



# Principal's Newsletter

## Term 1 Week 2

### Fruitvale School

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Kia ora whānau,

It has been a busy start to the year! We have started our learning programs for the term and things are running smoothly from the start. Our teachers have begun weekly lessons in Te Reo Maori and are enjoying being with their new class groups. We have seven student teachers studying at Auckland university with us for the next few weeks. They are being mentored by our teachers.

It is wonderful to have nearly all our tamariki return to school, and we have also welcomed thirty-seven new students, mostly New Entrants and also across all year levels. We are very happy that our families feel that school is a safe and positive place for their children to learn in these uncertain times.

Please read the following points as they are important to the safety and well-being of all of us here at Fruitvale.

#### **Car drop offs and pick ups:**

##### **This needs to be done quickly and safely!**

- Only let children out of the car in the **drop off zone**, unless you properly parked
- **Do not get out of your car.** If you need to get out please park in a parking place so you do not hold up traffic.
- Have your **child exit and enter your car from the footpath**, so they do not walk into on-coming traffic.
- Please **park your car** instead of using drop off zone if you wish to take more time to buckle your child in or say goodbye
- **Move as far down** the drop off zone as you can, before letting your child out to avoid congestion.
- **10kms** is the speed limit up the driveway.
- Children need to be dropped off by **9.55am** and collected by **3.20pm**. We have an after school facility available to you (at your cost) if you cannot collect by this time.
- Children must use **Fruitvale Road pedestrian crossing** if they are walking.

Thank you to the many parents who use courtesy and common sense when picking up and dropping their children. It makes it safer and easier for everyone.

#### **Te Puna te reo**

Whānau who identified as Māori when they enrolled at our school have the opportunity to learn Te reo Māori alongside their child at home, as part of this program. They have been emailed their login details to be part of this learning. Kia kaha ki to mahi!

### **Garden to table program- Sylvia**

Sylvia, our gardener, works with students in our Garden to table program. She teaches them how to grow plants and nurture our environment. She has successfully achieved more support and help for our school!

#### **This is what Sylvia has to say...**

Fruitvale School has been offered volunteer help, a 15 people strong team for 2 days, and \$2500 of funding by Deloitte! The volunteers, Deloitte employees, will be helping to weed in the stream reserve and around the bicycle track. Once we have removed the weeds we will put a rotary hoe through the clay soil around the bicycle track to aerate it. Thank goodness we have had some rain. Then we will be adding dolomite lime and spray the soil with beneficial microbes before putting mulch on. This process will make that the microbial and worm activity will increase in the soil and comes autumn the soil should have well improved. Ready for our food forest to be planted in the bike track area..



We also get the volunteer crew to build a hot compost heap. The fruit trees will be planted in big containers whilst waiting for weather and soil conditions to improve for planting in the ground.

The funding has covered soil improvements, trees, herbs, plants etc. We'll have a range of herbs, sub-tropicals, pip and stone fruit trees.

In case anyone in the community has an arborist connection, we would welcome free mulch. We can't have too much of it.

Written by Sylvia



Thank you Sylvia, you have gone above and beyond for our school!

And finally, a short note about COVID. We trust our parents to consider the health and well-being of their child, their child's classmates and teacher. If your child is unwell at all, please keep them home till you are sure they are well enough to be at school. If your child has cold or flu-like symptoms please get them tested and communicate to Jacqui at the school office. There are more cases coming into schools causing classes of children to stay home, so your vigilance and communication with school about any health issues regarding your child is very important. If you wish to keep your child home for a day just to make sure they do not become more unwell, we appreciate your caution.

**Please make sure we have your current contacts (phone/email) in case we need to send you important notifications or information.**

**Send to Jacqui Teale:**

**[office@fruitvale.school.nz](mailto:office@fruitvale.school.nz) or phone 8272752**

HAVE A GREAT WEEK! We will be having a Zoom assembly this week, you are welcome to attend...

Hine Viskovich is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Fruitvale Assembly

Time: Feb 18, 2022 09:30 AM Auckland, Wellington

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93349860573?pwd=QkozdnNOL2pDVSszemRqZkVBVmRvQT09>

Meeting ID: 933 4986 0573

Passcode: 699998

Nga mihi,

Hine Viskovich- Acting Principal