



AWHITU

DISTRICT SCHOOL



Empowering our students to care, adapt and succeed with PRIDE

4th February 2021 Week 1

Phone: 092351005

Welcome back

Happy new year everyone. I hope everyone in our school community had a great holiday break and were able to enjoy time with friends and family.

Here at Awhitu District School we are excited for a new “settled” year and we are all ready to go for the new 2021 school year. We have two new teaches to introduce to you this year and some of the same awesome and dedicated staff as last year:

Teaching Staff 2020

Megan Allen	Principal
Elaine Kauta'i	Deputy Principal (Room 2 Year 3/4)
Anne Egan/Paul Humphrey	R5 Teacher (Year 5/6)
Jessica Sweeney	R3 Teacher (Year 0/1)
Deby Andrews	R4 Teacher (Year 2/3)
Jenny Williams	R6 Teacher (Year 7/8)

Anne Egan is relieving for Sharon Scott. Sharon Scott has decided to take a year's leave so she can be with her children and grandchildren in Australia. Anne is working 4 days a week and Paul Humphrey is back to work one day a week. We are excited for Sharon and wish her well and look forward to having her back again next year. Deby Andrews is joining the staff and will be teaching the Year 2 and 3's in Room 4. Again, we are privileged to have Mrs Nona King as our Office Manager, Mrs Lisa Pritchard as our Accounts Administrator and Teacher Aide, Tania Torpey returning as our Librarian and Teacher Aide, Jacqui Waldegrave as the School Sports Coach and Lyn Smith keeping our resources in order. Our grounds and buildings are being kept in great shape by our Caretaker, Anau Kauta'i and everything is kept spic and span by our cleaner, Wanida Khiawsing.

Awhitu District School would like to extend a very warm welcome to Nina and Georgie P, Harrison and George R, Aiden and Charlotte B, Imogen L, and our brand new 5year olds, Stevie K, Api G, Ashyr M and their families and whanau to our school. We hope you enjoy your time here.

The Awhitu District School Board of Trustees for 2020:

Chairperson:	Cheney McGlynn
Principal:	Megan Allen
Staff Rep:	New Appointment
Members:	Kerry Torpey, Andrew Johnston, Leigh Maffey

The BOT would like to advise school families that Awhitu District School has opted into the School Donations Scheme again for 2021. This means the school will not be asking for school fees this year.

Over the summer holidays we have had an “Outdoor Learning Area” developed between the school library and Room 4. It is almost finished, and is looking amazing. It has features of the Manukau

Harbour incorporated in it's design. Bright blue and orange shade sails over the area will provide shelter from the sun and make it perfect for working outside. Come and have a look!

Please make sure your child has a hat to wear each day. The bucket hats give children the best protection from the sun during these hot summer days. It would also be appreciated if you could ***name your child's clothing*** to minimise the mountain of lost property that collects at the end of each week!

As usual, school lunches can be ordered on a Monday and Friday of each week. Please have the lunch order, with the money, written on an envelope and sent to the school office before school.

On Monday, you will receive a newsletter from your child/ren's teacher outlining their learning programmes for the term, and anything specifically needed by them. If your child wants headphones when using chromebooks, please provide these.

We will hold our "Welcome Back Picnic" for families to come along and catch up with each other after the long summer break and to meet the staff and new families. This will be held on Thursday 11th February at 5.30pm. Bring a picnic dinner or indulge in some take-aways!

We hope everyone is still enjoying using the school pool in the hot weather. Thank you to everyone who has been ensuring the changing rooms are left clean and tidy and there is no rubbish left around the pool area.

Please note that there will be a Teacher Only Day on **Thursday the 1st April**. All the Waiuku Primary Schools and Waiuku College will be closed on this day and the teachers from all the schools will be participating in combined professional development.

REMINDERS:

If your child is going to be absent from school, please contact the school office by phone, text or use of the free school app. If we aren't notified of an absence, the student is marked as being truant by the Ministry of Education.

Our school app is : [The Skool Loop App](#)

- **The free school app you will love! Communicate immediately and effectively with your school smartphone app.**
- **Streamlines all of your school communications to your school community.**
- **send newsletters, instant messages, notices, school events etc to the school parents in one quick convenient, easy way!**
- **The Skool Loop App is fully functional and absolutely free to schools.**

Don't forget school is closed on Monday 8th February for Waitangi Day observation.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Monday 8th February: Waitangi Day observed (school closed)

Thursday 11th February: Welcome Back Picnic

Friday 19th February: First Yr 7/8 Technology at View Road School

Thursday 1st April: Teacher Only Day (school closed)

Friday 2nd April: Good Friday. Easter Auction Preparation Day

Saturday 2nd April: Easter Auction

Monday 5th April: Easter Monday

Tuesday 6th April: Easter Tuesday holiday

Friday 16th April: School Photos

Friday 16th April: End of Term 1

School newsletters and notices are published on the school website and on the Skool Loop App. If you require a hard copy please inform the office. Thanks.

Ngā mihi nui from the team at Awhitu District School. Please remember to scan the QR code when in school. Thank you.