

PONGAKAWA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

956 Old Coach Road
R D 6 Te Puke 3186
Phone (07) 533 3731
Mobile 027 533 3731
Email office@pongakawa.school.nz

Website: www.pongakawa.school.nz
www.facebook.com/PongakawaSchoolOfficial

ENTER TO LEARN - GO FORTH TO SERVE
Kuhu mai ki te ako - haere ki te awhi

PRINCIPAL: Craig Haggo
B.O.T. CHAIR: Lachlan McKenzie
E: boardchair@pongakawa.school.nz

TERM DATES FOR 2025

TERM 1: 03/02/25 - 11/04/25
TERM 3: 15/07/25 - 19/09/25

TERM 2: 28/04/25 - 27/06/25
TERM 4: 06/10/25 - 16/12/25

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Week 2 Term 2

5th May 2025

Website
www.pongakawa.school.nz
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PongakawaSchoolOfficial>

School Office: Phone 533 3731
Mobile 027 5333731
Email address: office@pongakawa.school.nz

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome back to week two and isn't it nice to finally have some nice fine weather? Last week was one of the first times we have had to resort to wet day bus lines this year. Because of work still ongoing with the library we had to come up with a new plan.

The students were wonderful though and adapted super well which made managing them a real breeze. It probably helped numbers wise that the middles were away at camp so we were able to use their block. Having the Action Centre means with everyone here we would more than likely use this space at least until we have the library decks available.

Mention of the Middles Camp, I have had great feedback from the students, teachers and parents about it. I am told the students were amazing and didn't let the poor weather stop them from doing everything they possibly could.

The way our students have that "can do, opt in" attitude is one of the big things that makes Pongakawa kids so different to those in other schools.

You may have seen in the media an announcement from Erica Stanford the education minister about a parent portal the Ministry of Education has set up. The premise of this seems pretty worthwhile actually so if you have time check it out and let me know what you think. I believe you go to:

<https://www.education.govt.nz/parents-and-caregivers> and that should take you to it.

We are continuing to upgrade our vegetable gardens here at school and you may have seen some of the work we have done so far (well the work Wayne has done to be clear). We received funding from Waikokopu which was fantastic.

The two large gardens will have the same things but one will be planted and tended according to the Gregorian (European) calendar and the other according to the Maori one. We also have a tunnel house where seedlings and some veggies will be grown in soil. On the other side we will grow them using hydroponics. If you have an interest, expertise or parts to assist this aspect we would be keen to hear from you.

Yours in teaching
Craig Haggo
Principal

If your child is absent from school you have an obligation to contact the school and advise the actual reason for their absence as required by the Ministry of Education by the beginning of each school day.

The Ministry also requires a medical certificate if they are absent from school for three or more days.

Only keep your child home if they are genuinely sick.



Moving forward we will not be using Audiri (formerly Skoolbag app) as a method of communicating school messages, newsletters and community messages. Please download the free 'Edge' app from playstore as these communications will be sent direct from this app and the via our normal email tree on chimpmail to your email address. Classroom notifications direct from teachers will still come via seesaw.

Important Reminder Buses

Students bus movements need to be advised to the office prior to 2.30pm. If your child would normally use a bus and you pick them up you DO NEED to let the office know otherwise we waste valuable time holding up buses and searching the school for students who have been picked up.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is for anyone who needs it regardless of the reason for the need.
Monday to Friday 2025 8.00am to 8.30am in the Action Centre foyer.

Thankyou to our school families for nominating Pongakawa School in the Fuel for Schools programme. We are currently able to redeem \$1059.35 from the programme.



Our school bank account details for any payments are: Pongakawa School Board ASB 12-3407-0007320-00

Sports Activities

Please note that mouth guards can be purchased from the school office - Junior \$6.00 / Intermediate \$8.00

PARENTS PLEASE LET US KNOW OF ANY CHANGES TO STUDENTS BUS SCHEDULES DUE TO SPORTS BEGINNING

Basketball Years 1-8 Term 2

Six teams have been finalised for games beginning this term. A notice has gone home to those students. Please pay fees detailed below prior to games beginning next week.

Year 1/2 Little league x 2 teams begins Monday 12th to 23rd June (6 weeks) **Fee \$55.00 per student.** No training during the week.

Year 3/4 x2 teams begins Tuesday 6th May to 19th August (13 weeks) **Fee \$115.00 per student.** Training for both teams **Monday between 12.30pm-1.00pm**

Year 5/6 x 2 teams begins Friday 9th May to 15th August 25 (11 weeks) **Fee \$115.00 per student** Training **Year 5 Silver each Wednesday from 7.45am - 8.45am before school.**

Year 6 Green Team training sessions are to be advised.

Year 7/8 begins Monday 12th May to 18th August (12 weeks) **Fee \$130.00 per student.** Training each Wednesday 7.45am - 8.45am.

No games Monday 2nd June due to King's birthday or during school holidays

Netball Year 1-6 Teams

Games are played Thursday afternoons at the Te Puke Netball Courts/Centre. Commencing Thursday 15th May 2025.

Fees per student Years 1/2 are \$40.00

Fees per student Years 3/6 are \$75.00

Netball Year 8 Team

Saturday 10th May 25 is grading date & season begins Saturday 17th May 2025 at the Tauranga Netball Centre Mount Maunganui.

Fees are \$85.00 per student to be paid prior to games beginning.

Training will be Friday afternoons 3.15pm - 4.15pm beginning this week. No games on 21st June and 5th & 12th July 25

Hockey Term 2

Year 1/2 Funsticks begins Monday 12th May until 22nd Aug 25 and students will have registered direct with Tauranga Hockey .

Years 3-6 games locations will play the majority of games at the three turfs at Tauranga Hockey Centre Mt Maunganui. It will depend on team entries whether some games may be played at the Tauranga Boys College and/or Nethlehem College satellite turfs. The weekly draws will clearly state which turf the games are played on. The Fee is \$100.00 per student to be paid now before the first game.

Year 3/4 Ministicks Sat 10th May 25 to Sat 23rd August 25

Year 5/6 Kiwi Sticks Sat 10th May to Sat 23rd August 25

No games sat 31st May, 21st June, 5th & 12th July 25

Pongakawa School has a NO PAY - NO PLAY Policy for sports fees so to avoid disappointment please ensure that ALL sports fees are paid prior to games beginning.

Costume Hire with 'Costume Call'

Needing a costume for an event? Quiz night or party? Look no further than our local costume hire business which has an extensive selection of costumes.

**Hayley Whistler - Phone 0212518720
98 Pongakawa Bush Road**

Upcoming Events Calendar

12/05/25	BOT Meeting Please contact Craig Haggo by email for more information Email: craigh@pongakawa.school.nz
13/05/25	AWOL Otanewainuku Rima Loop to Whataroa Falls
27/05/25	School Cross Country Yrs 0-8 All welcome
02/06/25	Kings Birthday Public Holiday
03/06/25	Te Puke Cluster Cross Country Yr 4-8 Pongakawa
04/06/25	Boostrix Immunisation Year 7
07/06/25	Quiz Night 2025 — Theme is "Once Upon A Legend"
10/06/25	WBOP Cross Country Yr 4-8
11/06/25	Fresh Moves Baycourt Theatre
11/06/25	Juniors Funky Fun Day
12/06/25	Seniors Students at Field day
17/06/25	to 20/06/25 Hong Kong Students here at Pongakawa
20/06/25	Matarkiki Public Holiday
23/06/25	BOT
24/06/25	BOP Cross country
26/06/25	Celebration Walk 2.15pm
27/06/25	Last day term 2 & End of Term Assembly 1.30pm
15/07/25	Tuesday First day of Term 3 2025
16/07/25	Photolife
08/08/25	Te Puke Gym Year 7/8
29/08/25	Te Puke Gym Year 5/6



Important Reminder

Class Physical education this term is cross country so please ensure that your child has shorts and a t shirt in their bag each day regardless of the weather.

If a child is to be excused from participating a parents note with a reason needs to be provided to a students teacher.

The school day begins at 8.45am NOT 9.00am

It is important that all students are in class at this time.

In the afternoon we have a clean up bell at 2.45pm but School actually finishes at 2.55pm. We have a very full schedule for all students each day so please ensure that they are on time for school each day.

SHINE BRIGHT SPEECH AND DRAMA CLASSES

Classes with Sjaan Fahey, Year 4-8 , starting week 2 Term 2 onwards.

For more info see website shinebright.kiwi or email sjaanfahey@gmail.com Instagram [@shinebright.kiwi](https://www.instagram.com/shinebright.kiwi)

Community Notices



Smart Guys are local and will do installation of audio/visual systems, rural wifi, residential internet, smart devices, commercial cameras starlink consultation, networking solutions. For all enquiries Ph 0275750010 Ciaran or email: enquiries@smartguys.co.nz web: www.smartguys.co.nz



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PONGAKAWA SCHOOL QUIZ NIGHT 7TH JUNE

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