



# Newsletter

Wisdom begins with Wonder



Week 10

Term 1 2024

Friday 5 April

## More Curriculum Updates!!

Easter provided a welcome opportunity to take a breath and reflect on the term so far. Teachers by nature are reflective, continually striving to improve their practice each and every day. Recently, I attended the Hawke's Bay Primary Principals' Association seminar which provided further food for thought.

The Ministry of Education Director of Education for Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti, Daniel Murfitt, opened the day followed by Pauline Cleaver (National Strategy and Integration). Both provided an indication that there are changes coming and that we should expect education to become more direct.

Attendance was also highlighted as a concern. It was stated that in Central Hawke's Bay, there are 218 students who are chronically absent i.e. Absent for 70% or more, which equates to 3 days a fortnight. The Hawke's Bay Public Service Commission is in the process of developing a campaign to address people's minds and provide a culture shift away from the mindset that it's okay to be away. One of their key messages is that we need to stop being soft and 'sugar coating' the effect of poor attendance. Interestingly, this message came from children and youth who were interviewed! So stay tuned...

Curriculum was also touched upon. As you may be aware, there has been a programme of curriculum refresh. The new government is reviewing both the Mathematics and Literacy curriculum refreshes. Already, they have indicated there will be an emphasis on Structured Literacy, especially for years 1-3. Structured Literacy has been an integral part of our classroom programmes for nearly three years. The key message is that the Ministry and the new government are focused on effective, evidence based teaching underpinned by the science of learning!

The Common Practice Model, which is a key aspect of Te Mātaiaho (the NZ Curriculum), will also be reviewed.

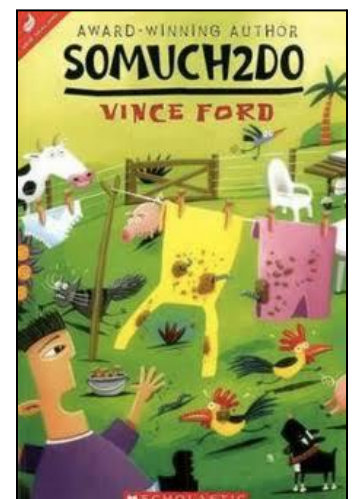
## Assessment

There will also be an expectation that all schools use some form of standardised testing. Again this is business as usual for us with students already twice a year completing PATs (Progressive Achievement Tests). Our reasoning is that they provide a good objective indicator of both progress and achievement that can be compared with national norms. They also can be used formatively to identify teaching hotspots, areas we need to hone in on. Further, with the advent of the Year 10 Literacy and Numeracy co-requisite examinations, we need to ensure that our students have the necessary skills to complete 'exams.'

A number of Principals expressed their concerns that this would herald a return to the dark days of National Standards which saw children labelled and pigeon holed. It was made clear that this would not be happening, but there would be a requirement for schools to report using the standardised testing (anonymously) so that the Ministry could have oversight of achievement and progress across the country and provide the support needed where it was needed.

## Connection

The seminar was capped off by children's author [Vince Ford](#). Having recently spoken about the importance of connection after my adventures on Outward Bound, his message of human connection resonated with me! There were some pearls of wisdom and some 'aha' moments for all in attendance.



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*The more connected we are, the harder it is to be broken.*

*(Gilbert Enoka - All Black Mental Skills Coach)*

Vince outlined that we are social creatures before highlighting the harm that social rejection can cause. He referred to a study where respondents were deliberately enticed to feel social rejection. An MRI of the brain revealed that the neural pathways to social rejection are the same as those for pain! In this day and age, everyone feels some form of social rejection and it is worth remembering that their pain is real. Interestingly because of the shared pathways, panadol can help lessen the pain of social rejection!



Friendships are important, and for children they can sometimes feel like **the most** important thing. Vince highlighted that friendships take time.: 40 - 60 hours to be casual, 80 - 100 hours to be solid, and over 200 hours to become best of friends!

He also highlighted the fact that girls maintained their friendships through talking and spending time together while boys did so while doing stuff together.

And being a children's author, Vince strongly believes, as do we, in connection through story. Probably the final piece of the puzzle is that **CONNECTION** happens at the intersection of **INTENTION, ATTENTION, and ACTION.**



### Ukes in Schools!

We are super grateful to the NZ Ukulele Trust and Kala Brand Music (and their NZ Agent Lyn McAllister Music) for their generous donation of 12 Ukulele so that we can be part of the 2024 Kiwileles Programme. With Brons's (Mrs. Sowman) support we will be starting up a Kiwilele group next term which is very exciting!

## Go Orange for Cranford

**Let's paint the town orange and raise \$70,000.**  
Together, we can give families more precious time together.

**Cranford Hospice**  
Te Kahu Pāhuru o Cranford  
ki Te Matau-a-Māui

[cranfordhospice.org.nz/go-orange](https://cranfordhospice.org.nz/go-orange)

DONATE TODAY

Come dressed in **ORANGE** on the last day of term to support Cranford Hospice. Gold Coin donations accepted and if you donate \$3 or more, we have a limited number of specially made jibbitz for your Crocs to show your support!!



*The winners of our late Easter Egg Draw are  
Marnix, Taiaroa and Imogen.*

*Congratulations.*

*Don't eat it all at once!!*



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House Points:	PUKEITI	PUKENUI	KAUHEHEI	KAHURANAKI
Week 9 - 10	14,850	10,350	12,150	11,900
Term totals to date:	71,606	58,109	53,650	55,401

**IMPORTANT DATES:**  
(Check updates on the HERO Calendar)

**APRIL**

**Sun 7** Daylight Saving Ends

**Thurs 11** CHB Inter School Swimming Sports

**Fri 12** Last day of Term 1  
Happy Holidays

**Mon 29** Term 2 begins

The Pukehou Whanau and Friends (PWF) Committee were super excited to have new friendly faces at our last meeting - Thank you to everyone who came along!! Our venue at the Waipawa Library seems to be more central for families so we will try to arrange this again for our Term 2 meeting. Everyone is welcome, we would love to see you!



A huge 'Thank You' to the families and friends who supported the



recent Spring Bulb fundraiser - we made approx \$1200 profit which will go towards technology in the classrooms. Super effort! We expect the bulbs to arrive before the end of next week. The three top selling families were rewarded with some yummy treats today.

Our next event will be a Matariki Disco next term, so keep an eye out for details.

We are also trying really hard to finalise our Swing addition for the playground. If anyone is/or knows a builder who would be interested in helping with installation, please get in touch with School or email [whanauandfriends@pukehou.school](mailto:whanauandfriends@pukehou.school)

There is a form attached for Waipawa Fish Supply orders for next Thursday, April 11th. Orders and payment must be received no later than 9.00am on Tuesday, thanks. Please note that children who are at the Writers' Workshop and the CHB Interschool Swimming Sports will not be at school for lunch that day.

Have a great weekend! AK, on behalf of the PWF team

## Swim-4-Lives – Swim-A-Thon

Swim-4-Lives is a small volunteer group and our mission for the last 7 years has been to help support local Central Hawke's Bay Primary Schools/Kura to engage in a range of water safety and swimming activities. This has included Deep Water Safety, Swimming Lessons (6) for targeted tamariki, boat safety and now providing 10 lessons for the whole school.

We have raised funds through running an annual **Swim-A-Thon** at Centralines Indoor Pool.

This year it is happening on **Friday 17 May at 5.30pm (Week 3, Term 2)**

There are three categories for the Swim-a-thon:

- **Paddle** – for Novice lane swimmers – swim a length walk back and swim again
- **Swim** – For competent lane swimmers – 10 mins to swim as many lengths as you can
- **Team/Sprint** – For teams of up to 5 swimmers – 10 mins to swim as many lengths as you can
- Registration forms are available at the Centralines Pool or can be downloaded from our website

[www.chbswim4lives.com](http://www.chbswim4lives.com)

- There is also information on our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/chbswim4lives>



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CENTRAL HAWKES BAY LIONS

# BOOKARAMA

Friday 19th and Saturday 20th April

from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm

**PLUS ... Sunday 21st April**

from 9.00 am to 2.00 pm

at

**CHB Municipal Theatre  
Waipawa**

Please support our Annual Event  
By donating your surplus books, puzzles, etc.

We have 'drop off' points at

**100% WINLOVES - Waipukurau  
TIM CHOTE APPLIANCES - Waipawa**

For those who would like their books collected  
Please phone:

Mike Tod 855 8323 (Waipukurau)

Another **TAKAPAU LIONS PROJECT**

## SAFETY ONLINE

### KEEP OUR TAMARIKI SAFE ONLINE.

#### TIPS FOR CREATING AN ONLINE FAMILY PLAN

Create a plan & help build resilience in the online world. Be intentional/willing to learn. Think about limiting beliefs - am I feeling overwhelmed? etc. It is normal to feel uncomfortable in this space, but it does get easier. Don't feel guilty if you learn something that you wish had known a while ago. We are all new to this. For this generation of parents, there is no precedent. We are all just trying the best we can. Include your children when putting together the plan, stay firm but fair.

**CYBER SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.**

**What's  
on  
top?**



**Kāhui Ako**  
Ruahine • Te Angiangi



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