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Dear Families/ Whānau of Ponsonby Primary,

We value your support in providing a high level of resources for our students at Ponsonby Primary School. School donations and fundraising are crucial in bridging the gap between government funding and our aspirations for the school community.

These donations and money raised through fundraising enable us to offer a wide range of educational opportunities and resources that enhance the learning experience for our students. For example, over the past three years we have been able to upgrade our Kākāriki playground and install a shade cover over the area. We have upgraded the bottom court with a state of the art basketball/netball surface. This year we are planning to look at upgrading classroom furniture and upgrading the Puriri playground. This money is all generated through donations and fundraising and this money sits outside government funding. The donations and fundraising also pay for part time teachers, ancillary staff and the learning resources that are not funded through the government funding which is vital for the success of our school. We are also committed to providing smaller class sizes and over the past three years we have funded a teacher through our Government fund.

As you are aware there are many inequities in government funding. The reality is funding provided by the government of \$400,000 GST exclusive is insufficient to run our school and without parent support we cannot meet our outgoings for essential services.

This year we want to provide your child/ren with maximum educational opportunities. The annual donations/fundraising made by you pay for our Learning Assistants and their role is to work with students who need extra assistance with learning. We employ 4 Learning Assistants (teacher aides) and we are funded for less than 1 Learning Assistant in our Government funding grant.

Our suggested parent donation raises \$193,000 and in 2024 this amount includes children's extracurricular activity costs that parents used to pay during a term e.g. Life Education, Music workshops etc. The suggested donation does not include activities that are optional and sit outside the curriculum, e.g. Motutapu Camp (Yr. 6), Marae and Suf School (Yr. 5), Year 3 Millennium Institute visits and Mangere Mountain experiences (Yr 4), Parnell Baths (Yrs 1 & 2) etc.

When possible we run at least two major fundraisers with our PPSG each year to improve our school and this year we will be looking at upgrading classroom furniture and also looking at upgrading the Puriri playground. **Our fundraising activities ideally sit outside what should be funded by parent donations but more and more of these funds are needed for core running costs.**

Thank you for your partnership and involvement in your child's education. Together, we can continue to provide an exceptional learning environment for all our students. If you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Here is a link showing what donations and fundraising funds go towards

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1JClCcu8ca2F1cC_3q_vWzNFm8tf952Cr/view?ts=65c55e18

Ngā mihi

Sanjay Rama