



**Parnell District
Intermediate
School 2012**



Why Parnell Intermediate School?

If parents were to take a short term view of the purpose of their child's intermediate education then one could say that the purpose of intermediate is to prepare the child for college and this is certainly one of our goals. However we believe it is part of our role as educationalists to prepare students for life, and the development of a range of study and life skills is an important component of intermediate education.

At Parnell we see the purpose of the intermediate education as being to continue the process already begun by parents and primary teachers in preparing your child for life. The 2010 New Zealand national curriculum also takes this view in that the vision statement for education in this country now seeks to develop students that are confident, connected, actively involved life long learners. (Page 9 NZ curriculum)

Our intermediate department identifies closely to these national vision statements, providing the sort of programme that encourages resourcefulness, effective interpersonal relationships, that encourages student engagement with the community and by providing the means for them to become active seekers, users and creators of knowledge.

This sort of learning does not come in a text book. It instead relies on teachers that interact with the students in ways that give them choices and options to explore. Students will make mistakes, they may make errors of judgment, but they will learn a lot more from real experiences. This approach is markedly in contrast to contrived textbook situations where linear learning is assumed – children are instructed to just turn to the next page. At Parnell students have the support of teachers to assist in refocusing and establishing a new learning pathway. We support this through the use of learning intentions and success criteria and personal goal setting that is transparent to the student and to their Mums, Dads and teachers. Because your child is at the relatively small intermediate at Parnell they will not be lost in a crowd. Staff at Parnell are well positioned to make provision for individual requirements.

The skills and attitudes formed, and the abilities developed in early adolescence will stay with your child for many years. Development of such skills and the fostering of a sense of responsibility for personal learning will prove useful through your child's college and university years.



Parnell District Intermediate School (Founded 1873)

School Motto “By Courage and Wisdom”

Mission Statement.

Parnell District School will strive to be a leading school developing great students through excellent and innovative learning experiences.



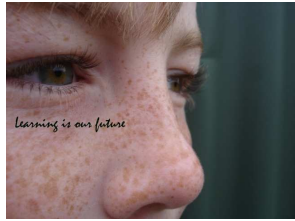
Thank you for your interest in finding out about Parnell District Intermediate School. We are a decile 10 inner Auckland City school with ready access to the east coast beaches, the museum, the art gallery and some of the more historic buildings in the city. There has been a school at Parnell for 136 years, 76 years on our current site.

Parnell District Intermediate School caters specifically for the needs of 11 to 13 year old students. In 2009 we have three classes operating in our intermediate school, which means the staff know the students well. As a school at the heart of the city, we also pride ourselves as also being a school with a heart – our staff and our students look after each other. Your child will not be anonymous at Parnell, as they might be in a very large school. We value your child as an individual, foster their uniqueness and potential, and seek to personalise their learning to their individual requirements.

Our school takes pride in delivering high standards of education and providing special and memorable opportunities for our intermediate students

Gary Cain (Principal)

We seek to develop independent learners who can confidently move on to secondary school with the required skill sets. Students in our intermediate department will build on their primary education and further develop awareness, not only of their progress to date, but also importantly their next learning steps and the success criteria by which they will be measured. They are encouraged to have a high degree of control over their learning, but with the knowledge that the teacher is monitoring progress closely. Your child should be able to articulate what they are learning, what they need to learn, what new learning and skills are required to achieve their next goals. We aim, in other words to develop self directed and independent learners. Goal setting involving the student, parents and the teacher is an important part of setting this up for the year.



Intermediate Aged Children

Managing Self

Intermediate aged students are going through a period of rapid change, physically, socially and emotionally. These are special years which require teachers who understand and can support the students at this time.

We have found that the students want structure in their lives because it gives them a sense of security. However because of their evolving need to assume some control over their lives, they also need to be given the opportunity to discuss / perhaps amend some of the expectations placed on them. As part of their preparation for college they need to take some responsibility for their own learning.

We also encourage intermediate students to “have a go” at activities not previously attempted – again options presented, “tasted” and enjoyed at intermediate can be picked up at secondary school at a higher level. The intermediate programme provides many sporting and cultural opportunities (see below). Physical activity and the need to express oneself in a variety of ways are important characteristics of this age group.

Parnell District School Vision.

Parnell District School pupils will be confident and active participants in gaining knowledge and skills, knowing and valuing:

- who they are – **young people who are confident, positive in their own identity**
- others and how they relate to them - **connected**
- the world, their place and role in it – **actively involved participants in a range of contexts**
- lifelong learning – **active seekers, users and creators of knowledge**
critical and creative thinking – **informed decision makers**

The intermediate school transitions students from the more general education of primary school to the more specialised education they will receive in secondary school. It is not uncommon for some intermediate students to develop quite a high level of expertise in particular interests and abilities.

Social Skills

Participating & Contributing

Our school is committed to developing self esteem in our students and in enabling them to resist peer pressure often prevalent in adolescence. The health programme also fosters students making good decisions and to learn to take responsibility for their own behaviour.

There are often opportunities for co-operatives activities with peers and younger children at Parnell. Students are encouraged to become involved in community service, through team building exercises, public speaking opportunities, as “Cool School” mediators, through putting on performances and in meeting participation. As leaders, they take on small organisational roles within the school.

Relationships between students and staff are based on mutual trust and respect.

Parents should be aware that friendship groupings often change in the intermediate years, sometimes expanding to include larger groupings of both genders. Social skills are encouraged at the several discos, and farewell social organised by our PTA during the year.

Our school is lucky to have a significant number of ethnicities on our roll. This brings richness and diversity to our school’s population. We have a number of **international students** at any one time who pay for tuition because they do not have residency in New Zealand and we welcome these students where we have spaces in classes and can accommodate them. Parnell District School is a signatory to the “Code of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International Students” published by the Ministry of Education.



Attitudes and Values.

The Parnell District School and Community believe in these core values and seek to have them taught and modelled in the daily life of the school.

- Empathy, care and respect for others, communities and the environment
- Appreciation and valuing of other cultures
- Courtesy
- Honesty
- Confidence and willingness to take appropriate risks
- Responsibility
- Desire to learn
- Perseverance
- Valuing and fostering of each others differences and passions

During the year at assemblies, there are awards for children who have consistently displayed these attributes throughout the year.

Behaviour/ School Rules



The guiding rule at PDS is that students should speak and act in ways that they would be happy for their parents to know about. Parents are advised of matters of concern as we seek to work closely with parents to ensure appropriate behaviour.

The school has a policy that if students break or damage school property that the school seeks reimbursement. A letter is sent home detailing the damage and the approximate cost involved.



Cellphones. We ask that cell phones are stored in the school office for the day – they are not conducive to quality classroom learning.

School Start times



The intermediate school starts at 8.50 a.m. each day. There is a morning break at 10.30 and lunchtime is 12.30 – 1.25 p.m. The school day finishes at 3p.m.

Homework

Homework is carefully monitored so that an excessive amount is not set. Our homework policy states:

- Homework should be useful / purposeful.
- No work should be set unless the child is familiar with it.
- Homework should be multi levelled
- There is an expectation that **all** children will do **regular** homework.
- Teachers will clearly communicate homework organisation to children and parents. This should be checked with the Principal. A homework book to record all tasks checked by parents is recommended for middle and senior pupils.

Recommended time guideline: Y7-8 30 – 45 minutes per night

Leadership Opportunities

Real leadership opportunities at Parnell include:

- membership of our school council
- school house captain leadership
- having a junior school buddy to mentor
- Cool Schools mediators
- Road Patrol Duty
- Minding a junior class on a wet lunchtime.
- Leading the school assembly
- Office duty
- Coaching and supporting junior sports teams



Pastoral Care

Guidance and support for the students is provided by the teachers, particularly the senior teachers in the school, who have years of intermediate school experience to draw upon. The principal is also involved in delivering pastoral care when required.

Students and staff at Parnell District School should at all times, feel safe, comfortable and respected. Senior students often choose to be cool school mediators who assist younger students to resolve minor differences of opinion. Cool School mediators receive training for this position.

Board of Trustees

The school board of trustees is the governing body of the school. It is elected from parent and caregiver representatives, a staff representative and the principal. Meetings are held monthly. The board of trustees are all named on our school website.



PTA

The PTA are an energetic group of parents who fundraise for new school equipment, and assist in the payment of extra staffing for the school. The PTA also provides a forum for a parent voice and organise social functions. The PTA meet monthly and their office holders are also on the school website.

The Intermediate School programme

At intermediate school students are taught all the curriculum subjects from primary school and build on these, by having some of these subjects taught by specialist teachers.

The school is able to offer intermediate students opportunities to show case their work at assemblies, for parents and younger students. Our goal is for students to feel a sense of pride in their achievements.

Students with **learning difficulties** receive as much help as possible with teacher aides and when appropriate the RTLB (Resource Teachers of Learning and Behaviour) or other agencies sometimes available to us. Children who are new to the English language receive support with English through **ESOL** lessons.

In our intermediate department we have one of the two **“e” classes** based at our school. In an “e” class information technology is used as a major tool in the learning of curriculum subjects. In the “e” class children have access to digital and movie cameras, a scanner, printers, the internet, Knowledge Net as part of the experience of being in an “e” room. All intermediate children will spend time in the e class on a rotational basis. The “e” classes at Parnell are possible through the generous donations of our school families. Our use internet agreement spells out for students and their families, the behavioural expectations of the school whilst using our computer equipment.

Facilities at Parnell District School



Intermediate students at Parnell District School have access to an electronic classroom, two further classrooms, a performing arts room, a specialist technology room, a hall, and a well stocked school library .Outside we have a large sports field and courtyard, and make regular use of other facilities in the vicinity.

We strive to align the school's financial resources with learning in the classroom, and class teachers have significant classroom budgets to assist to this purpose.

Specialist Teachers

Specialist teachers take Year 7 and 8 students at Parnell for technology education, music, drama and dance. One teacher gives Mandarin language lessons which is our second language at Parnell. (from Year 3) Where required ESOL and special needs teachers are deployed, to work with children.

The Intermediate School Curriculum

New Zealand has a new curriculum for schools. All schools are currently amending their programmes to meet new expectations. Besides the expected focus on the learning areas (subjects) schools are now challenged to develop key competencies in our students. These are:

- Thinking,
- Using Language, Symbols and texts,
- Managing Self,
- Relating to Others,
- Participating and Contributing

These key competencies are integral to our curriculum delivery and strongly emphasised in teaching units across all curriculum areas.

At Parnell District School we place a strong emphasis on literacy and the numeracy strategies in particular. These subjects in turn support other learning areas such as Science, Social Studies, Health, and Physical Education. Diagnostic assessment approaches such as e-AsTTle are now well embedded at Parnell with strengths acknowledged and weaknesses identified for further attention. Most of our parents are becoming familiar with student led conferences where your child, supported by their teacher explains their progress to date and next learning steps.

Students are encouraged to become involved in the sporting and cultural activities outside the school There are school teams in netball, and basketball who operate on a regular basis, as well as an extensive field day programme across a number of sports Students can also choose to become involved in a the choir, a school production (every second year). Students are encouraged to study the participation sheet which lists all the options.

A homework club operates after school for those who appreciate this assistance.

Literacy (English)

“Literacy in English gives students access to the understanding, knowledge and skills they need to participate fully in the social, cultural , political and economic life of New Zealand and the wider world” (*New Zealand Curriculum P 18*)

Our English programme aims to develop effective communicators. Students at Parnell are supported to understand a range of texts, to select, process, integrate and utilise various forms of information, to develop an idea fully, to understand when to use the conventions of the English language, how to structure their personal writing, to, organise ideas, express and develop their persuasive writing.

One of the highlights of the year is the annual speech contest at the school - something we have come to expect to be delivered at a high level by Parnell Intermediate students.

Many of our intermediate students enter Australian University exams in Writing and Spelling. We earned one High Distinction Top 1% (spelling), 5 Distinctions (top 10%) in English and 4 distinctions in writing in 2008. Recent literature units have included Diaries, NZ short stories, Myths / Traditional tales/ Voyages, Novel studies, using Journal stories and non- fiction texts, NZ Literature, Novels to screen & stage, Science Fiction and Fantasy books. During book week students can expect to interact with New Zealand authors in workshop situations. Our librarian is available in our well stocked library to assist students and the library is a popular place in student’s spare time. We have an enthusiastic group of students each year who participate in the Literature Quiz against other schools.

Numeracy (Mathematics)

“By studying mathematics and statistics, students develop the ability to think creatively, critically, strategically and logically. They learn to structure and organise, to carry out procedures flexibly and accurately, to process and communicate information, and enjoy intellectual challenge” (*New Zealand Curriculum P 26*)



During 2008, Mathletics, an internet based instructional maths programme was introduced school wide at Parnell District School and has proved enormously effective with the students. The students use a log in to access their work, at home and school. Parents and teachers can easily track progress and certificates earned.

The Australian University mathematics exam is the most popular external exam at Parnell entered by a large number of our pupils. Parnell students earned 2 High Distinctions (Top1%) and 5 High Distinctions (top 10%) in 2008.

The maths programme has a strong emphasis on problem solving and basic numeracy skills. Children are grouped and re grouped during the year to enable maths programmes to cater for individual needs.

Social Sciences

“Through the social sciences, students develop the knowledge and skills to enable them to: better understand, participate in and contribute to the local, national and global communities in which they live and work; engage critically with societal issues, and evaluate the sustainability of alternative social, economic, political and environmental practices” (*New Zealand Curriculum p30*)

The Herald newspaper provides copies of their publication free to the school on a regular basis to assist in study programmes. The “e” class room with its multiple computers and internet capacity is also a valuable learning resource for social studies.

Participation is encouraged in the Parnell Heritage’s annual history competition in which students research local history



Science

“Science is able to inform problem solving and decision making in many areas of life. Many of the major challenges and opportunities that confront our world need to be approached from a scientific perspective, taking into account social and ethical considerations.

By studying science students:

- develop an understanding of the world, built on current scientific theories;
- learn that science involves particular processes and ways of developing and organising knowledge and these continue to evolve;
- use their current scientific knowledge and skills for problem solving and developing further knowledge;
- use scientific knowledge and skills to make informed decisions about the communication, application, and implications of science as these relate to their own lives and cultures and to the sustainability of the environment”

(New Zealand Curriculum P 28)

Recent and proposed topics studied in the intermediate school have included Forces, Environmental Issues, Electricity, and Space.

Our Science Fair provides and opportunity for children to conduct a personal investigation into an area of interest. The Science Fair display at this time of the year, in the hall is both informative and colourful.

The Arts

“Art education explores, challenges, affirms, and celebrates unique artistic expressions of self, community and culture. It embraces toi Maori, valuing the forms

and practices of customary and contemporary Maori performing , musical and visual arts. Learning through, and about the arts stimulates creative action and response by engaging and connecting thinking, imagination, senses, and feelings. By participating in the arts, students’ personal well being is enhanced.” (New Zealand Curriculum P20)

The school has a particularly strong reputation in the arts, which reflects the community strength in the same area.

The school has a new **performing arts room**, complete with a sprung floor, in which children are regularly seen creating, interpreting music or practicing dances. At other times dramatic work is in progress delivered by a very accomplished dance/ drama teacher.

Our pupils produce a wide variety of **2 and 3 dimensional art** works in a range of media including textiles, clay, dye, pencil, paint, crayon etc. Special opportunities are provided in arts focus week that culminates in display for parents in the hall. Work is displayed around the school and on occasions (such as the Art Snake) in all shop

fronts throughout Newmarket and Parnell or in libraries and public venues.

Chinese dance is strong at the school and we have 4 or 5 groups operating, with children from a range of ethnic backgrounds involved. Recent performances have been for the annual Lantern Festival in Albert Park, the Auckland Principals Association as well as our own assemblies.



The **Literary walk** has won a special place in the hearts of Parnell folk. Intermediate students write and produce plays based on the book week theme and perform these in full costume in the Parnell Rose Gardens to the delight of the general public and our younger students who move in groups from presentation to presentation.

Tuition is provided in a range of **musical instruments** by two providers, Lewis Eady Music School and KBB Music. A significant number of instruments can be taught by these tutors to students released during school time. Parents are encouraged to read brochures provided by these companies for more detailed information. In 2008 and 2009 our intermediate students have had a rock band "Descend"

Technology Education

Parnell is fortunate to have a new and purpose built technology classroom. Our technology programme is often admired by other schools and we receive a number of visits by other technology teachers each year. The emphasis is on problem solving through the design and construction of good quality products. Recent work has included work with fabric, creating model wakas, food technology including food from other cultures, trash to fashion and the set, costume and prop design for the school productions. Part of the activity fee for Year 7 and 8 students pays for the consumable items used by students in the technology programme.



The aim (of Technology Education) is for students to develop a broad technological literacy that will equip them to participate in society as informed citizens and give them access to technology – related careers. Many learn practical skills as they develop models, products and systems. They also learn about technology as a field of human activity, experiencing

and/ or exploring historical and contemporary examples of technology from a variety of contexts." (New Zealand Curriculum P 32)"

Physical Education, Health and Sport

In Health and Physical Education, the focus is on the well being of the students themselves, of other people, and society through learning in health related and movement contexts." (New Zealand Curriculum P 22)

The school is a member of the Bay Suburbs sporting group which extends along the coastline to Churchill Park. Most of these schools have intermediate departments who join us in sporting competitions. Successful participants and teams go forward to Eastern Zone sports division competitions where they compete against the high performing competitors from other regions.

Parnell District School has a sports co-ordinator who assists with preparing teams for upcoming competitions. It is not unusual to see large numbers of student in our play areas about 8a.m in the morning preparing for the next big sporting competition. During 2010 our school students won or were placed second in several major interschool sporting events, and some intermediate students competed at Auckland level.

Among the sports we compete in at interschool field days are rugby, netball, swimming, cricket, touch rugby, soccer, athletics, cross country, softball, baseball and basketball.

Our ski teams competed very successfully at the North Island Championships in 2008, and this experience is likely to be repeated. In 2009 the school became the All American Soap Box Derby Champions of New Zealand.

Students are involved in age appropriate programmes through the health curriculum. These programmes require parental support, and are usually preceded by a parental meeting or some other form of consultation. Topics include changes at puberty, and drug awareness programmes. We liaise closely with the public health nurse in the delivery of these programmes. In recent years we have been assisted in the delivery of the health curriculum with annual visits by the Life Education caravan.

Second Languages

“Languages link people locally and globally .They are spoken in the community, used internationally, and play a role in shaping the world. Oral, written, and visual forms of language link us to the past and give us access to new and different streams of thought and to beliefs and cultural practices” (*New Zealand Curriculum P 24*)

The second language taught at Parnell District School is Mandarin. We have two fluent speakers of the language on our staff who are able to deliver a programme based on an in-depth knowledge of Chinese culture and way of life. Parnell School was one of the first schools to have a Confucius classroom in New Zealand.



PDS belongs to Water-wise at Okahu Bay. Here a group of 8 schools teach a basic level of Sailing, Kayaking and Water Safety to over 600 students in each year.

The Water-wise programme operates under well established regulations drawn up by Yachting New Zealand to help ensure that students experience good, positive teaching in a safe



Te Reo Maori is regularly integrated into class programmes. It is mandatory for students to learn and have an understanding and appreciation of the Maori language and culture. The school has a biannual involvement with the Orakei marae, usually culminating in a visit to the marae

Gifted and Talented Programme (GATE)

Parnell District School has historically had a considerable number of students that are very talented. Our Board of Trustees funds a gifted and talented teacher to work with these children, either herself or by releasing teachers with particular talents to work with the children.

These programmes run in class time, but should not be seen as a disruption to the programme, rather as an alternate curriculum the school is providing for a special group of children with particular abilities. The groups run for a set periods of time with a particular focus before another group of children with particular talents are brought into the programme. Future problem solving is one feature of the programme.

Children with Special Needs

Children who are experiencing learning difficulties are identified through school assessments. Our Special Needs co-ordinator will work with parents and teachers to facilitate a programme that meets individual requirements. Sometimes this will involve the use of teachers or teacher aides.

Knowledge Net



Staff and students at Parnell District School are becoming familiar with a new web- based resource called Knowledge Net. This tool gives us access to a range of graded resources in an online environment as well as producing material ourselves. There are also online encyclopaedias, dictionaries, newspapers and digital tools available to us. Besides zones for students there is a staff zone for administration and resource purposes. In time the tool will be made available to parents who will be able to access their children's marks and grades 24/7 through pass-worded entry.

The Parnell Inquiry Model

Our vision for inquiry learning is to develop the skills of independent lifelong, learning within meaningful and socially relevant contexts.

Success criteria

- allowing for choice while recognising different types of intelligences and learning styles
- providing appropriate guidance throughout the inquiry learning process
- creating an atmosphere of collaboration, co-operative learning and reflection
- ensuring students participate in constructing the purpose and relevance of the inquiry.
- ensuring the outcome reflects their learning and the new knowledge gained

Parnell learners will become:

1. Lifelong critical thinkers by being:

- Active learners
- Creative
- Able to ask high level questions
- Open minded – embracing and tolerant of other’s opinions
- Aware of their own needs and skills

2. Responsible for their own learning by being:

- Engaged in learning
- Enthusiastic about learning
- Respectful of each other/teachers
- Organized in their work habits
- Emotionally intelligent - resilient
- Confident
- Independent
- Challenging of their own learning



At the end of the school year Year 8 students are acknowledged in a farewell ceremony. Students are also recognised in assemblies during the year and in the special final assembly in December

Year Book

At the end of the year all, PDS students are issued with a year book, which traditionally has had a special section dedicated to our graduating Year 8 students.

The Piopio Exchange/ Auckland Week/ Wellington trip

Each year, Year 8 students will be travel down to Piopio College as part of their 'Rural Heartland' experience. In the past the students have thoroughly enjoyed this trip and for some it has been a big eye opener of what it is like living in a rural setting.

As part of this experience, the students will experience living in a rural setting and may assist in the day to day tasks that country students of their own age carry out. They will be billeted out by Year 7/8 students from Piopio College. Later in the year the Piopio students come up to Auckland for a Big City experience and are in turn by billeted Parnell students and their families.

During Auckland week our students learn about our city on a exploratory expeditions for example in 2009, students went on a Waitakere expedition, a coast to coast walk, on an Auckland treasure hunt, a visit to Highwic House and to a Polynesian festival.

The biannual Wellington trip has seen our students visit Parliament, Capital E, Katherine Mansfield House, Te Papa and other Wellington experiences.

Finding out about Your Child's progress



Student led Conferences

Students, teachers and parents sit together to

- Early Term 1 – to establish progress and goal set
Discussion of strategies and next learning steps
- Late Term 2. Mid year report and follow up conference
Discuss progress since first meeting. The students are expected to attend these conferences and contribute in a significant way.
- Data sharing – AsTTI e and PAT results are shared with parents at parent conferences and in student portfolios at each conferecne
- Mid year exams are designed to give children skills of revision and preparation for secondary school.
- End of year – a sumative report on the students overall progress. Interviews by request.
- Parents are welcome to contact the school at any time to make a time to discuss their child's progress. (NB Staff and planning meetings are held early in the school week after school)
When staff are more familiar with Knowledge Net, data will be shared via this tool also

The PDS Intermediate School Uniform

Purchased from "The Uniform Shop", 553 Remuera Rd

Dress Uniform

- White polo shirt (short & long sleeved available)
- Navy drill or cargo shorts/longs (elastic waist- good for a more relaxed fit).
- Navy Parnell dress shorts/longs (Button & fly- sizing in cms, so measure below waist for the correct size).
- Navy or tartan culottes available for girls as an option.
- Navy polar fleece available as a vest, ½zip or full zip jacket.
- Sports jacket can be worn as the school jacket.
- Hats compulsory for terms 1 & 4- navy bucket or Aussie style.
- White or navy socks (or tights)

Sports Uniform

- At present this is compulsory for anyone taking part in a school sports team and for PE in the Intermediate Department. It comprises of:
- Gold Parnell T-shirt.
- Navy sports shorts.
- Sports Jacket (optional).
- Sports Track pants (optional).

Footwear

- Any sensible 'trainer' type shoe, school shoe or sandal is acceptable. Sports socks and navy over-the-knee girls' socks can also be purchased.
 - Jandals and slip on shoes such as crocks are not part of the school uniform
 - Navy raincoats and pack-away parkas are also available.
 - All items of clothing should be clearly named.
 - A limited supply of second hand uniform items are available.- ask for the current hours of operation at the office
 - Jewellery is not part of the Parnell District school uniform except simple earrings, a watch or taonga if under the T shirt.
 - **Travel to and from school:** the full school uniform should be worn on these occasions. Few children ride bikes, most walk or use cars/buses.
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Points of difference – great reasons for choosing PDS for your child

- academic success attained and celebrated
- great results in Australian University results/ Otago Problem Solving
- caring safe class environment
- your child will not be an anonymous face in a large school
- E class programme ratio of 1computer to every 2nd child in the "e" room
- Water-wise yachting programme
- Outstanding dance/ dram opportunities
- Cutting edge Technology programme
- Real leadership opportunities
- Strong GATE and Special needs programmes
- Athletics
- Sports teams – more opportunities to represent your school at Parnell than much larger school
- Student /parent awareness of next learning steps and personal goals.
- Mandarin language lessons
- Knowledge Net
- EOTC programme(Wellington trip/ Auckland week/ Piopio exchange)
- Extraordinary challenges undertaken e.g. Soap box derby.



Did you know? In 2009, four of our students were placed in the top stream at Auckland Grammar. More than half of our students were in the top eight streams – at Parnell we bat above our weight!! This is a continuing pattern.

In 2011, the head boy of Auckland Grammar and the head girl at Epsom Girls are former Parnell District School pupils

Parents are viewed as partners in supporting the learning. Staff will have honest and respectful conversations with you about your child's progress.

Parents are kept informed about school events by newsletter (also on website) and regular notices about upcoming events (see latest notices on website). There is also an intermediate department newsletter at regular intervals.

Enrolment at Parnell District School

- Enrolment packs are available from the school office. In zone students have automatic right of entry, whilst out of zone students need to apply for a place at the school. A school zone map is on the school website. Dates for the closing out of zone enrolment s are kept current on the school website
- Please ensure the school has an emergency contact name and phone number that will enable contact to be established at any time necessary.
- Upon enrolment you will be advised of the school donation and activity charges, These can be paid over the course of the year
- **Absences.** Parents are asked to ring the school office if your child will be away for the day
- If your child requires medication at school this should be handed into the school office who will ensure your child receives the medication at the appropriate times.
- **Lunches**
Subway lunches can be ordered on Monday and consumed on Tuesdays
Sushi lunches can be ordered on Tuesdays and consumed on Thursdays
- Stationery lists are available from the office, and on our school website.
- Upon enrolment in the intermediate school teachers will establish current achievement levels from information sent from their previous school digitally and from our own assessments.
- The school appreciates early notification of students in Year 6 who are intending to continue their Year 7 and 8 education at Parnell District School. Last year most of our year 6 students continued stayed at school for their intermediate years. Confirmation of your place in 2009 ensures sufficient staffing, and resources are allocated to the intermediate department – a process all schools commence in October of the current school year, at all levels.
- Streaming. Our classes are as equal in ability as we can make them, taking account of gender, ethnic background, ability level and social mores to ensure a good mix in each class
- Composite classes. Some years our Year 7/8 classes will be composite (mixed level) and on other years it is not necessary. The necessity of composite classes will depend on the number of students enrolled at each level.
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Intermediate Staff 2011

Suzanne Parkinson – Head of Department

Clare Shearman

John Paul Jugenheimer

Sue Lyons

Grant Edgerley – Release teacher

Open day for 2012 School Year

The intermediate school will hold an open day for prospective parents and students to visit our school.

We also arrange a visit for students who will be new to Parnell to spend time at school in the current year (usually in November). This invitation will be phoned or emailed to all newly enrolled students.



Parnell District School Ph 09 379 3008 Fax 3793942

Email: office@parnell.school.nz

Website: www.parnell.school.co.nz

