately during his time in England he contracted Covid-19 and has only just recovered. He wanted to convey that he hopes to have the opportunity to catch up with the school community on his return to New Zealand early next year.

**Technology** - Next Monday 25 May, our Year 7 and 8 students commence their specialist technology programme. They will be travelling to Taumata School for the week where they will receive a programme that includes food and hard materials technology in their brand new, purpose built facilities. Specialist technology has always been a highlight for our Year 7 and 8 students and we look forward to celebrating their learning and for Taumata to experience our senior students who uphold our school values: Tū teitei, Mahitahi, Angitu.

**After School Care** - We welcome 'Coast Kids' as our new provider of after school care at Pyes Pā School. Thank you to their operations manager AJ Tuhoro for his ability to step in during this testing time to enable us to keep providing this as an option to support our parent community. There is some additional information provided later in this newsletter for those people who may want to explore this as an option.

**Rheumatic Fever** - The Chief Executive of the Bay of Plenty Health Board this week has stated they are seeking to highlight that over the lockdown period there was a high number of children diagnosed in the Bay of Plenty region. They also want to highlight that although this is a serious illness, it is also preventable.

The prevention of rheumatic fever remains a Government priority and timely access to management of Group A streptococcal throat infection for priority populations is a priority during COVID-19.

The key messages they are promoting for Rheumatic fever prevention are:

1) A sore throat can lead to Rheumatic Fever if it's left untreated. Rheumatic Fever is very serious and can cause heart damage.

2) Every time your child has a sore throat it could be serious. Don't ignore it – take them to a doctor or nurse straight away to get it checked. Call Healthline on 0800 611 116 to find out more.

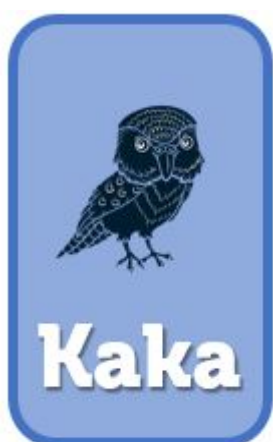
3) If your child is given antibiotics, it's important they take them for the whole 10 days, even if they feel better, to stop the sore throat turning into Rheumatic Fever.

They have included a daily health screening question poster which is included further in this newsletter and also information regarding the healthy housing referral.

Ngā mihi nui

Blake Carlin  
Principal

Blake Carlin  
PRINCIPAL



## Dates and Information to Remember

Monday - Friday 25-29 May - Y7 & 8 Technology
Monday 1 June - Queen's Birthday Holiday
Tuesday 16 June - Sports Team Photos
Friday 26 June - Y7 & 8 Technology
Monday - Thursday 29 June - 2 July - Y7 & 8 Technology
Friday 3 July - Last Day of Term 2

**Remember to text your absentee to 027 641 2046**

# COAST KIDS PYESPA



## INTRODUCTION

We have replaced Schools out as the Preferred Provider of ASC at Pyes Pa School

The Coast Kids Difference:  
The average age of our entire organization is 28yrs old from CEO down to ASC Leaders, this is where the true strength of our programme lies

## COST

After School Care: \$18.50 per day per child



## DISCOUNTS

Multi sibling discount: 5% off  
Full week Discount: 5% off  
Payment in full: 5% off



Receive up to 15% off your entire booking

Please see T&C at [www.coastkids.net.nz/](http://www.coastkids.net.nz/) or contact us below

## OPERATION HOURS

School Finish - 5:30pm



## THE TEAM

Programme Supervisor: Megan T  
ASC Instructor: Cullan W (Cully)

Programme Number: 075431618 or 0211925655

## CONTACT US

Account/ payment enquiries: [accounts@coastkids.net.nz](mailto:accounts@coastkids.net.nz)  
Booking/ winz support: [info@coastkids.net.nz](mailto:info@coastkids.net.nz)  
Absences or programme contact: 0211925655



*Don't forget to order you Pita Pit lunch via KINDO. Pita Pit delivers lunch each Thursday to the school.*



order online, delivered to your school  
[ezlunch.co.nz](http://ezlunch.co.nz)



Pyes Pa School has been given the information below, which is enclosed for your information.

## Rheumatic Fever Prevention Programme

### Sore throats and skin matters

Sadly, you may be aware that we have had a high number of tamariki diagnosed with Rheumatic Fever during the lockdown period in the Bay of Plenty region. Rheumatic fever is a serious but preventable illness. It mainly affects Māori and Pacific children and young people (aged 4 to 19 years), especially if they have other family members who have had rheumatic fever. Poor housing conditions and overcrowding is a known risk factor.

Rheumatic fever starts with a sore throat that is known as 'strep throat' – a throat infection caused by a bacteria called Group A Streptococcus. Most sore throats get better on their own after about four days. But if strep throat is not treated with antibiotics it can cause rheumatic fever in at-risk children and young people. **All sore throats in Māori and Pacific children and young people (aged 4–19 years) who are living in the Bay of Plenty need to be checked.**

The prevention of rheumatic fever remains a Government priority and timely access to management of Group A Streptococcal throat infections for priority populations is a priority during COVID-19.

You and your staff may be interested in the Ministry of Health key messages for Rheumatic Fever prevention:

- 1) A sore throat can lead to Rheumatic Fever if it's left untreated. Rheumatic Fever is very serious and can cause heart damage.
- 2) Every time your child has a sore throat it could be serious. Don't ignore it – take them to a doctor or nurse straight away to get it checked. Call Healthline on 0800 611 116 to find out more.
- 3) If your child is given antibiotics, it's important they take them for the whole 10 days, even if they feel better, to stop the sore throat turning into Rheumatic Fever. Skin infections are also common in tamariki and have links to Rheumatic fever. If left untreated, skin infections can lead to serious health problems. These infections can affect the blood, kidneys, bones, joints, lymph nodes and brain resulting in people needing to be hospitalised for treatment.

Furthermore, the current case definition for COVID-19 covers a broad range of symptoms (see attached poster for your use in classrooms). We would encourage you to redirect any whānau to Healthline or their local GP for their children to get a further assessment.

To get children and their whānau to become aware of the symptoms and also their own physical state, it may be helpful for teachers to **refer to the attached poster every morning as a 'health screening'**. If we actively encourage children with mild symptoms (who may be contagious) for a range of seasonal and other infectious diseases to stay at home, we can all stop the spread to those who are most vulnerable.

We also ask you to be aware of any unmet health need. We have seen reduced usage of GPs over the COVID-19 response. Look out for sore throats and skin issues as getting these treated early will save long periods of school absences and further health issues for the child.

As your local District Health Board, we thank you for joining with us to protect the future health and wellbeing of our community.

Yours sincerely

**SIMON EVERITT**

Interim Chief Executive Bay of Plenty District Health Board

## DAILY CHECKLIST FOR COVID-19 & RHEUMATIC FEVER PREVENTION



**SORE THROAT**



**SKIN ISSUES**



**COLD / FLU**



**FEVER**



**FEELING UNWELL**



If the child has one of these symptoms please contact Healthline or contact their GP



## *House For Rent*

3 bedroom brick home, on a good section. Handy to Pyes Pa School and The Lakes shopping centre. Available 1st June 2020.

Phone: Jason Rowling : 027 472 7658

We would like to thank our sponsors for their continued support of our school.

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