



## **PARKSIDE SCHOOL**

*"Homai Te Aroha"*  
TEACHING PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

### **PARKSIDE SCHOOL - END OF TERM ONE 2021**

We are coming to the end of an eventful Term One at Parkside School.

A Term that has included two Lockdowns with a return to learning from home for our students and to teaching from home for our parents, families and staff. As always Parkside School values the enormous contribution families make to the education of our students, never more than during Covid times. Let us hope that the Lockdowns now become a thing of the past as we move forward together throughout this exciting and fun packed year!

SO...here is some news about the term that is passing and what we can look forward to ahead

- This term we have had (are having) two major visits outside of the classroom. One of our Intermediate classes went to Auckland Zoo, learning about the animals and their habitats on a gloriously sunny day. Te Waka Tapawha students are going to MOTAT this Friday and are excited about travelling on a coach, learning more about transport and independence and enjoying the MOTAT experience. Thank you to all students, staff and families for your preparation and support that enables such trips to go ahead. As the year progresses it is envisaged all students will have the opportunity to participate in visits to a range of external places of interest that support their curriculum learning
- During the Lockdowns we became more proficient again at delivering online learning. Staff have received many positive comments regarding the support they have offered and the strengthening of communication between school and families.
- We have received advice from the Ministry of Education that Base School Refurbishment is finally going ahead and will begin in Term three. We will share firm dates as soon as we receive them along with information regarding where students and staff who are based at Base will be moving (Rooms 1,2, 3 and 4 are not expected to be affected throughout the refurbishment which only focuses on the top admin building and surrounds).
- We are in the process of planning for our First Family Fun Day to take place on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. There will be new stalls and events so please come along. You will also have an opportunity to view the new building plans on this day. From the 22<sup>nd</sup> May onwards the building plan will be on show at the Parkside Base reception area for all to see.
- We will unveil the new logo and motto for Parkside School at the Family Fun Day along with a refreshed colour scheme that will be reflected throughout our Specialist Hubs. This has all been developed with the engagement and participation of students, staff, families and whanau and the wider community. We will also be sending the information regarding the logo and motto via dojo and email and hard copy letter on the week beginning 24<sup>th</sup> May.
- Changes to concert format for this year:2 x concerts one junior and one senior – Classes are already planning for their individual moments. Themes have been chosen and the concerts are shaping up to be really quite fantastic – as always of course. We will be holding the concerts at Franklin Baptist church and utilising other areas of the church, with Senior students assisting with catering on the days.

- We will also be holding our Parkside Graduation ceremony at the Baptist Church in addition to planning a student Ball for the very first time. All TWT and relevant graduating Base students and families will be invited and this will be a fantastic opportunity for our students to dress up and showcase the talents and abilities they have developed throughout their time at Parkside. We cannot wait!!!!

Now we turn our attention to the real people of the moment. The wonderful staff members who will be leaving us at the end of this term.

**Penny Cooper**, currently a release teacher, is retiring having made a fabulous contribution to the school over the previous two years and particularly for our students with profound needs over the last year.

**Ruth Maddern** is also retiring and looking forward to spending time with her family and enjoying a varied and full social life post Parkside after working here for 11 years.

**Hennie Keiser**, our wonderful Deputy Principal is also leaving to spend more time with his family and enjoy his magnificent garden at home. Hennie has been with Parkside School for 15 years. We will miss him very much – such a great support for all.

Staff and students have compiled an eBook for Ruth and Hennie which has many lovely comments and anecdotes sharing the history of their time at Parkside.

I think all that remains is to wish you all a relaxing and joyful Term Break and see you all for Term 2.

Ngā mihi nui,

*Carol*



**Carol Willard | Principal**

🏠: Parkside School | 184 Wellington Street | Pukekohe, New Zealand

✉: [principal@parkside.net.nz](mailto:principal@parkside.net.nz) | 📞: (09)2389689 | 📠: 027 3630 4025

184 Wellington Street, Pukekohe  
Ph./Fax: (09) 238 9689  
New Zealand