

**Exciting News! Free and Healthy School Lunches – Coming to Onekawa School!**

The Government is currently trialling a free, healthy, daily school lunch in some schools for all students.

We are really excited to let you know that our school will be joining the free and healthy lunch programme from Term 4 this year.

All parents want to provide their children with a lunch every day. But, as you will know, there are many reasons parents can struggle, often through no fault of their own. We know that some of you will have been particularly affected by the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Offering a lunch for all our children who need it will go some way to helping families and whānau to support their children and tamariki. This is why we have decided to take part in this programme.

Lunches will cater for the diet, health and cultural needs of our students, and we will work with suppliers and the Ministry of Education to make sure they are healthy and nutritious. All suppliers will be required to meet New Zealand food safety standards.

The lunches will be available for all our students. While we know there are hungry children in every community, we do not always know who they are. Providing a lunch to every child means we do not need to single-out those who need it more than others. However, lunches are not compulsory, and you can continue to provide your child’s own lunch if you wish.

Right now, we are working with the Ministry of Education on the best way to meet our school’s needs. So far, we have confirmed we wish to take part in the programme. The next step is to go through the process of finding a supplier.

The programme will run until the end of 2021 and will be evaluated whilst it is running. This will include feedback from schools, students and suppliers about what the lunches are like, how they are delivered, and if they have an impact on students’ learning and achievement.

The Government will use the information from the pilot to decide whether to continue beyond 2021, and what an ongoing programme might look like.

You can find out more about the programme at: [www.education.govt.nz/free-and-healthy-school-lunches](http://www.education.govt.nz/free-and-healthy-school-lunches)

**A word from the principal...**

It’s awesome to see our children back at school and into their learning!

Inter school sports restart this term. We have close to 100 children participating in a variety of sports. I enjoyed watching our netball teams play yesterday. Check out the action shots in this newsletter!

**New Parents Morning Tea – Tuesday 4 August – 9am**

We would like to invite all new parents and caregivers to a special morning tea on Tuesday 4 August at 9:00am in the staff room.

Come and join Steve, our principal, for a drink, some food and a general chat about Onekawa School.

Some members from ‘Team Pipi’, our fundraising group, will be there to introduce themselves as well.



**Action shots from this week’s netball games!**

### Team Pipi Meeting

Monday 27 July at 7pm

Come and join us for our next meeting this Monday at 7pm in the school staff room.

All parents and caregivers are most welcome to attend ☺

### Room 9 working on their 'next big thing'!



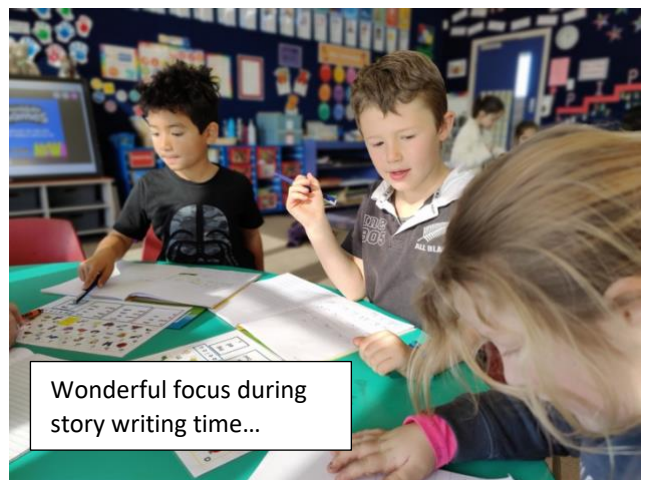
Children in Room 9 have been deciding on a problem that needed to be solved.

From there, they planned an invention to fix the problem. The prototypes look awesome!

### Another awesome week in Room 3!



Fun creating outside...



Wonderful focus during story writing time...



Learning together...

### Congratulations to this week's class certificate recipients – Tino Pai! You are awesome!

