

# TE TŪHONO

*Your pūra, your newsletter.*



**DON BUCK SCHOOL**

**KŌKIRI NGĀTAHI**  
*exceptional together*

**WEEKS 1 - 4**  
**TERM 1 2024**



## UPCOMING KEY DATES

DBS Whānau Evening  
Come share, learn and  
discuss the year ahead!  
Thursday 14th March  
3:00 - 4:00pm

Whānau Teacher Conferences  
Thursday 21st March

Year 5/6 Tee Ball  
Tuesday 5th March  
Year 7/8 Softball  
Thursday 7th March

Half Day of School - Closed at 1pm  
Tuesday 12th March

School Closed - Teacher Only Day  
Friday 12th April



# DBS TEAM UPDATE!

## WELCOME BACK TO 2024 AND OUR NEW STAFF

### HILARY PRATT - YEAR 1 / 2 TEACHER

I have been teaching since 2006 and children just bring me so much joy. I have had incredibly rich teaching and learning experiences working in Otara and Mangere for most of my career before making my way back to West Auckland. I have always loved working with tamariki as they begin their journey at school and find their place in their new school environment. I believe it is so important for all children who pass through my classroom to feel valued, happy and safe in their learning environment. When a child feels this way they will be able to unlock the tools necessary to be successful at school.



### SHARON RICH - YEAR 6 / 7 TEACHER

#### ***What do you enjoy most about working at our school?***

Firstly it is the tamariki! To be part of their day, to see their growth and to help nurture their exceptional talents, is one of the enjoyable aspects of working at Don Buck School. Secondly the community of Don Buck School – the whānau, caregivers and staff – are amazing people who I have found to be warm, friendly, welcoming and only want the best for the tamariki

#### ***What do you like to do in your spare time?***

Spending time with my whānau is at the top of the list. I love to be creative, this can be anything from knitting through to baking! Netball has been a big part of my life, I have coached netball for 20 years, which has led to 12 years of being an umpire. In the summer you will find me at the local car shows and recently building lego sets is part of the ever growing interests I enjoy in my spare time.



### CHARNE COLETE - YEAR 6 / 7 TEACHER

Kia Ora, my name is Charne Cloete, and I joined Don Buck Primary School in 2023 as a teacher aide. This year I am joining the team as a teacher. I am excited to be a part of the team and connecting with you all!

#### ***What do you enjoy most about working at our school?***

The students I work with daily and seeing them grow. I love the great energy of the team at Don Buck School. The fantastic program for students is just incredible! I absolutely love the happy faces of our tamariki at school.

#### ***What do you like to do in your spare time?***

I have a family with two children that keeps me on my toes but I am an absolute fan of the outdoors. Whether it's the beach, hiking, or playing at the park with my little ones.



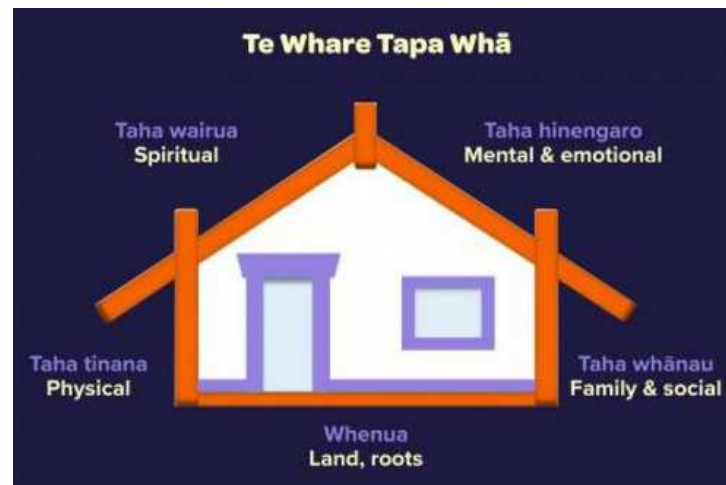




## A FOCUS ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING - TE WHARE TAPA WHĀ

Last year we connected with our community on our biannual community consultation focused on our Health and Well-Being curriculum delivery. We were blown away and overwhelmed by your feedback and ideas on how we can best improve the Health and Well-Being of our tamariki.

From the consultation we are focused on developing a Health and Well-Being approach centered around Te Whare Tapa Whā. In the coming weeks we will be able to share with everyone how we will use the feedback you have shared to develop programs for this year and the years to come.

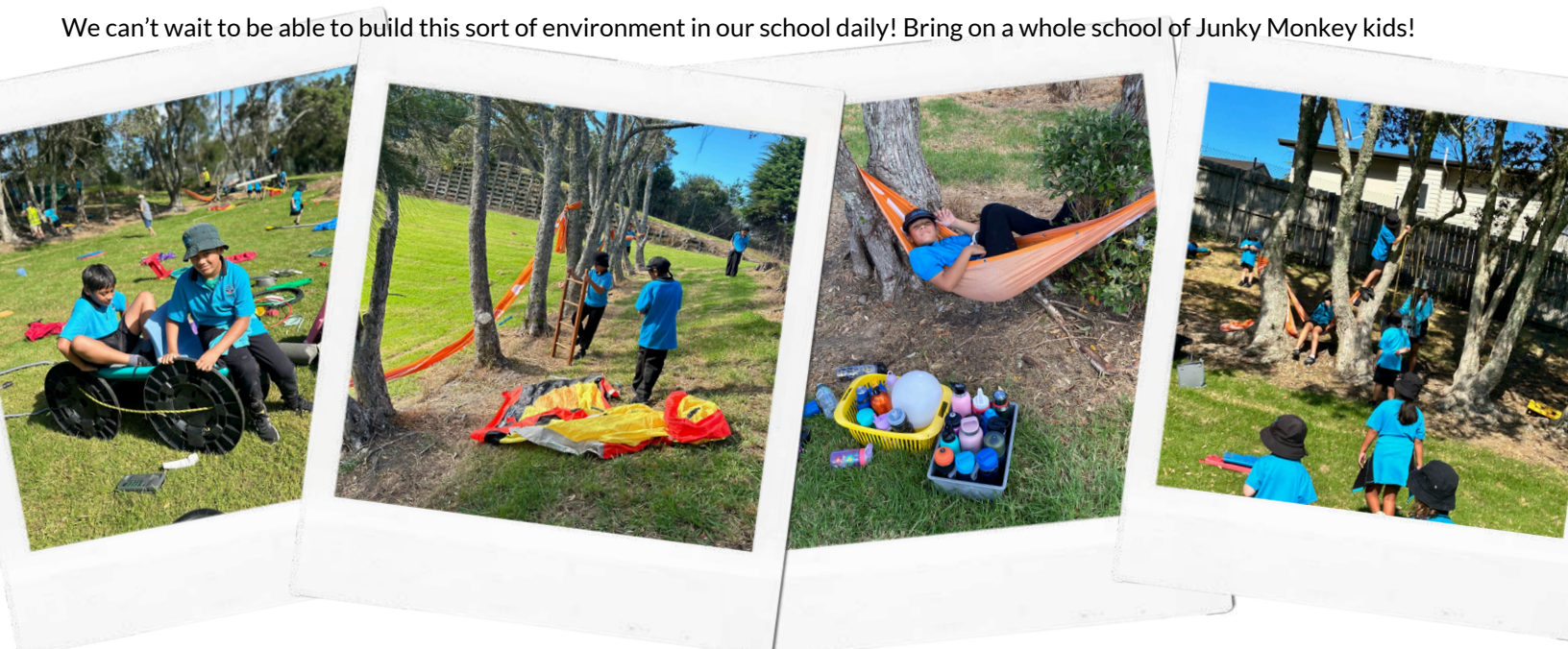


## JUNKY MONKEYS @ DBS!

On Monday of week 4 we were so grateful to have the team from Junky Monkeys on site to share with us their amazing learning program. This was a day where our tamariki got to work with a range of large loose parts to collaboratively create, and let their imaginations run wild!

The exciting aspects of having these experiences is seeing where the urges are for each individual child, if they like to construct, throw, deconstruct, act or make a range of things move this is what we as teachers notice and can continue to engage our tamariki with in classes.

We can't wait to be able to build this sort of environment in our school daily! Bring on a whole school of Junky Monkey kids!





# WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING...

## LIVING OUR VALUE - WHANAUNGATANGA!

At DBS we have a focused style of "Notice, Recognise and Respond." This kaupapa is focused around providing all of our tamariki the opportunities to explore a range of different experiences and allow our teachers the time to **Notice** the tamariki engagement, **Recognise** the connections to the curriculum and **Respond** with new resources or preparing appropriate curriculum and skills based workshopping.

Term 1 is always focused on Noticing and building whanaungatanga / relationships within our classes and providing a safe and responsive learning environment. We look forward to exploring more with our tamariki over the coming weeks!

## NZ WARRIORS TUPU MAIA GIRLS PROGRAM

At Don Buck School we get a little Warriors mad...and the season is almost upon us!! We have been lucky over the past two years to be connected to the One NZ Warriors and their Warriors Community Foundation. They provide a range of awesome activities to help build relationships, build resilience and build ourselves up ready for the challenges ahead.

This term our Year 7 and 8 girls have started every Wednesday morning working with the Tupu Maia program. A program completely focused on developing strong and resilient wahine.

They will be working alongside our tamariki for 8 weeks and finishing off with an amazing festival day trip to Mount Smart stadium! Bring on the 2024 season! Up The Wahs!!





## BADMINTON EXPERIENCE!

In Week 3 we were very lucky to have the amazing crew from the Waitakere Badminton club come through and share this amazing sport with our tamariki! Our students from year 3 - 6 had the opportunity to work with the coaches, be taught some basic skills and try something new!

The Waitakere Badminton club even runs a junior club on Thursday evenings for those whānau who are keen to continue giving this sport a go! - Check out the flyer at the back page.

## TRYING OUT SQUASH!

On Tuesday of Week 4 we had the amazing crew from Auckland Squash come in to set up an epic lunch time experience. They brought along their mobile squash walls and our tamariki got to have a go at this sport! When we got over the confusion of if we are squashing something...the tamariki were off on their way, trying something new!

If you're interested in your tamariki playing Squash the Waitakere Squash club has a junior club that runs----- Check out the flyer on the back page!

## KIWICAN IS BACK!!

KIWI KIWI KIWI....CAN CAN CAN!!!

The amazing crew from KiwiCan are running back for 2024 with us here at DBS! We couldn't be more excited for them to join our team, bring their energy, their talents and all round good vibes to our kura.

KiwiCan is a character based program focused on developing character skills such as honesty, integrity and how they can connect to our school values of Whakaute (Respect), Whanaungatanga (Relationships) Kawenga (Responsibility).

We have two amazing leaders in Ola and Naniah who bring so much energy and create engaging experiences for our tamariki that will hopefully last them a lifetime.



# OUR 2024 DBS TEAM

## 2024 KURA TEINA (YEAR 1 - 5)



**RUMA TAHI**  
Year 1  
Mrs. Carr-Neil



**RUMA RUA**  
Year 1/2  
Whaea Hilary



**RUMA TORU**  
Year 2/3  
Mrs. Sequeira



**RUMA WHĀ**  
Year 2/3  
Miss Bates



**RUMA ONO**  
Year 4  
Mrs. Begum



**RUMA WHITU**  
Year 5  
Mrs. Hayes  
(Assistant Principal)



**RUMA RUA**  
Support  
Miss V



**RUMA TORU/WHĀ**  
Support  
Briar



**ESOL Support**  
Ms. Sims

## 2024 KURA TUAKANA (YEAR 6 - 8)



**RUMA WARU**  
Year 6/7  
Mrs. Rich



**RUMA IWA**  
Year 6/7  
Ms. Charne



**RUMA TEKAU**  
Year 8  
Ms. Lemusu



**NUMERACY  
SUPPORT  
SPORTS LEAD**  
Mr. Shepherd



**SPARK PROGRAM  
(TECHNOLOGY)**  
Mr. Hohaia  
(Deputy Principal)



**LITERACY  
SUPPORT**  
Mrs. Miller





## 2024 SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM



**PRINCIPAL**  
*Sandy Stirling*



**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**  
**SENCO**  
*Marie Feasey*



**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**  
*Kura Tuakana (Yr 6 - 8) Lead*  
*Heydon Hohaia*



**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**  
*Kura Teina (yr 1 - 5) Lead*  
*Nikki Hayes*

## 2024 SUPPORT TEAM

**PROPERTY MANAGER**  
*Mr. Jas*



**EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
*Cassandra Pilmer*



**OFFICE MANAGER**  
*Kelly Francis*



**CLASSROOM RELEASE TEACHER**  
*Sharon Booth*



**GARDEN 2 TABLE**  
*Food Creation Lead*  
*Candice Ferris*



**GARDEN 2 TABLE**  
*Horticultural Lead*  
*Augustine Kopa*



**CLASSROOM RELEASE TEACHER**  
*Angie Riggs*



**TE AO MAORI**  
*Whaea Les*



**KIWICAN LEADER**  
*Naniah*



**KIWICAN LEADER**  
*Ola*



# UPDATE FROM MR. STIRLING



Kia ora whānau

Welcome to the beginning of what will be a fantastic year at our kura. Welcome back to all our tamariki and whānau and a special welcome to all our new students and families who have begun your journey at our school. It is an absolute privilege to have you on board our waka and we cannot wait to get to know you all better.

We are already a few weeks into the term and my goodness how time has flown. The glorious summer weather has helped us all out big time to get outside and investigate, learn, and explore in our beautiful surroundings. A real highlight for us all was our Junky Monkey sessions this week. The children had an incredible session where they were given a range of loose parts from very small to the very big to investigate and get creative with. It was a real pleasure for our teachers to notice and recognise our children show their natural curiosity and showcase their exceptional talents together. A big thank you to Kate from Junky Monkeys for organising.

Our Junky Monkey sessions has been just one of many ways our teachers have been able to get to know your children better. This is an essential time of the year for our class and school cultures to develop in a fun and engaging environment. We are passionate about finding ways to hook our children into their learning. We acknowledge that you, our parents, family and whānau know your children the best. We really welcome you to connect with your child's teachers so that we can know your child even more. Strong home - school relationships are essential for children to succeed. We look forward to taking this year's journey with you as we support your child to make exceptional learning progress.

Ngā mihi nui  
Sandy Stirling





# DBS COMMUNITY UPDATE



## TEACHER ONLY AFTERNOON - TUESDAY 12TH MARCH - SCHOOL CLOSED AT 1 PM

**WHAT:** Our DBS Teachers will be joining the other schools in our local area at a meeting on how to improve literacy in our community. So school will be closing at 1pm as the meeting will be at 1:30pm.

**WHEN: TUESDAY 12th MARCH**  
*School will be closed this day at 1:00pm*

All of our teaching staff will be attending so we ask for students to please be picked up promptly from the school grounds.



## VISIT OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE / SEESAW & SCHOOL DOCS

**Website** - Communication with our community is very important to us and we are continuously developing how we are doing this.

We are updating our website regularly with important dates through the School Google Calendar.

**Seesaw** - Our Class Seesaw pages is the place for you to connect with your child's exceptional efforts on their work in class. But it is also the best way to make contact with your child's teacher and us at school. We will be sending out notices through Seesaw regularly so please make sure to keep this app close at hand.

**School Docs (Policy and Procedures)** - If you would like to stay informed on our school's policies and procedures we use the School Docs website. This contains all of the school's policy and procedural information.

Check out the website - [www.donbuck.schooldocs.co.nz](http://www.donbuck.schooldocs.co.nz)



Policies and Procedures



Seesaw

## CONTACT US

School Email: [office@donbuck.school.nz](mailto:office@donbuck.school.nz)  
School Phone: (09) 833 6005  
Website: [www.donbuck.school.nz](http://www.donbuck.school.nz)  
Facebook: @DBSPPrimary

## KEEP UPDATED WITH US ONLINE

To see weekly updates or daily changes that may impact our whole school, please keep an eye on our Facebook page at

[www.facebook.com/DBSPPrimary](https://www.facebook.com/DBSPPrimary) or Website [www.donbuck.school.nz](http://www.donbuck.school.nz).

We would also like your most recent email address so please let us know of any updated emails by emailing [office@donbuck.school.nz](mailto:office@donbuck.school.nz)



# COMMUNITY NOTICES



***Adventures:***  
Before School, After School  
& School Holidays

**WE ARE HIRING!**  
Programme Manager/Programme Assistants/Casual

Do you love working with children and are good at sports, or Dance, or drama! I would love to hear from you. Please send your cv to me or give me a call and lets talk. Part time work available!

**Contact :**  
[manor@skids.co.nz](mailto:manor@skids.co.nz)  
**Phone :**  
021 247 8828



**WAITAKERE  
JUNIOR CLUB**

**Address**  
Waitakere Badminton  
149/155 Royal Road

**Registration Link**  
<https://forms.gle/oQqUy9hCxaUFNKcw7>

**Contact Us**  
[badwtKjnr@gmail.com](mailto:badwtKjnr@gmail.com)

**Time**  
Thursday: 5pm - 7pm

**Fee per night**  
**\$10**



Scan here!



Looking at the property market and needing someone to guide you on your journey? Contact local realtor Lance Beddoes

Email - [lance@harveyshomes.co.nz](mailto:lance@harveyshomes.co.nz)  
Phone - +64 21 0907 2089



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## CONTACT US

School Email: [office@donbuck.school.nz](mailto:office@donbuck.school.nz)  
School Phone: (09) 833 6005  
Website: [www.donbuck.school.nz](http://www.donbuck.school.nz)  
Facebook: @DBSPPrimary

## KEEP UPDATED WITH US ONLINE

To see weekly updates or daily changes that may impact our whole school, please keep an eye on our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/DBSPPrimary](https://www.facebook.com/DBSPPrimary) or Website [www.donbuck.school.nz](http://www.donbuck.school.nz). We would also like your most recent email address so please let us know of any updated emails by emailing [office@donbuck.school.nz](mailto:office@donbuck.school.nz)

