



SYLVIA PARK SCHOOL NEWS

Thursday 17 February 2022

**It takes a village
Mā te poipoi a te papakāinga te tamaiti e whakatupuria ai**

E te whānau o Sylvia Park School, tena koutou katoa.

It's been a great start to 2022 in spite of the ever present threat of COVID 19. Over the past week we have had an average attendance of over 90%. That's got to be some kind of national record. Way to go whanau - let's keep that going.

Term One Inquiry

Our mantra for 2022 is, 'It takes a village'. Throughout the year we want everyone to know that they are part of the SPS village and that everyone's contribution to the village matters.

Our inquiry for term one is 'SPS Our Turangawaewae' How do we keep our whakapapa of learning alive?'

Our students are looking at the artefacts, places and spaces in our school where their inquiry outcomes are located. The mission is to create a technological solution that enables anyone who comes across these artefacts to be able to access the full story behind each of these. Our teachers are working with Learning Architects who are an amazing tech company who specialises in all forms of digital technology processes. We will look forward to seeing what technological solutions our students develop over the term!



Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS)

The [Progress in International Reading Literacy Study \(PIRLS\)](#) is a research study that provides both trend and snapshot information on the reading literacy of New Zealand's Year 5 students in both the international and national contexts. At the end of 2020 we were one of the schools selected at random to participate in this national / international study.

While the results are confidential to the study we can tell you that on average our students perform very close to the overall average of students in New Zealand. Further to this our students perform above the average of 'schools like ours' - this is mostly related to decile. This is an excellent result but even better than that is that our students are consistently well above the national average in terms of attitudes and self efficacy when it comes to reading. These are critical in ensuring enduring success for our students.

Absolutely amazing results - you should be so proud - we certainly are!

Property

Our school frontage project is almost complete. The final stages of the geometric ground painting will be finished over the next few days. Our students love every aspect of it from the solar system to the Auckland volcanic field to the Tamaki Basin. The trees have not fared so well but we have a plan for them.



Over the holiday period we replaced all of the roofing across our school. A huge job but all done and dusted by the time our students returned at the beginning of the year. No leaky buildings at SPS!



Farewell to Ms Leona (just for a little while)

Our truly wonderful Ms Leona is leaving us for the next three terms to have her beautiful baby. We wish her every wonderful blessing and really look forward to her return in term four.

My final term

As I mentioned in last year's final newsletter this term is my final term at Sylvia Park School. Being the principal of this amazing school has been the greatest privilege of my life - and that is no exaggeration. However, after 17 years it's time to take a moment and think about what might be next. At this point in time I am not going to another full-time job. I will likely continue with some curriculum work with the Ministry of Education and spend more time with my whanau - I might even join a gym!



The advertisement for the position of principal for Sylvia Park School Board is open until 23rd February. This will be followed by a shortlisting process and interviews. The Board is being supported through this process by a consultant we have worked closely with over the years, Kate Birch. There will be a robust process put in place to ensure that the right person is appointed to lead our school.

We'll keep you up to date as things progress.

What's been happening this week?



Our beekeepers are excited to start the harvesting of our 'Hiria Paka Honey' very shortly!

Our juniors enjoyed soccer games with some pretty fabulous soccer coaches.

Our senior students enjoyed diving through the Antarctic Ocean using virtual technology. Thank you [Blake Explorers!](#)

New Staff



Hats

All students are required to wear Sylvia Park School hats this term. These are available from the Warehouse Sylvia Park and range between \$17.00-\$19.00. Starting next Monday all children who do not have a hat will have to play in the shade until the end of the Term.

Stationery

Stationery lists are available on our website: sylviapark.school.nz, at the school office and online from Office Max. Just go to myschool.co.nz/SylviaPark and follow the prompts.

SKIDS

Before and after school care is available every school day. Lots of afternoon tea, homework classes and good fun! Contact the following if you are interested.

Email sylviapark@skids.co.nz

Trish 027 5399412

Principal's Awards

Friday 11th February

Room	Name	Room	Name
1	Akinori	15	Legend
2	Alan	16	Blain
3	Cash	17	Azaleigha
5	Maxine	21	Cameron
6	Aryanna	22	Olivia
7	Kelepi / Thirdy	23	Scotty
8	Journey	24	Gabriel
9	Zachary	25	Alex
10	Cash	26	AJ
11	'Alai	27	Olivia
12	Rose	20	Eunice

Who's who at SPS?

Principal			Barbara Ala'alatoa	
Deputy Principals			Tessa Leona, Amanda Key, Mel Noble, Hayden Cleere, Dagmar Dyck	
Syndicate	YL	Room	Teachers	Teacher Aides
Kowhai	1	1	Trish Savidan Shannon Swainston Myfanwy Leslie	Bhanu Patel
		2		
		3		
		4		
Pohutukawa	2/3	5	Sharlene Naidoo / Annie Wills Alaina McMillan Mel Noble - DP Olivia Hogarth Selvom Naidoo	Anta Patel Julie Hart Tina Nafe
		6		
		7		
		8		
		9		
Totara	4/5/6	10	Amanda Key - DP Francesca Mooney Melissa West	Rachael Naidoo
		11		
		12		
Te Puna Waiora	5/8 1/2 3/5	15	Manutahi Gray Ieasha Cox Teri Tei	Andre Monga
		16		
		17		
Te Manawa	4/5/6	21	Jeremy Browne Prah Naidoo Sarah Perry Nive Leuii	Itenali Vaihola Maria Albertengo-Shaw
		22		
		23		
		24		
Ngā Manukura	7/8	25	Hayden Cleere - DP Melissa Farquhar Duncan Preston Dolly Henry Georgia Manera	Kate Ward
		26		
		27		
		28		
		20		
SWIS Te Puna Ngōi Learning Support Co-Ord Reliever			Elizabeth Halapua Esther Casey Tere Tei Mia Symanik, Ambrose Timo, Alana Harkness	
Admin			Teresa Kamana Ian Laing Liz Annett	
Caretakers			Carol Yakkas	