



Friday 20th October 2017 (No. 17)

Dear Parents, Whanau, and Caregivers

Welcome back to the start of Term 4. I hope all the students enjoyed their holiday break.



Well done to all the Year 7 and 8 students and staff for producing a fantastic production last term. It was great to see so many students participating and expressing their artistic talent on stage.

AIM High: Achieve, Inquire, Manaakitanga:

Last week I returned from visiting schools in Durban (South Africa) and Nottingham in the United Kingdom.

South African Schools have become fully integrated since the abolishment of apartheid some 24 years ago. A highlight was visiting Penzance Primary School, which has a roll of 880 students.



All the students wear a stunning uniform, including a tie. Students were very proud of their uniform and it helped set a positive learning tone across the school.

Children in the school had impeccable manners! Walking through the school, every student made you feel welcome. They would acknowledge me as I walked past them with a big friendly smile. When I entered classrooms, students would stand and also give me a warm greeting. Being called 'Sir' was an added bonus.

Question: Can our students improve their manners and respect at home and school?

Important School Dates Term 4:

Mon 23 Oct	Labour Day - No School
Tues 24 & Thur 26 Oct	Parent Interviews
Thurs 26 Oct	Puanga Festival in Waitara
Fri 27 Oct	Pie Day Friday
Mon 21 Nov	Swimming begins
Thurs 23 Nov	Year 7/8 Social
Fri 1 Dec	Reports go home
Thur 7 Dec	Year 7/8 Triathlon
Fri 8 Dec	Swimming Sports

End of Year Assemblies

Wed 13 Dec	Year 1-2 9.15 - 10.00
	Year 3-4 10.15 - 11.00
	Year 5-6 11.30 - 12.30
Thurs 14 Dec	Full School, Year 8 farewell 1.00
Fri 15 Dec	Last day - School finishes at 12

School starts on Monday 29 January in 2018.

Crossing Update:

Earlier this week, I was informally told that the council had declined to move the crossing. This was confirmed via the Stratford District Press article that was published Wednesday.

It is really upsetting that the council have failed to officially tell the school of their decision. The rationale behind this decision is disappointing.

At the next Board Meeting in early November, members will be discussing the council's decision. If parents would like to comment on the crossing not being moved, please email your thoughts to principal@sps.kiwi.nz and I will share them with the BoT.

Student Led Conferences are Next Week:

A couple of reminders for next week's student led conferences:

- If your child had an IEP meeting last term they do not need to attend next week's meetings.
- School finishes at 1pm on 24th & 26th October. If you cannot make arrangements to collect your child and want them held at school, *please notify the office. Children can be held in the library until 2.55.*
- Arrive before the interview time and please help teachers to keep to the interview times.
- Encourage your child to talk about their learning and set goals with the teacher. A positive home and school partnership will go a long way towards students achieving as an AIM High learner.
- If parents/whanau have any concerns or worries, ask the teacher if you can make another time without your child.



A reminder to parents and whanau, when your child is sick or absent for any reason please contact the school office via phone, email or go to the school website and look for the absentees tab.

- Ph: 7656938
- Email: office@sps.kiwi.nz
- www.stratfordprimary.school.nz

PUANGA:

Our Kapa Haka roopu [group] are performing at the Puanga Festival in Waitara Thursday 26th October. Parents/Caregivers are welcome to attend. Please come along and support us.



SPS TUI'S ENVIRO

NEWS:

Hen House at SPS

First day back from holidays we were so excited to see our hen house completed in the school grounds.

We have planned for this over the year and now it has happened.

A BIG thank you to McDonald & Pretty Construction for all their hard work.



Josh (Room 6) said "I feel extremely privileged to have a chicken run at our school."

"It's sustainability at it's finest" said Aiden (Room 6).

Riley (Room 6) commented "we're trying to be a really good sustainable school. We will feed the chickens our food scraps and hopefully they will lay lots of eggs."

WANTED PLEASE

1. Glass jars with lids that would be suitable for chutney and relish. Please also drop these at the office
2. If anyone also has any spare lemons, please send these to the office

ATTENTION FARMERS:

Bobby Calf Promotion

As at 30 September our school had 825 calves nominated which means so far we have \$412.50 coming our way. **THANK YOU TO ALL OUR FARMER FRIENDS** who have nominated our school.



PGG Wrightson and Ballance Agri-Nutrients are running a 'Cash for Communities' promotion. This means they will donate \$1 for every tonne of Ballance Agri-Nutrients fertilizer (excluding Lime and Gypsum) between 1 September and 30 November to a nominated school. Your support for these promotions would be greatly appreciated.



Looking for childcare?

Stratford Community Childcare centre has enrolments available for children from 0-5 years. We are located in the heart of our community and operate with 80 to 100% qualified teachers. We are open from 7.45am to 5.15pm. If you are looking for quality education and care for your pre-schoolers, contact us on (06) 765 8081, or visit us in person at 40 Orlando Street, Stratford

SPS Learners are curious, innovative and engaged