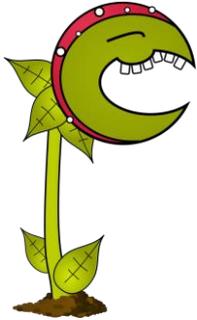




With Knowledge We Grow

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# AG DAY 2017

## 20<sup>th</sup> October 2017



Calves, Lambs and Kids will need to be born between  
**1<sup>st</sup> June 2017 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017**  
if you want to compete at Group Day.

Ag Day is on once again, it will be held at the beginning of Term 4. This will enable children that are raising Calves, Lambs and Kids to go on to compete at Group Day and the A&P Shows if they wish.

All children can also do a growing project (their choice of plant, growing method and presentation) and those that wish to, can bring a pet (no dogs please). Children that will be bringing pets and/or growing projects should also keep a diary of the day to day care of their animal/plant.

If demand is there, we will run two chicken sections. The first section, you can raise a chicken or bring along a chicken from home. Alternatively, the second section will be a research project on intensive Egg farming in New Zealand (both free range and caged). The school is getting rescue chickens that can be used to help you with your research. This option will suit those students who are unable to have a pet or animal at home. The presentation of the research will be entirely up to the student.

In addition to the above there will be a section for a recycled animal – this can be any animal made out of recycled materials.

If your child is willing, they can enter an animal or pet (more than one animal is Ok, but remember that there is a lot of care for each animal), a growing project and a recycled animal.

Animal Registrations will need to be in at the beginning of Term 3. A notice will go out with the information required in the first week.

### **WHERE CAN I GET MY ANIMAL?**

#### **Chickens**

You can incubate eggs and raise your chicks at home or purchase day old chicks. Once you have your 'day old' chicks there is an information pamphlet to help you care for your new babies. Please remember that it is essential to raise at least three chickens – one will not survive by itself.

### **Calves, Lambs & Kid Goats**

Families wishing to raise a calf, lamb or kid goat are responsible for sourcing it themselves. In the past this is through a family contact, the newspaper, or more recently through Trade Me. Calves can also be purchased through the sale yards at Tuakau or Pukekohe – contact Andrea if you want more information on this.

### **HOW CAN I GET HELP?**

If you are raising an animal for the first time and it all seems 'too hard' we have Orere parents willing to share their expertise. Contact Andrea Couldrey and she will find you a mentor.

### **WHAT WILL BE EXPECTED ON THE DAY?**

#### **ALL ANIMALS are judged for care and condition.**

Calves, lambs and kid goats are led around the ring while the judge judges for Care & Condition. The judge will look at the condition of each animal and ask the child questions about the care and feeding of their animal.

#### ***AS WELL AS CARE & CONDITION***

**CALVES** will also be judged for leading. Children will need to lead their calf around the calf leading course. The calf should be on the child's right hand side when leading and the judge will be looking at how the child and calf operate as a team. Andrea will give you a copy of the course if required.

**LAMBS and KID GOATS** will be judged for leading and also be judged for calling. The child is positioned at one end of the ring, a steward will take the animal to the other end and when the child calls the pet is released. The winning lamb or kid will dash straight to its owner – hopefully!! A well-trained animal will recognize a familiar voice and in most cases will respond, especially if they are hungry, so don't overfeed until after the judging. This year there will also be a "walk the plank and jump" section. Kid goats will also need to negotiate an obstacle course.

Lambs should be shown in **NATURAL** condition – NO washing or brushing.

**CHICKENS** will also be judged on how comfortably they will perch on their owners arm, or any other part of the body.

For the children to derive the most benefit from their Ag Day experience, it is necessary that the parent's involvement be kept to the absolute minimum. At no point should the parent be responsible for the grooming and presentation of the animals. By necessity it may be that the parent directs and instructs in the feeding process as no direction in this area can have disastrous effects. It is important to remember that animals identify most closely with whoever feeds them. In selecting a pet for Ag Day, it is wise to take into account the age of your child, and the suitability of the animal. A five year old being dragged around by a half grown calf is a frightening experience for child and animal.

Contact: Andrea Couldrey 09-2922400 or [andracouldrey@gmail.com](mailto:andracouldrey@gmail.com)