

Selwyn Park School

17th September 2021

Term 3 Week 8



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Kia Ora Whanau,

Goodness, we have had some rain this week. We have had two pipes blocked that have caused some problems with flooding around the swimming pool and the Onslow Street entrance. Plumbers and Ventia are on to it.

As I indicated earlier in the term, we were looking for another way to enable Kapa Haka and specialist Te Reo to continue. Our solution to this for us to use the skills of Shaquille Shortland and Sharneece Joyce, who will work with our children every Tuesday, starting next week. I am really excited about this opportunity for our school.

Shaquille Shortland, 27 is of Ngāti Hine, Ngāti Te Rino, Ngāti Māhia and Te Rōroa descent, affectionately known as Pā.

He is the founder and director of Tūāpapa Māori Language Academy which is a social enterprise focused on the revitalization of Te reo and Tikanga Māori. Through his work he has been awarded Adult Community Educator of the year 2018, New Zealand Impact Award 2019 and Kiwibank New Zealander of the Year Local Community Hero Award 2020 and acknowledges the many kaumātua and kuia who nurtured him along his journey.

Pā is involved in providing several voluntary weekly Te reo classes free to the community, one of which is based in Dargaville at Selwyn Park Primary School.

Every Tuesday he will be working with the tamariki sharing local history and pūrākau in the mornings and kapa haka in the afternoons alongside his partner Sharneece Joyce who is a past student of the school.

Sharneece Joyce, 27 is of Nga Puhi, Ngāti Whatua, Te Popoto and Ngāti Tupaea descent.

She is a past student of Selwyn Park Primary and has strong whānau ties to the kura and the community. Her younger brother is a current pupil and many of her whānau have attended the school over the past 50 years.

She is the founder of multiple organisations but her most recent social enterprise - Rangatahi Ora focuses on reconnecting Youth to their whakapapa through hikoi and hauora.

Sharneece contributes to her community in many ways and is an active volunteer within the community. Last year she organised a fundraiser for the Australian Bushfires "Swim Down Under" and has actively run a kaupapa "Hikoi Kaipara" since 2018, encouraging whānau to climb the many maunga of the Kaipara region.

Together Pā & Sharneece work to help better their communities. They are excited to be starting this haerenga next Tuesday.

Nga Mihi.

Vern Stevens



Important Dates 2021

Friday 9th July—Term 2 ends

Monday 26th July— Term 3 begins

Friday 29th October – Exhibition Day